

Stories in the news: Monday 24th September 2012

1. The 'corruption committee' (or 'enquiry into political corruption') will continue after Gabriela Moser stepped down (resigned) as Chairperson, but the Chancellor, Werner Faymann, won't have to face any questions.

What is your opinion of the process? Will the enquiry change or achieve anything?

2. The German Catholic Church has said that Catholics there should pay their church tax or face not being allowed to take communion in a church or even to have a religious burial. The church tax is 8% of their income tax bill. Is this a good way to get people to go to church (or to pay the tax)?

3. Did you hear about the brawl in a Foxconn factory in China? It took 5,000 policeman about 9 hours to control the incident, which involved 2,000 workers!
Can you imagine a factory like that?!

Foxconn makes lots of components for Apple products... have you heard any review of the iPhone 5? I saw a clever little keyboard for the iPad at the weekend – very cool!

4. It was the Emmys in Los Angeles last night – the awards for television programmes.
What's your favourite television programme?

Did you know that you can hear some programmes (eg. Desperate Housewives, Private Practice) in English on the second audio channel of ORF1?
Do you watch many programmes/films in English – just for entertainment?

5. Did you go to an 'Almabtrieb' at the weekend? Are you in favour of the event?
Or do you prefer an Oktoberfest? Have you ever been to the Munich Oktoberfest?

6. The EU is considering a law which would require 40% of a company's directors to be women. Norway passed a similar law for public companies in 2003.

Do women make better decisions than men? No-one knows, because we can't compare boards with 50% or more men to boards with 50% or more women – there aren't enough yet.