



©Lunghammer

**Harald Kainz,**  
Professor of Urban Water Management  
Graz University of Technology, Austria

Harald Kainz studied both civil and industrial engineering. He has ten years of professional experience in the field of wastewater treatment and waste management in Europe, including eight years as managing director of Environmental Technology Vienna.

Harald Kainz has been a full professor at Graz University of Technology since 2000 and has over 285 publications to his name. In 2004 he was appointed Dean and in 2007 Vice-Rector for Infrastructure and ICT at TU Graz.

From 2011 to 2023, Harald Kainz took over the position of Rector of TU Graz. He worked on the development of the university of tomorrow under the motto “Knowledge - Technology - Passion”.

He promoted close cooperation with industry and supported digitalization in teaching, research and administration. In his role as Rector, he also championed the promotion of future research fields, including start-ups, and established TU Graz in global university rankings through a concerted internationalization strategy. Under his leadership, TU Graz became the first Austrian university to draw up a roadmap towards climate neutrality by 2030.

These successes have contributed to him being the first rector in the history of TU Graz to be elected to this office three times in a row.