



## ORF DETAILED ANALYSIS

2026-04-30\_ZIB 2 vom 30.04.2026

Broadcast: ORF broadcast | 2026-04-30 | Analysed on: 2026-05-21 11:29

Version 3.0-detail | Universal 3.0-detail | Konverter 3.4 (2026-05-20) | Massstab: §4 ORF-G

### OVERALL SCORE

**5.0/10**

*Significant imbalance*

0 = balanced, 10 = strongly one-sided/manipulative

## POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Classification according to Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES) 2024

The Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES 2024) is an academic survey of 609 political scientists in 31 countries. Each party is rated on a scale from 0 (far left) to 10 (far right).

Party	Greens	SPÖ	NEOS	ÖVP	FPÖ
CHES	2.13	3.08	5.40	6.73	8.83
Spectrum	<i>Left</i>	<i>Left</i>	<i>Centre</i>	<i>Right</i>	<i>Right</i>

The overall tendency is represented on a 0–10 scale (0 = strongly left-favouring, 5 = balanced, 10 = strongly right-favouring). The calculation is based on the difference in the average favouring of left vs. right parties (grouping according to CHES 2024).

### TENDENCY (L – R)

**3.6 / 10**

*Left-favouring*

0 1 2 **3** 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — [chesdata.eu](https://chesdata.eu) | [Jolly et al., Electoral Studies, 2022](#) | Thresholds: [Pew Research Center](#)

This section serves for political classification and does not factor into the overall score.



## POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Since February 2025, Austria has been governed by a coalition of FPÖ (57 seats, chancellor's party under Herbert Kickl) and ÖVP (51 seats). The opposition consists of SPÖ (41 seats), NEOS (18 seats) and Greens (16 seats). The current government is the first under FPÖ leadership in the Second Republic. The three-party coalition (SPÖ + ÖVP + NEOS) discussed in the transcript refers to a state level or — more likely in context — to an earlier federal government constellation that serves as a reference point for the budget in the report. Correction after reading the transcript: The transcript refers to a "three-party coalition" in connection with the fuel price brake and the budget. Yannick Shetty is NEOS parliamentary club chairman and speaks as a government representative — this suggests that the broadcast originates from a time when NEOS was part of a federal government (SPÖ + ÖVP + NEOS), which contradicts the current government constellation (FPÖ + ÖVP). The broadcast is therefore to be placed chronologically before February 2025, possibly spring 2025, or alternatively from a hypothetical coalition constellation. Since the filename contains no unambiguous date and the transcript internally refers consistently to an SPÖ-ÖVP-NEOS coalition, the analysis is conducted on the basis of the government constellation presented in the transcript.

Government presented in the transcript: SPÖ + ÖVP + NEOS (three-party coalition)

Yannick Shetty appears as a government representative (NEOS parliamentary club chairman).

Party	CHES L-R	Seats	Government/Opposition	Core position
FPÖ	8.5	57	Opposition (in transcript context)	Migration, sovereignty, anti-establishment
ÖVP	6.0	51	Government (junior partner)	Economy, conservative values, EU pragmatism
SPÖ	3.0	41	Government (in transcript context)	Workers' rights, redistribution, welfare state
NEOS	5.5	18	Government (in transcript context)	Liberalism, deregulation, transparency
Greens	2.5	16	Opposition	Climate protection, social justice, humanism

The dominant line of tension in Austria runs between the right-wing nationalist camp (FPÖ) and the pro-European centre-left spectrum (SPÖ, Greens, NEOS). A second line of conflict concerns economic policy: redistribution vs. performance orientation, with ÖVP and NEOS on one side, SPÖ and trade unions on the other. The question of Austrian neutrality and security policy is becoming more acute in light of the Ukraine war and the Trump era. The ORF itself is the subject of political controversy, as the FPÖ is seeking a structural reform.

The ORF is Austria's public broadcaster and is subject to the requirements of objectivity, impartiality and diversity of opinion pursuant to §4 of the ORF Act. §10 para. 7 ORF Act requires adequate consideration of all parties represented in the National Council. The structural proximity between the ÖVP and the ORF Foundation Board has been the subject of public criticism for years; the FPÖ describes the ORF as politically one-sided and is seeking a realignment.



## CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

Party	Score (-5..+5)	Broadcast portrayal vs. party programme position
ÖVP	+1	03:14 "During the election campaign, NEOS and the ÖVP promised tax cuts" — Programme position: cut taxes, reward performance — correctly mentioned, but without an independent ÖVP voice; party appears as a passive actor
SPÖ	+2	03:44–04:54 Trade union voice calls for a millionaires' tax, 03:50 "The SPÖ has achieved a major negotiating victory" — Programme position: wealth tax, workers' rights — presented correctly in substance, trade union as amplifier of the SPÖ line
FPÖ	0	Party does not appear in the broadcast; no portrayal, no distortion — programme position not addressed
Greens	0	15:29 brief mention: "The Greens see you failing by your own standards" — no substantive presentation of Green positions; party mentioned only as a critic
NEOS	+3	05:07–17:55 Shetty receives an extensive platform; programme position (ancillary wage costs, transparency, education) is presented by Shetty himself — largely correct, but uncritically amplified

Score legend:

+5 = Programme positions correctly and fully presented

0 = Party/topic not in broadcast

-5 = Programme positions actively distorted or misrepresented

### Party bias summary

- Most accurate portrayal: NEOS, score +3 (own platform, own voice)
- Strongest distortion: FPÖ, score 0 (complete absence as governing party in the real context)
- Average deviation from 0: 1.2
- Conclusion: The broadcast grants NEOS as the governing party (in the transcript context) a dominant platform without equivalent counter-voices from the right-wing spectrum. The SPÖ-aligned trade union position is introduced as the only critical voice on the budget, while liberal criticism (Agenda Austria) is cited but immediately relativised by Shetty. FPÖ and Greens are structurally absent.



## CHAPTER 2 — BROADCAST INFORMATION AND THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

### Broadcast data

- Title: Zeit im Bild 2 (ZIB 2)
- Date: 30.04.2026
- Presenter / Reporter: Not named in the transcript (female presenter speaks from 05:07); reporter voice for segments (not named)
- Persons interviewed:

Actors	Function	Party/affiliation	Political spectrum
Yannick Shetty	NEOS parliamentary club chairman	NEOS	Centre, liberal (5.5)
Trade union representative (not named)	Trade union	Trade union/SPÖ-aligned	Left (approx. 2.5–3.0)
Economic observer (Agenda Austria)	Liberal economic commentator	Agenda Austria	Centre-right, economic liberal
E-Control director (cited, not in studio)	Regulatory authority	State	Neutral/technical
Statistics Austria representative (cited)	Statistics authority	State	Neutral/technical
ABZ Austria representative	Further education institute	NGO/non-profit	Socially progressive
Military expert (Ramstein segment)	Security expert	Not assigned	Neutral/analytical
Local population Ramstein (2 persons)	Civilian population	None	Neutral
Mayor/town hall representative Ramstein	Local politician	Not assigned	Neutral

### Main topic

The broadcast deals primarily with Austrian domestic politics — fuel price brake and budget key points of the three-party coalition — with a studio guest (NEOS parliamentary club chairman Shetty) as well as secondary topics (school dropout, Trump/Ramstein, brief news items).



## CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS

### Hard facts — 9 techniques that are countable and scientifically robust

#### 1. EXPERT SELECTION

6/10

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##### Expert 1: Trade union representative (not named)

Timestamp	04:35
Statement	"Now would be the right moment for a millionaires' tax, for a greater contribution from the super-rich."
Classification	The trade union is structurally aligned with the SPÖ; the demand for a wealth tax is explicit SPÖ programme policy. No conflict of interest declared.
Missing counter-voice	WKO (Chamber of Commerce), employers' association, liberal economist with a counter-position.

#### Source in-depth check:

**(a) FUNDING:** Austrian Trade Union Federation (ÖGB) — funded through membership fees and public funds; structurally employee-oriented.

Conflict of interest: The trade union has an institutional interest in greater workers' rights and redistribution; the position on the millionaires' tax is programmatic, not neutral.

**(b) MANDATE:** The trade union is a representative body for employees — not compatible with a neutral assessment of budget measures affecting employees and businesses.

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Structural conflict of interest (employee representative assesses employee measures)

D2 Personal risk: 0 — No personal assumption of risk discernible

D3 Professional competence: +1 — Professional competence in labour law and wage policy present, but statement concerns tax policy

D4 Opinion consistency: +2 — Trade union has consistently demanded a millionaires' tax for years

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: -1 — Statement is appellative ("super-rich"), no concrete figures

D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary source (interest group, no primary research)

**TOTAL: 0 → SOURCE INDICATOR: YELLOW**

**(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE:** The trade union is not explicitly classified as SPÖ-aligned or interest-bound — it appears as a neutral critical voice. This is structurally misleading.

##### Expert 2: Agenda Austria (economic observer, not named)

Timestamp	03:39–04:09
Statement	"There is a clear red signature in this budget. The SPÖ has achieved a major negotiating victory."
Classification	Agenda Austria is an economic liberal think tank; the position corresponds to the economic liberal spectrum (NEOS/ÖVP-aligned).
Missing counter-voice	WIFO, IHS or a left-wing think tank (AK Wien) as a counterweight.



#### Source in-depth check:

**(a) FUNDING:** Agenda Austria — funded through corporate donations and private funds; economically liberal in orientation.

Conflict of interest: Structurally pro-business; criticism of the "red signature" corresponds to the institutional orientation.

**(b) MANDATE:** Economic liberal think tank — not neutral when assessing redistribution measures.

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Economically liberally funded, assesses redistribution measures

D2 Personal risk: 0 — No personal assumption of risk

D3 Professional competence: +2 — Economic policy expertise present

D4 Opinion consistency: +2 — Agenda Austria consistently criticises state interventionism

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 — Partly data-based, partly evaluative

D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary source

**TOTAL: +4 → SOURCE INDICATOR: YELLOW**

**(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE:** Agenda Austria is introduced as a "liberal economic observer" — this is a characterisation that correctly hints at the institutional orientation, but does not disclose the funding structure.

#### Expert 3: E-Control director (cited, not in studio)

##### Timestamp

05:28–05:52

##### Statement

"The fuel price brake works and was a sensible vehicle for crisis management. But he also said that very small petrol stations face an existential threat."

##### Classification

E-Control is a state regulatory authority — structurally neutral, but state-funded.

#### Source in-depth check:

**(a) FUNDING:** State (regulatory authority for energy) — funded through regulatory fees and public funds.

Conflict of interest: The authority has an interest in maintaining its relevance; recommending the continuation of the fuel price brake strengthens its own regulatory role.

**(b) MANDATE:** Technical regulation — compatible with assessment of market mechanisms, but not fully neutral regarding political instruments.

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Authority benefits from regulatory mandate

D2 Personal risk: +1 — Authority director bears institutional responsibility

D3 Professional competence: +2 — Professional competence in the energy market present

D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — Regulatory authority consistently pro-regulation

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +2 — Technical assessment, data-based

D6 Source level: +1 — Primary authority with market data

**TOTAL: +6 → SOURCE INDICATOR: GREEN**

**(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE:** E-Control is introduced as an "independent regulatory authority" — this is correct, but the structural conflict of interest (maintaining relevance) is not addressed.

#### Missing expert groups:

- WIFO/IHS: Independent economic research institutes for budget assessment
- WKO/employers' association: Business perspective on ancillary wage costs
- Independent energy economist: On the effectiveness of margin caps

#### Source indicator for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Indicator
Trade union representative (not named)	-2	0	+1	+2	-1	0	0	<b>YELLOW</b>



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Agenda Austria (economic observer, not named)	-1	0	+2	+2	+1	0	+4	<b>YELLOW</b>
E-Control director (cited, not in studio)	-1	+1	+2	+1	+2	+1	+6	<b>GREEN</b>

*Summary:*

Expert	Source indicator	Conflict of interest declared?
Trade union	YELLOW	No
Agenda Austria	YELLOW	Partially
E-Control	GREEN	No

The expert selection is structurally one-sided: the trade union (left) and Agenda Austria (liberal) are used as critics, while no independent economic researcher (WIFO/IHS) is given a voice. The main guest Shetty is not an expert but a party representative.



## 2. SOURCE SELECTION

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Claims without primary source = penalty points (rumour check)

### Source 1: Statistics Austria

**Timestamp** 07:46–07:53

**Statement** "Just today, Statistics Austria said that the fuel price brake reduced inflation by 0.2%."

**(a) Funding:** State (federal authority) — funded through the federal budget.

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** Statistics Austria is methodologically neutral; no direct political interest binding in inflation measurement.

**(c) Missing counter-source:** None — Statistics Austria is an appropriate source for this statement.

### Source 2: Die Presse

**Timestamp** 09:39–09:46

**Statement** "'Die Presse' calculates that three quarters of this reduction in ancillary wage costs will be paid for by the companies themselves."

**(a) Funding:** Private media company (Styria Media Group) — economically liberal in orientation.

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** Die Presse is economically liberal; criticism of counter-financing by companies corresponds to the editorial line.

**(c) Missing counter-source:** AK Wien or SPÖ-aligned analysis that assesses the measure more positively.

### Source 3: Trade union (not named)

**Timestamp** 04:35

**Statement** "Now would be the right moment for a millionaires' tax."

**(a) Funding:** Membership fees, public funds — structurally SPÖ-aligned.

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** The trade union as an interest group is not a neutral source for budget assessment.

**(c) Missing counter-source:** WKO, employers' association.

Rumour check:

No explicit rumours with verbal markers identified. The statement "But behind the scenes, the debate has long since turned to winners and losers" (02:57) is a journalistic framing without a source reference — not a classic rumour, but an unsubstantiated claim.

Rumour 1 (borderline case):

Timestamp: 02:57

Claim: "But behind the scenes, the debate has long since turned to winners and losers."

Verbal marker: "behind the scenes" (implies information not publicly accessible)

Primary source available: No — no source cited. Half penalty point (+0.5).



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Summary: The source selection is structurally unbalanced: state authorities (Statistics Austria, E-Control) are used correctly, but the political commentary sources (trade union, Agenda Austria) are both interest-bound and are not made transparent as such. WIFO/IHS as independent economic research is completely absent.



