

Vienna, January 2014

## WORLD WAR I IN VIENNA CITY LIFE IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND GRAPHIC ART

**Press conference:** Wednesday, 15 October 2014, 10 a.m.  
**Opening:** Wednesday, 15 October 2014, 6.30 p.m.  
**Exhibition venue:** Wien Museum Karlsplatz, 1040 Vienna  
**Duration:** 16 October 2014 – 18 January 2015  
**Opening hours:** Tuesday to Sunday and public holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
**Press photos:** [www.wienmuseum.at/en/presse](http://www.wienmuseum.at/en/presse)

World War I was the first war to involve civilians on a massive scale. With the city transformed into a "home front", its inhabitants became participants in a war which, though waged in remote regions, affected each and everybody's life with great immediacy. War enthusiasm and expectations of an early victory were short-lived and soon gave way to a more sober mood. Masses of war refugees arrived in the city, which struggled to meet their basic needs. Replacing the labour of men who had gone to fight, women and children were drawn into a war that had to be won not only on the battlefields, but also on the so-called "home front". War propaganda contrasted ever more starkly with reality as Vienna's multi-ethnic population suffered supply shortages and food was rationed and hard to find. In 1917, people were finally starving. Demonstrations and hunger protests were the harbingers of the eventual collapse of the monarchy. The exhibition looks at the "home front" in an effort to present different perspectives on what happened there.