

We are a leading research center for wood and renewable raw materials in Europe. Our core competence lies in materials research and process technology along the entire value chain - from raw materials to the finished product. We conduct applied research at the interface between industry and science to promote resource-efficient production and a circular bioeconomy.

At our research location at the Vienna University of Technology, one of our research goals is to develop selective adsorption methods for Melamine in effluents from the wood manufacturing industry. Melamine is a nitrogen-rich compound widely used in adhesives and coatings for wood-based materials. Its extensive use in laminates and resins makes it present in many everyday products. However, melamine is classified in the EU as presumably carcinogenic and organ-damaging, raising environmental and health concerns. It can enter the environment through various pathways and has been detected in water and soil. Due to its persistence, improved analytical methods and sustainable removal technologies are urgently needed, especially for wastewater from wood-based material production.

As part of these research activities, we are awarding an internship exclusively for women as part of the FFG funding program FEMtech - Equal Opportunities for Women in Science and Technology.

## **FEMtech Internship/Master thesis (f)**

**Starting date: April 2026 (duration: 6 months, fulltime)**

**Topic: Synthesis of Melamine imprinted Polymers (MIP) for Melamine removal from industrial effluents**

**These exciting tasks await you:**

- Optimisation of the polymer synthesis
- Advanced characterisation of the polymers
- Adsorption and desorption tests

**Your qualifications:**

- Degree in chemistry, technical chemistry, process engineering, materials science
- Basic knowledge of working techniques in the instrumental analytical laboratory
- Knowledge of laboratory techniques in polymer synthesis is an advantage
- Good written and spoken English skills
- Creativity, motivation and ability to work in a team

**Benefits:**

- Challenging and varied fields of activity
- Work in university environment at a fundamental research project
- Gross monthly salary based on 40h/week of EUR 1.400,00
- Six months Internship, starting from April 2026, also possible as Master thesis (Enrollment at an Austrian University is a prerequisite).

**Place of employment:**

Vienna, Campus Getreidemarkt

**Contact:**

Dr.<sup>in</sup> Cornelia Rieder-Gradinger  
Area Wood Materials Technology  
Tel.: +43 1 58801-166469

We look forward to receiving your detailed application by e-mail to: [c.rieder-gradinger@wood-kplus.at](mailto:c.rieder-gradinger@wood-kplus.at)