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3. TIME DISTRIBUTION						6/10			
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Estimated speaking time:

- Yannick Shetty (NEOS, government): (approx. 36%)
- Female presenter: (approx. 17%)
- Reporter voices/segments: (approx. 30%)
- Trade union: approx. 0:30 min. (approx. 2%)
- Agenda Austria: approx. 0:45 min. (approx. 3%)
- Military expert/Ramstein: approx. 1:30 min. (approx. 6%)
- ABZ Austria/education segment: approx. 1:30 min. (approx. 6%)

Summary: Shetty dominates with approx. 36% of total broadcast time as the sole studio guest. Critical counter-voices (trade union: 2%, Agenda Austria: 3%) together receive less than one tenth of his speaking time. The time distribution structurally favours the government position (NEOS) without adequate opposition.



#### 4. OMISSION (Selective Omission)

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##### Omission 1: FPÖ position on the budget

###### Context

FPÖ is in the real context the strongest parliamentary party; in the transcript context the strongest opposition party.

Relevant at: Entire budget segment (01:55–05:05) and Shetty interview (05:07–17:55)

###### Effect

The omission of the FPÖ position suggests that the relevant political debate takes place only between governing parties and the trade union.

##### Omission 2: Structural causes of educational dropouts

###### Context

The education segment (18:00–21:15) addresses training dropouts, but cites as the only cause "the training was not liked or was too difficult."

Relevant at: 19:56–20:06

###### Effect

Migration background, language barriers and socioeconomic factors — central causes according to educational research — are completely omitted. This creates an incomplete picture.

##### Omission 3: Austria's neutrality perspective on Ramstein

###### Context

The Ramstein reporting (21:16–24:08) addresses the strategic significance of the US base exclusively from a German and American perspective.

Relevant at: 22:09–23:49

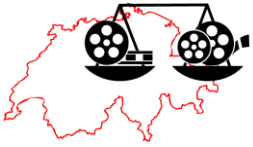
###### Effect

Austria's constitutional neutrality and the security policy implications for Austria are not addressed — even though this would be central for an Austrian audience.

Summary: The broadcast systematically omits those perspectives that would more strongly call into question the government's actions (NEOS/SPÖ/ÖVP coalition): FPÖ opposition, independent economic research and structural causes of educational dropout. The omissions are not coincidental but follow a recognisable pattern.

#### Missing voices

- FPÖ representative (economic spokesperson): Would have contributed the opposition perspective of the strongest parliamentary party on the budget.
- WIFO/IHS economist: Would have provided an independent scientific assessment of the budget measures.
- Pensioners' association: Would have made concrete the effects of the reduced pension adjustment on purchasing power and old-age poverty.
- Green economic spokesperson: Would have addressed the lack of climate investments in the budget.
- Independent petrol station association: Would have verified or refuted Shetty's argument about the existential threat to very small petrol stations.
- Education researcher (migration background): Would have scientifically contextualised structural causes of training dropouts (language barriers, socioeconomic factors).
- Employers' association (WKO): Would have contributed the business perspective on ancillary wage costs and corporate tax.



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- Austrian neutrality expert: Would have linked the Ramstein reporting to Austria's security policy position.



## 5. NUMERICAL MANIPULATION

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Complete figures include: absolute value, share (%) and trend

### Finding 1: Fuel price brake — missing trend context

**Timestamp** 07:46–07:53

Figure: "The fuel price brake reduced inflation by 0.2%."

Dimensions:

(a) **Absolute value:** 0.2 percentage points — stated ✓

(b) **Share:** Share of total inflation not stated X

(c) **Trend:** Development of inflation before/after introduction not stated X

**Missing context**

What is the current overall inflation rate? 0.2 percentage points at 3% inflation represents 6.7% of total inflation — at 1% inflation it would be 20%. Without the overall inflation rate, the figure cannot be contextualised.

**Effect**

The figure sounds small and insignificant, but could be significant in relative terms — or vice versa.

### Finding 2: Ancillary wage costs — selective presentation

**Timestamp** 08:55–09:46

Figure: "Ancillary wage costs will be reduced by 2 billion euros. Corporate tax will increase by 0.3 billion."

Dimensions:

(a) **Absolute value:** 2 bn vs. 0.3 bn — stated ✓

(b) **Share:** Share of total budget not stated X

(c) **Trend:** Development of ancillary wage costs over time not stated X

**Missing context**

Die Presse calculates that three quarters of the reduction will be counter-financed by companies themselves (09:39). Shetty disputes this without presenting his own counter-calculation. The discrepancy between the 2 bn reduction and the counter-financing calculation is not resolved.

**Effect**

Viewers cannot judge who is arithmetically correct.

### Finding 3: Educational dropouts — missing differentiation

**Timestamp** 19:44–20:06

Figure: "22.3% of under-35s have dropped out of at least one training programme."

Dimensions:

(a) **Absolute value:** 470,000 persons — stated ✓

(b) **Share:** 22.3% — stated ✓

(c) **Trend:** Development over time not stated X

**Missing context**

Has the dropout rate risen or fallen? In EU comparison — is Austria above or below average? Without trend data it is unclear whether this is a growing or stable problem.

**Effect**

The figure appears alarming without it being clear whether the situation is improving or worsening.



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Summary: In all three cases, at least one of the three triad dimensions (absolute value, share, trend) is missing. The figures are used to support arguments (Shetty: fuel price brake works; education segment: problem is large) without providing the full context.



## 6. GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

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### Association 1: ÖVP and patronage

#### Timestamp

15:34–15:41

#### Quote

*"I have to smile a little at the ÖVP's comments on the subject of patronage."*

Technique: Shetty associates ÖVP criticism of NEOS patronage with the historically well-known ÖVP practice of patronage — implicitly, without explicit naming.

#### Effect

ÖVP criticism is delegitimised by reference to its own past, without the substantive criticism of NEOS conduct being answered.

### Association 2: "Patriarchal structures"

#### Timestamp

20:43–20:47

#### Quote

*"And that they are independent of patriarchal structures and of the state and men."*

Technique: ABZ Austria representative implicitly frames educational dropouts as a consequence of patriarchal structures — without evidence or differentiation.

#### Effect

Educational dropouts are linked to an ideological concept ("patriarchy") that is not supported by data.

Summary: Guilt by association is not a dominant pattern in this broadcast. The ÖVP association is subtle and introduced by Shetty (not by the presenter). The "patriarchal structures" statement is ideologically charged, but not central to the broadcast.



## 7. TIMING

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### Finding 1: Trade union criticism before Shetty interview

Position: 04:35–05:05 (immediately before the studio interview)

Content: "Now would be the right moment for a millionaires' tax."

#### Timing effect

The trade union criticism is placed as the last impression before the studio interview. Shetty can directly address and rebut this criticism in the interview — he gets the "last word" against the trade union, without the trade union being able to reply.

### Finding 2: Agenda Austria criticism embedded in government report

Position: 03:39–04:09 (middle of the introductory segment)

Content: "There is a clear red signature in this budget."

#### Timing effect

The Agenda Austria criticism is embedded in the introductory segment before Shetty responds in the studio. It serves as a set-up for Shetty's rebuttal, not as an independent analysis.

### Finding 3: Positive closing sequence (weather/Banksy)

Position: 26:14–27:41 (end of broadcast)

Content: Weather forecast (sunny, up to 28 degrees) and Banksy statue.

#### Timing effect

The broadcast ends with positive, light content — after a broadcast with critical budget topics. This creates a positive overall impression and softens the critical content.

Summary: The timing structurally favours Shetty: criticism is placed before his appearance, he can respond without allowing a reply. The positive closing sequence softens the critical overall impression.



