Security Research Program KIRAS

What is KIRAS?

KIRAS originates from the fusion of the Ancient Greek notions kirkos (circle) and asphaleia (security). KIRAS is the national program for the funding of security research in Austria. It supports national research goals with the aim of increasing the security level in Austria and among its population.

When launched in 2005 it was the first program of its kind in Europe and remains a seminal approach. Security research enables the Austrian economy and research to obtain a top position in the global security sector. A young, rapidly expanding sector with up to 8% p.a. growth, with a sector volume of about € 120 billion.

Funded projects

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>2006</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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254 projects have been funded in total.

Funded volume

From around € 224m of funding applied for, € 84.6m has been granted funding.

Involvement

- 6% other
- 18% universities
- 19% researchers (facilities)
- 28% end-users
- 29% businesses

Success stories

- **REMULES**: An all-in-one carbon fiber solar energy system for security-relevant scenarios
- **AIRWATCH**: Airborne data acquisition and surveillance system for e.g. floods or fires
- **emc²**: Information management system for emergency forces e.g. the fire brigade and the ambulance service

Added value

- **€ 165.8m** of added-value was achieved.
- **>3,000 jobs** were created or secured.

Innovation based added-value beyond Austria’s borders achieved by means of:

- Support for the Austrian security-technology industry
- An increase in the amount of technology in Austrian exports

Security research at the European level has, with the program **Horizon 2020**, a funding budget of about € 1.6bn for 2014-2020.

In the Austrian **security economy** sector the annual turnover is more than € 1.2bn.

Up to 2018 from a project-funding volume of **€ 84.6m**

- **€ 38.3m** of social insurance contributions
- **€ 42.5m** of additional fiscal revenue

8/2019