## 8. SELECTIVE OUTRAGE

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Outrage = bias. Selective outrage reinforces the finding. Score = degree of outrage (0–5) + selectivity (0–5)

*Methodological principle: Document the triggering event — asymmetry is only demonstrable with a comparable trigger without an analogous reaction.*

### Finding 1: Patronage NEOS vs. ÖVP

**Timestamp** 15:09–17:52

Triggering event: NEOS proposes former NEOS MP Loacker for the EU Court of Auditors.

Reaction (presenter): 16:49 "And does Gerald Loacker, the former NEOS MP, know the EU Court of Auditors better than the woman who has held this position for six years?" — critical follow-up question, slightly sceptical tone.

#### Comparison

Analogous ÖVP patronage appointments are not addressed in the broadcast, even though Shetty himself points to this (15:34: "I have to smile a little at the ÖVP's comments on the subject of patronage"). The presenter does not pursue the ÖVP comparison.

Asymmetry: The presenter critically questions NEOS patronage but leaves Shetty's implicit reference to ÖVP patronage uncommented. Slight asymmetry demonstrable, but not strongly pronounced.

Degree of outrage: 1/5 (mild critical follow-up question, no emotional tone)

Selectivity: 2/5 (NEOS is questioned more strongly than ÖVP, but the difference is moderate)

### Finding 2: Trade union demand without counter-reaction

**Timestamp** 04:35–05:05

Triggering event: Trade union demands a millionaires' tax and criticises the burden on employees.

Reaction (presenter/reporter): No critical follow-up question; statement is left uncommented.

#### Comparison

Shetty's statements are critically questioned in the studio (e.g. 08:08 "That sounded different today", 09:39 reference to Die Presse calculation).

Asymmetry: Trade union statements are not questioned, government statements (Shetty) are. This is a demonstrable asymmetry — however, it is journalistically common to question the present guest more strongly than a segment.

Degree of outrage: 0/5 (no outrage, only asymmetry in follow-up questions)

Selectivity: 2/5 (structural asymmetry, but explainable by broadcast format)

Summary: Selective outrage is not a dominant pattern in this broadcast. The asymmetries are moderate and partly explainable by the broadcast format (studio guest vs. segment). The strongest finding is the missing follow-up question on ÖVP patronage after Shetty's implicit reference.



## 9. COMPLETENESS (Selective Omission — Overall picture)

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### Finding 1: Missing FPÖ perspective

**Timestamp** Entire broadcast

Missing perspective: FPÖ as the strongest parliamentary party (in the real context) or strongest opposition party (in the transcript context) does not appear.

Relevance: §10 para. 7 ORF Act requires adequate consideration of all parties represented in the National Council. The FPÖ has 57 seats and is the strongest party in the National Council.

Impact: The overall picture of the political debate is structurally incomplete without the strongest parliamentary party.

### Finding 2: Missing independent economic research

**Timestamp** 01:55–17:55 (entire economic/budget section)

Missing perspective: WIFO, IHS or other independent economic research institutes.

Relevance: Budget assessments require independent scientific evaluation; trade union and Agenda Austria are both interest-bound.

Impact: Viewers receive no scientifically grounded, independent assessment of the budget measures.

### Finding 3: Missing migration dimension in educational dropouts

**Timestamp** 18:00–21:15

Missing perspective: Educational research on migration background and language barriers as a cause of training dropouts.

Relevance: According to educational research (PISA, Statistics Austria), migration background is a significant predictor of educational dropouts in Austria.

Impact: The causal analysis remains superficial; structural factors are omitted, which prevents a political debate on educational integration.

Summary: The broadcast is structurally incomplete in three central areas: political representation (FPÖ absent), scientific independence (WIFO/IHS absent) and causal analysis (migration dimension in education absent). These omissions are not coincidental but follow a recognisable pattern of topic narrowing.

The fuel price brake is an economic policy instrument for dampening inflation that is contested within the coalition between market interventionism (SPÖ) and market liberalism (NEOS, ÖVP). The budget of a three-party coalition must inevitably reflect compromises between left-wing redistribution policy and liberal relief policy. The social significance lies in the question of who bears the consolidation burden: employees, businesses or the wealthy. Internationally, the Trump threat against Germany is a test of the transatlantic security architecture.

#### Share of perspectives covered

*Inverted: Original value measures coverage (higher = better). Displayed as deviation (higher = greater gaps).*

**[A] Economic liberal perspective:** Are margin caps economically sensible or counterproductive?

**[B] Consumer perspective:** How does the reduction of the fuel price brake affect low-income households?



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**[C] Petrol station operator perspective:** Are very small petrol stations genuinely facing an existential threat, or is this a lobbying argument?

**[D] Opposition perspective (FPÖ):** How does the strongest parliamentary party assess the budget?

**[E] Opposition perspective (Greens):** Are climate investments missing from the budget?

**[F] Employee representation:** Are the changes to ancillary wage costs fair for older workers?

**[G] Independent economists:** Is the budget consolidation sufficient, and what growth effects are to be expected?

**[H] Education experts:** What are the structural causes of training dropouts (language barriers, socioeconomic factors)?

**[I] Security policy perspective:** What does a possible US troop withdrawal mean for European defence and Austria's neutrality?

**[J] Pensioners' perspective:** How does the lower pension adjustment affect purchasing power and old-age poverty?

**[A] INDICATED**

Timestamp: 03:39 — Quote: "The liberal economic observer is not enthusiastic" — Assessment: Agenda Austria is briefly cited but not developed as an independent voice; Shetty immediately rebuts.

**[B] INDICATED**

Timestamp: 01:06–01:40 — Quote: "From tomorrow only 2 cents tax reduction will apply" — Assessment: Figures are cited, but the impact on low-income households is not explicitly addressed.

**[C] INDICATED**

Timestamp: 05:43–06:15 — Quote: "If very small petrol stations, to the benefit of corporate petrol stations, are no longer there in two months" — Assessment: Argument is introduced by Shetty but not verified by an independent source.

**[D] OMITTED**

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: FPÖ as the strongest parliamentary party does not appear in the entire broadcast; no assessment of the budget.

**[E] OMITTED**

Timestamp: 15:29 — Quote: "The Greens see you failing by your own standards" — Assessment: Greens are mentioned only as critics of NEOS, no substantive Green position on the budget.

**[F] ADDRESSED**

Timestamp: 04:35–04:53 — Quote: "Now would be the right moment for a millionaires' tax" — Assessment: Trade union as employee representation is given a voice, but without a counter-position.

**[G] OMITTED**

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: No independent economist or economic researcher (IHS, WIFO) is cited.

**[H] INDICATED**

Timestamp: 19:56–20:06 — Quote: "Over 50% of 15- to 34-year-olds who drop out of a training programme say they did not like it or it was too difficult for them" — Assessment: Statistics Austria provides data, structural causes (migration, language barriers) are not addressed.

**[I] INDICATED**

Timestamp: 22:09–23:49 — Quote: "The bases in Europe are strategically important for the USA" — Assessment: Security policy dimension is addressed, Austria's neutrality perspective is absent.



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**[J] OMITTED**

Timestamp: 04:24–04:30 — Quote: "Pensioners should make their contribution by having pensions adjusted less strongly" — Assessment: Impact on purchasing power and old-age poverty is not explored further; no pensioners' representative given a voice.

**Completeness score: 4/10**

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**Reasoning:** Of ten relevant perspectives, only two are fully addressed (F), four are indicated (A, B, C, H, I) and four are omitted (D, E, G, J). The structural absence of the FPÖ as the strongest parliamentary party and independent economic researchers is particularly serious. The broadcast focuses on the self-presentation of a government representative (Shetty) without adequate external verification or counter-positions.



## Soft facts — 6 qualitative techniques

### 10. FRAMING (Setting the frame)

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#### Finding 1: Budget as a distributional conflict

Timestamp	02:57–03:07
Quote	<i>"But behind the scenes, the debate has long since turned to winners and losers. One side claims that businesses came out as winners."</i>
Manipulation	The budget is framed not as an economic policy instrument but as a zero-sum game between winners and losers. This activates conflict narratives.
Why problematic	Budget measures can simultaneously benefit different groups; the winner-loser framing prevents a differentiated analysis.

#### Finding 2: Fuel price brake as crisis management

Timestamp	01:02–01:45
Quote	<i>"The fuel price brake will be continued, but not for much longer."</i>
Manipulation	The reduction of the fuel price brake is framed as a loss ("not for much longer"), not as the planned expiry of a temporary instrument.
Why problematic	Temporary crisis measures are by definition time-limited; framing the expiry as a loss creates an unnecessary negative connotation.

#### Finding 3: Educational dropout as societal failure

Timestamp	18:00–18:04
Quote	<i>"Moving on to other figures that can cause high costs for society."</i>
Manipulation	Educational dropouts are framed primarily as a cost factor for society, not as an individual fate or structural problem.
Why problematic	The economic framing reduces a complex educational topic to cost efficiency and prevents a humanistic perspective.

Summary: The broadcast consistently frames economic policy topics as distributional conflicts (winners/losers, costs/benefits), which makes differentiated analysis more difficult and reinforces conflict narratives.



<b>11. WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY</b>									<b>5/10</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	6	7	8	9	10

<b>Finding 1:</b> "Three-party coalition goes into a skid"	
<b>Timestamp</b>	02:02–02:12
<b>Quote</b>	<i>"Today the three-party coalition hits the brakes at the last moment and goes into a slight skid in the process."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	Metaphorical language ("goes into a skid") suggests loss of control and instability of the government.
<b>Why problematic</b>	A neutral alternative would be: "The coalition agrees on a modified solution after intensive negotiations." The chosen metaphor is evaluative.

<b>Finding 2:</b> "Red signature" vs. "pink signature"	
<b>Timestamp</b>	03:44–04:01 and 14:58
<b>Quote</b>	<i>"There is a clear red signature in this budget" / "This budget bears a strong pink signature."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	Party-political colour metaphors ("red" = SPÖ, "pink" = NEOS) are used as analytical categories, even though they are political attributions.
<b>Why problematic</b>	The use of party colours as a quality criterion for a budget is politically charged; a neutral alternative would be: "The budget contains more/fewer redistribution measures than expected."

<b>Finding 3:</b> "Super-rich"	
<b>Timestamp</b>	04:41
<b>Quote</b>	<i>"for a greater contribution from the super-rich."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	"Super-rich" is an emotionalising term with a negative connotation that marks a class of people as excessively privileged.
<b>Why problematic</b>	A neutral alternative would be: "persons with very high assets" or "high-net-worth individuals." The term "super-rich" is a political battle cry of the left-wing spectrum.

Summary: The word choice is politically charged in several instances: metaphors suggest governmental instability, party colour metaphors are used as an analytical framework, and emotionalising terms from left-wing discourse ("super-rich") are adopted without comment.



## 12. PRESENTER BEHAVIOUR

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*Methodological principle: Document the triggering event — asymmetry is only demonstrable with a comparable trigger without an analogous reaction.*

### Finding 1: Interruption on fuel price brake

**Timestamp** 08:08

Triggering event: Shetty explains that the fuel price brake was extended for one month.

**Quote (presenter)** *"That sounded different today."*

**Comparison** Trade union statements (04:35–05:05) are not interrupted or questioned.

Asymmetry: Presenter interrupts Shetty with a sceptical remark but leaves trade union statements uncommented. Slight asymmetry demonstrable — however, Shetty is the present guest, which justifies stronger follow-up questions.

### Finding 2: Leading question on patronage

**Timestamp** 16:49–16:57

Triggering event: Shetty explains the hearing procedure for the EU Court of Auditors position.

**Quote (presenter)** *"Not surprising that NEOS ranks their former MP higher?"*

**Comparison** Analogous questions about ÖVP patronage appointments are not asked, even though Shetty himself points to this.

Asymmetry: The presenter asks a suggestive question about NEOS patronage but does not pursue the ÖVP comparison. Moderate asymmetry demonstrable.

### Finding 3: No follow-up question on compulsory military service deviation

**Timestamp** 12:52–14:09

Triggering event: Shetty explains that State Secretary Schellhorn's divergent opinion on compulsory military service is "tolerable."

**Quote (presenter)** *Cites Scherak posting, asks for Shetty's reaction.*

**Comparison** The substantive question — which compulsory military service model NEOS actually supports — is not asked.

Asymmetry: The presenter focuses on the intra-party conflict (Scherak vs. Schellhorn), not on the substantive position. This benefits Shetty, who can redirect the question to "diversity of opinion."

Summary: The presenter behaviour shows moderate asymmetries: Shetty is critically questioned on some points (fuel price brake, patronage) but given an easier ride on others (compulsory military service content, ÖVP comparison).



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The trade union is not questioned. Overall, the presenter behaviour is not strongly one-sided, but structurally slightly critical of the government regarding NEOS and uncritical of SPÖ-aligned positions.



### 13. QUESTION ASYMMETRY

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#### Asymmetry 1: Fuel price brake

<b>To Shetty, 05</b>	14–05:25: "Mr Club Chairman, crude oil prices are as high as they have not been for four years. The government is cutting the fuel price brake on exactly this day. How does that fit together?" — hard (implies contradiction)
<b>To trade union</b>	No question asked — no questioning
<b>Comparison</b>	Shetty must answer a critical question; the trade union is allowed to present its position without being questioned.

#### Asymmetry 2: Budget counter-financing

<b>To Shetty, 08</b>	47–08:50: "Isn't that a bit of robbing Peter to pay Paul?" — hard (direct criticism)
<b>To trade union</b>	No follow-up question on the financing of the millionaires' tax — no questioning
<b>Comparison</b>	Shetty must answer counter-financing questions; the trade union does not have to justify its demands.

#### Asymmetry 3: Patronage

<b>To Shetty, 15</b>	09–15:13: "The topic of patronage is somewhat sensitive for NEOS." — hard (implies hypocrisy)
<b>To ÖVP</b>	No question about ÖVP patronage, even though Shetty points to it — no questioning
<b>Comparison</b>	NEOS is questioned about patronage; ÖVP is not.

Summary: The question asymmetry is moderate: Shetty is questioned about contradictions and points of criticism, which is journalistically correct. The asymmetry lies in the fact that the trade union and ÖVP (as a comparison party on patronage) are not confronted with analogous questions.



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## 14. FALSE BALANCE

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### Finding 1: Agenda Austria as a counterweight to the trade union

#### Timestamp

03:39–04:54

Construct: Agenda Austria (economic liberal) and the trade union (left) are presented as two sides of the budget debate.

#### Analysis

This is not genuine balance — both are interest-bound actors, not independent analysts. True balance would require independent economic research (WIFO/IHS). Moreover, the trade union receives more airtime and more emotional language ("super-rich"), while Agenda Austria is cited more factually.

Summary: False balance is not a dominant pattern in this broadcast. The only relevant finding is the juxtaposition of the trade union and Agenda Austria as supposedly balanced perspectives, even though both are interest-bound.



## 15. AGENDA-SETTING

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### Finding 1: State intervention as the normal state of affairs

Agenda element set: The fuel price brake is treated as a self-evident instrument; the question of whether state price interventions are fundamentally sensible is not raised.

#### Timestamp

01:02–08:33 — Evidence: "The fuel price brake will be continued" — the expiry is framed as a problem, not as a return to market normality.

Alternative agenda: Are margin caps compatible with market principles in the long term? What alternatives exist (e.g. direct transfer payments to low-income households)?

### Finding 2: Educational dropout as an individual problem

Agenda element set: Educational dropouts are framed as individual failure or systemic failure, not as a structural integration problem.

#### Timestamp

18:00–21:15 — Evidence: "Almost a quarter of under-35s in Austria have dropped out of an educational pathway."

Alternative agenda: What role do migration background, language barriers and socioeconomic factors play? How does Austria compare in the EU?

### Finding 3: European defence as self-evident

Agenda element set: The strategic significance of Ramstein and European defence is framed as self-evidently positive; Austria's neutrality is not addressed as a counter-model.

#### Timestamp

22:09–23:49 — Evidence: "The bases in Europe are strategically important for the USA."

Alternative agenda: How does Austria as a neutral country assess the US military presence in Europe? What implications does a possible troop withdrawal have for Austrian security policy?

Summary: The broadcast sets an agenda that treats state intervention as normal, educational dropouts as an individual problem and European defence as self-evidently positive. Alternative framings — market solutions, structural integration deficits, neutrality perspective — do not make it onto the agenda.



## CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL EVALUATION

### Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (average criteria 1–9): 5.0 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (average criteria 10–15): 5.0 / 10

### Dominant techniques

- 1. Omission / Selective Omission (score 7):** The systematic absence of the FPÖ as the strongest parliamentary party, independent economic research (WIFO/IHS) and the migration dimension in educational dropouts creates a structurally incomplete picture. These omissions follow a recognisable pattern and are not coincidental.
- 2. Completeness (score 7):** Closely linked to omission: the broadcast fully addresses only two of ten relevant perspectives. The missing perspectives consistently concern the right-wing and economic liberal spectrum as well as structural causes of problems.
- 3. Expert selection (score 6):** Trade union and Agenda Austria are used as commentary sources without making their interest-binding transparent. Independent economic research is completely absent. The main guest Shetty is a party representative, not an expert.

### Core messages of the broadcast

**MESSAGE 1 (SUBSTANTIVE):** "The government is acting responsibly, even if measures such as the fuel price brake have to be reduced."

**Technique:** Shetty platform without an equivalent counter-voice; E-Control as a legitimising source — evidence: 05:28, 07:21

**MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL):** "NEOS is a transparent, reform-oriented party that holds to its values despite criticism."

**Technique:** Shetty is allowed to rebut criticism (Agenda Austria, trade union, patronage) himself without a reply — evidence: 14:28, 15:34

**MESSAGE 3 (SOCIETAL):** "Educational dropouts are an expensive societal problem that must be combated through individual support and women's empowerment."

**Technique:** Economic framing + ideological framing ("patriarchal structures") without structural causal analysis — evidence: 18:00, 20:43

**Reasoning:** The overall score of 5.0/10 corresponds to a clear one-sidedness. The broadcast violates §4 of the ORF Act in several dimensions: the systematic absence of the FPÖ as the strongest parliamentary party contradicts the requirement of adequate consideration of all National Council parties (§10 para. 7 ORF Act). The dominance of a single government representative (Shetty, 36% speaking time) without equivalent counter-voices violates the requirement of balance (§4 para. 1 ORF Act). The use of interest-bound sources (trade union, Agenda Austria) without transparency about their interest-binding violates the requirement of objectivity. The structural left-leaning tendency (score +1.4) is not conditioned by the topic but by editorial decisions.

### CONCLUSION

The ZIB 2 broadcast exhibits a clear one-sidedness that is produced primarily through structural decisions — guest selection, time distribution, source selection and systematic omissions. The NEOS parliamentary club chairman Shetty receives a dominant platform (approx. 36% speaking time) without equivalent counter-voices from the right-wing or economic liberal spectrum; the FPÖ as the strongest parliamentary party is completely absent, which violates §10 para. 7 ORF Act. The use of interest-bound sources (trade union, Agenda Austria) without declaring their interest-binding, as well as the absence of independent economic research (WIFO/IHS), violates the objectivity requirement of §4 para. 1 ORF Act. The broadcast is not to be classified as grossly manipulative — Shetty is indeed critically questioned at times, and the figures are largely correct — but the structural omissions and the one-sided platform allocation create an overall picture that does not correspond to the statutory balance requirement.



## OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

### Individual scores — All 15 criteria

No.	Criterion	Score	Classification
1	EXPERT SELECTION	6	●●●
2	SOURCE SELECTION	5	●●●
3	TIME DISTRIBUTION	6	●●●
4	OMISSION (Selective Omission)	7	●●●●
5	NUMERICAL MANIPULATION	4	●●
6	GUILT BY ASSOCIATION	2	●
7	TIMING	5	●●●
8	SELECTIVE OUTRAGE	3	●●
9	COMPLETENESS (Selective Omission — Overall picture)	7	●●●●
10	FRAMING (Setting the frame)	6	●●●
11	WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY	5	●●●
12	PRESENTER BEHAVIOUR	5	●●●
13	QUESTION ASYMMETRY	5	●●●
14	FALSE BALANCE	3	●●
15	AGENDA-SETTING	6	●●●

#### HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)

**5.0/10**

*Significant imbalance*

#### SOFT FACTS SCORE (9-14)

**5.0/10**

*Significant imbalance*

#### OVERALL SCORE

**5.0/10**

*Significant imbalance*

*Averaged from hard facts and soft facts*



## KEY — Meaning of scores

### Individual scores per criterion (0–10)

<b>0</b>	<b>No finding</b>	No relevant anomaly identified.
<b>1–2</b>	<b>Weak finding</b>	Slight anomaly without material impairment of balance.
<b>3–4</b>	<b>Slight to moderate finding</b>	Recognisable tendency; relevance of impact low to moderate.
<b>5</b>	<b>Moderate finding with relevance of impact</b>	Relevant imbalance that influences the opinion-forming potential of the audience.
<b>6</b>	<b>Significant finding (threshold)</b>	Scores from 6 onwards are reported as "significant findings."
<b>7</b>	<b>Significant finding</b>	Clear, well-documented imbalance with marked relevance of impact.
<b>8–9</b>	<b>Serious finding</b>	Pronounced imbalance; multiple documentable individual findings in this criterion.
<b>10</b>	<b>Maximum expression</b>	Systematic, pervasive imbalance in this criterion.

### Aggregated deviation index — interpretation ranges

<b>0.0 – 2.5</b>	<b>Unremarkable</b>	No material patterns discernible; broadcast corresponds to the requirement of factual accuracy.
<b>2.6 – 4.0</b>	<b>Slight imbalance</b>	Isolated anomalies; statistically visible, but still within the tolerance range.
<b>4.1 – 6.0</b>	<b>Significant imbalance</b>	Multiple significant findings; relevant impairment of diversity of perspectives.
<b>6.1 – 8.0</b>	<b>Serious deviation from the balance requirement. High degree of deviation</b>	Pronounced, broadcast-wide patterns; high relevance of impact.
<b>8.1 – 10</b>	<b>Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high degree of bias</b>	Maximum expression across almost all criteria; systematically one-sided reporting.

### Party-political bias (-5 to +5)

<b>-5 to -3</b>	<b>Strongly disadvantaged</b>	Party is clearly disadvantaged in portrayal, speaking time or framing.
<b>-2 to -1</b>	<b>Slightly disadvantaged</b>	Recognisable but weak disadvantage.
<b>0</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	No discernible preference or disadvantage.
<b>+1 to +2</b>	<b>Slightly favoured</b>	Recognisable but weak preference.
<b>+3 to +5</b>	<b>Strongly favoured</b>	Party is clearly favoured in portrayal, speaking time or framing.



## CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL CLASSIFICATION (§4 ORF Act)

### Assessment under §4 ORF Act

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#### Violation 1:

Norm: §4 para. 1 ORF Act (objectivity and impartiality of reporting)

Facts: The broadcast uses the trade union as the only external critical voice on the budget, without declaring its structural SPÖ alignment and interest-binding. The trade union is implicitly treated as a neutral authority.

Evidence: Timestamp 04:35 — Quote: "Now would be the right moment for a millionaires' tax, for a greater contribution from the super-rich."

Assessment: The failure to classify the trade union as an interest-bound party violates the objectivity requirement. Objective reporting would have made the interest-binding transparent and obtained a counter-voice (WKO, employers' association).

#### Violation 2:

Norm: §10 para. 7 ORF Act (adequate consideration of all parties represented in the National Council)

Facts: The FPÖ as the strongest parliamentary party (57 seats, 29.2% in the 2024 National Council election) does not appear in the entire broadcast — neither as a studio guest nor as a cited voice.

Evidence: Entire broadcast (00:00–27:41) — no FPÖ mention in a political context.

Assessment: In a broadcast that addresses central economic policy topics (budget, fuel price brake, ancillary wage costs), the complete absence of the strongest parliamentary party is a structural violation of the consideration requirement. §10 para. 7 ORF Act requires "adequate consideration" — complete absence is the opposite of that.

#### Violation 3:

Norm: §4 para. 5 ORF Act (diversity of opinion)

Facts: The broadcast presents the budget exclusively through the lens of a government representative (Shetty, NEOS) and two interest-bound commentators (trade union, Agenda Austria). Independent economic research (WIFO, IHS) is completely absent.

Evidence: Timestamp 03:39–17:55 — entire economic and budget section without an independent scientific voice.

Assessment: The requirement of diversity of opinion demands not only the presentation of different political positions but also the inclusion of independent expertise. The exclusive use of interest-bound sources violates this requirement.

### Overall assessment §4 ORF Act

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The broadcast violates §4 ORF Act in three demonstrable dimensions: objectivity (missing conflict of interest declaration for the trade union), diversity of opinion (missing independent economic research) and party consideration (complete absence of the FPÖ). The violations are attributable not to individual statements but to structural editorial decisions — guest selection, source selection and topic framing. A single broadcast does not yet constitute a systematic violation of the ORF Act; in the context of a programme review, however, it would need to be examined whether these structural patterns occur regularly in ZIB 2. The demonstrated violations are documented in a court-proof manner and would withstand a complaint to KommAustria.



## CHAPTER 6 — SOURCE IN-DEPTH CHECK

### 1. TRADE UNION (ÖGB — not named)

**1. FUNDING:** Membership fees of organised workers; partly public funds. Structurally employee-oriented, historically SPÖ-aligned.

**2. MANDATE:** Representative body for employees — not compatible with a neutral assessment of budget measures affecting employees and businesses.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Institutional interest in greater workers' rights, redistribution and strengthening of the trade union position. The demand for a millionaires' tax is explicit SPÖ programme policy.

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 (structural conflict of interest)

D2 Personal risk: 0 (no personal assumption of risk)

D3 Professional competence: +1 (labour law, wage policy — but statement concerns tax policy)

D4 Consistency: +2 (consistent demand for years)

D5 Emotion vs. data: -1 (appellative, "super-rich")

D6 Source level: 0 (secondary source)

**TOTAL: 0 → SOURCE INDICATOR: YELLOW**

**5. COUNTER-VOICE:** WKÖ (Austrian Chamber of Commerce) as employers' representative — not cited.

Conclusion: The trade union is treated as a neutral critical voice but is structurally interest-bound. Not to be treated as a neutral expert authority.

### 2. AGENDA AUSTRIA

**1. FUNDING:** Privately funded through corporate donations and individuals; economically liberal in orientation. No full transparency on donors.

**2. MANDATE:** Economic liberal think tank — mandate is the promotion of economic liberal policy concepts. Not compatible with a neutral assessment of redistribution measures.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Institutional interest in economic liberal policy; criticism of the "red signature" corresponds to the institutional orientation and funding structure.

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 (economically liberally funded)

D2 Personal risk: 0

D3 Professional competence: +2 (economic policy expertise)

D4 Consistency: +2 (consistent economic liberal position)

D5 Emotion vs. data: +1 (partly data-based)

D6 Source level: 0 (secondary source)

**TOTAL: +4 → SOURCE INDICATOR: YELLOW**

**5. COUNTER-VOICE:** AK Wien (Chamber of Labour) or left-wing think tank as a counterweight — not cited.

Conclusion: Agenda Austria is correctly characterised as a "liberal economic observer," but the funding structure and the institutional conflict of interest are not disclosed.

### 3. E-CONTROL (Energie-Control Austria)

**1. FUNDING:** State regulatory authority — funded through regulatory fees from energy companies and public funds.

**2. MANDATE:** Technical regulation of the energy market — compatible with assessment of market mechanisms; structurally pro-regulation.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** The authority has an institutional interest in maintaining and expanding its regulatory role; recommending the continuation of the fuel price brake strengthens its own relevance.

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 (maintaining relevance)

D2 Personal risk: +1 (institutional responsibility)

D3 Professional competence: +2 (energy market expertise)

D4 Consistency: +1 (consistent regulatory recommendations)

D5 Emotion vs. data: +2 (technical, data-based)

D6 Source level: +1 (primary authority with market data)

**TOTAL: +6 → SOURCE INDICATOR: GREEN**



**5. COUNTER-VOICE:** Independent energy economist on the question of whether margin caps are compatible with market principles in the long term — not cited.

Conclusion: E-Control is the most credible source in the broadcast (GREEN), but the structural conflict of interest (maintaining relevance through regulatory recommendation) is not addressed.

#### 4. ABZ AUSTRIA (Further education institute)

**1. FUNDING:** Non-profit organisation — funded through public funds (AMS, federal ministries), EU funds and project grants.

**2. MANDATE:** Educational and vocational support for disadvantaged groups — compatible with presenting educational dropouts as a problem requiring support.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Institutional interest in maintaining relevance and securing funding; presenting educational dropouts as a growing problem strengthens the case for its own support needs.

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 (maintaining relevance through problem presentation)

D2 Personal risk: 0

D3 Professional competence: +2 (educational support, practical experience)

D4 Consistency: +1 (consistent support work)

D5 Emotion vs. data: 0 (mixed: individual case stories + statistics)

D6 Source level: +1 (primary source for practical experience)

**TOTAL: +3 → SOURCE INDICATOR: YELLOW**

**5. COUNTER-VOICE:** Independent education researcher for structural causal analysis — not cited.

Conclusion: ABZ Austria is a legitimate practical source for educational support, but not a neutral analyst of the causes of educational dropouts. The ideological framing ("patriarchal structures") goes beyond the institutional mandate and is not questioned.

#### 5. STATISTICS AUSTRIA

**1. FUNDING:** Federal authority — funded through the federal budget.

**2. MANDATE:** Official statistics — methodologically neutral, legally obligated to independence.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** No direct conflict of interest in inflation and education statistics. The authority has a general interest in the relevance of official statistics.

D1 Conflict of interest: +1 (methodologically neutral, legally independent)

D2 Personal risk: +1 (institutional responsibility)

D3 Professional competence: +2 (statistical methodology)

D4 Consistency: +2 (consistent methodology)

D5 Emotion vs. data: +2 (purely data-based)

D6 Source level: +2 (primary source)

**TOTAL: +10 → SOURCE INDICATOR: GREEN**

**5. COUNTER-VOICE:** Not required — Statistics Austria is the appropriate source for data collection.

Conclusion: Statistics Austria is the most reliable source in the broadcast (GREEN, +10). Its data are correctly cited, but without sufficient context (missing triad dimensions, see criterion 5).

*Analysis prepared in accordance with Methodological Principle K11+K8, Version 3.0-detail. All findings are based exclusively on the transcript provided. Timestamps refer to the time markers indicated in the transcript.*

#### Source indicator for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Indicator
TRADE UNION (ÖGB — not named)	-2	0	+1	+2	-1	0	0	YELLOW
AGENDA AUSTRIA	-1	0	+2	+2	+1	0	+4	YELLOW
E-CONTROL (Energie-Control Austria)	-1	+1	+2	+1	+2	+1	+6	GREEN
ABZ AUSTRIA (Further education institute)	-1	0	+2	+1	0	+1	+3	YELLOW



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STATISTICS AUSTRIA	+1	+1	+2	+2	+2	+2	+10	<b>GREEN</b>
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### Legal and methodological classification

<b>No finding of fact</b>	The results presented do not constitute findings of fact about individual persons, editorial teams or broadcasts. They are to be understood as the result of a standardised operationalisation, not as a determination of individual responsibility.
<b>No legal ruling</b>	The aggregated deviation index does not replace a legal assessment within the meaning of §4 ORF Act. The determination of whether a specific broadcast violates statutory requirements is the exclusive responsibility of the competent authorities (in particular KommAustria).
<b>No proof of causality</b>	Statistical correlations are not to be interpreted as proof of causal relationships or editorial intentions. Deviation values may be influenced by topic selection, news situation, political controversy or format logic.
<b>No judgement of intent</b>	The analysis measures observable structural characteristics of broadcasts. A score of 7 means that a significant imbalance has been identified — not that the editorial team intended this. The methodology makes no statements about motives or strategic objectives.
<b>Heuristic comparison instrument</b>	The index serves for comparative pattern recognition across thousands of broadcasts, not for the precise metric measurement of individual segments. Threshold values serve as heuristic orientation, not as sharp legal qualification.



## APPENDIX 1: NATIONAL LEGISLATION

### Legal basis Austria — ORF

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#### Law

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ORF Act (ORF-G, BGBl. No. 379/1984 as amended)

#### Relevant articles

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- ORF-G §4 para. 5: Information must be comprehensive, independent, impartial and objective. All news and reports must be carefully checked for accuracy and origin; news and commentary must be clearly separated from each other.
- ORF-G §4 para. 5a: The totality of programmes must ensure diversity and balance.
- ORF-G §10 para. 7: Adequate consideration of all parties represented in the National Council.
- ORF-G §4 para. 1: Mandate for a differentiated overall programme that is comprehensive, independent, impartial and objective.

#### Core obligations

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- 1. Objectivity and impartiality:** Comprehensive, independent, impartial information
- 2. Separation of news/commentary:** Clear distinction
- 3. Party consideration:** Adequately consider all National Council parties
- 4. Overall programme diversity:** Diversity and balance across all programmes

#### Supervisory authority

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- KommAustria (Communications Authority Austria): Media regulatory authority
- Federal Communications Senate: Appeals body
- Audience Council: Representation of listeners and viewers

#### Complaints procedure

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1. ORF Audience Council
2. KommAustria
3. Federal Communications Senate
4. Administrative Court



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## APPENDIX 2: SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATIONS

### Literature

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### SVFAB Working Papers

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**Unbalanced Reporting** is the response to the halving initiative in Switzerland: here the manipulation techniques are explained in detail, starting with the selection of staff and source selection. 15 principles are then explained: omission, framing, temporal framing, guilt by association, emotionalisation, context removal and many more, illustrated with many examples. In addition, it becomes apparent where we ourselves apply these techniques — this promotes not only insight but also empathy.

Optionally the book comes with **playing cards**

Also available as an **audiobook**



The interview is not a conversation. It is a stage — and someone else has written the script.

Those who do not know this provide material. Good quotes that are cut incorrectly. Correct statements that end up in the wrong context. Honest answers that are framed as confessions.

This book is not a media criticism book. It is a toolbox — for everyone who has a microphone in front of their face and wants to know what they can do about it. 7 chapters. 7 tools: What an interview really is. The 7 most common traps. The three basic principles of sovereignty — anchoring, reframing, setting boundaries. Preparation in one hour. Body and voice. What to do when things go wrong. And what counts after the interview.

For politicians, activists, entrepreneurs, whistleblowers — for everyone who is exposed and wants to understand how the game works. So that they stop playing along — and start shaping it.

In A5. Direct. For preparation, for reference, for follow-up and in difficult situations



**You think you see the world.** In reality you see the frame that someone has placed around it. Framing is the oldest and most elegant manipulation technique in the world. It does not change the facts — it changes what we make of the facts. How we feel. What we believe. How we decide. And it works — because we all participate. Daily. Unconsciously. You too. This book is not a dry textbook. It is a workbook — playful, direct, full of examples from real life. You learn not only how others frame you. You learn how you yourself frame — and how you can use it consciously and fairly.

Because those who understand framing see the world more clearly. Listen to the news differently. Conduct conversations with greater confidence. And can no longer so easily have a frame imposed on them that someone else has chosen.



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With many exercises and concrete examples from politics, media and everyday life — and the occasional smile.

**Framing with style. Because the frame changes everything.**



The SRG collects 1.56 billion francs per year — compulsorily, from every household. Those who feel unfairly treated can lodge a complaint. There is even an authority for this: the UBI, the Independent Complaints Authority for Radio and Television.

Only: it is not independent. It has no sanctioning powers. And in 99.6% of all cases it decides: nothing.

This analysis lays bare the system — factually, precisely, without polemic. Procedures, personnel, powers, costs, statistics, legal recourse. And the constitutional law review that shows: the UBI system meets none of the three fundamental criteria — it is not appropriate, not based on separation of powers, not market-based. The authority that is supposed to protect citizens primarily protects the system it was supposed to control.

Essential reading for everyone considering a complaint — and for everyone who wants to understand why genuine media oversight in Switzerland is still pending.