

Participation process & master plan  
for the expansion of the  
Gusen Memorial

**Phase 2 (Consolidation phase)**  
**Data evaluation in detail**



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## Methodology & Evaluation

The core statements from the four workshops with over 50 representatives of regional, national and international interest groups and the youth workshop with 20 students from four nations are considered in the evaluation. Furthermore, the core statements of the panel discussion with five international experts are presented. The evaluation also includes the results of the surveys, which were addressed to both regional and international participants. The main results are summarised and grouped thematically in this document. They formed the basis for compiling the master plan.

### Central research question

"What expectations do the workshop participants and consulted experts voice with regard to the expansion of the Gusen Memorial?"

### Objective of the evaluations

- Recording the expectations of the participants in relation to the expansion of the Gusen Memorial and their structuring and grouping substantively and thematically
- Recording the positions of the consulted experts in relation to the proposed arguments for the expansion of the Gusen Memorial and their structuring and grouping substantively and thematically

### Material

- 5 workshop reports (taking into account the attachments provided) which summarise the results from various working groups
- Transcripts of expert panel audio recordings
- Results of the surveys

### Evaluation methodology

#### 1. Evaluation method for stakeholder and youth workshops

Throughout the four stakeholder workshops and the youth workshop, different discussion formats were chosen with all participants (detailed description below). The results were documented with photographs and in writing. The results of format 1 ("World Café") are included in the qualitative evaluation. In addition, format 2 ("Change of Perspective") was carried out as part of the youth workshop to consolidate the target group analysis, which helped formulate individual fictitious "personas" and is also included in the qualitative content analysis.

#### Format 1: World Café

This discussion format was about consolidating specific expectations with regard to the topics of knowledge transfer and exchange, commemoration and representation, visibility and locations, infrastructure and mobility as well as green and open areas. Moderated discussions of around 20 minutes each were initiated between the participants at four different tables on these topics, which were frequently mentioned in the participation formats of Phase 1 (analysis phase). The results were recorded in writing. Switching between the tables enabled all participants to discuss all topics. At the end, a final plenary round was held, during which the results of the tables were presented by their respective moderators. The following issues were discussed:

- Possible functions and uses of the extended Gusen Memorial
- Content focus of the new offerings to be created
- Qualities and locations of the newly purchased plots
- Design questions
- Infrastructure requirements

### **Analysis**

- Philipp Mayring qualitative content analysis of the workshop report
- The analysis is based on the workshop reports
- Form of content analysis: Summary content analysis
  - Inductive categorisation from the material
  - Summary of all categories derived from the text in seven main categories (see the results on p. 11)
  - Paraphrasing of text passages conveying content

### **Presentation of results**

- Summary of results and grouping subject to the question posed
- Overview of results by category and keyword

### **Format 2: Change of Perspective**

As part of the "Change of Perspective" format, the participants in the youth workshop were to change their perspective of the future concentration camp memorial and put themselves in the role of different target groups – each represented by a fictitious so-called persona – often mentioned during the stakeholder interviews. For this purpose, the participants were divided into small groups and each assigned to a persona. The groups discussed the specific expectations of a visit to the future concentration camp memorial from the perspective of each persona. These were then presented and discussed during the plenary session.

### **Predefined personas**

- 18-year-old person who visits the Gusen Memorial together with an international youth group
- Relative of a victim with restricted mobility
- Teacher who visits the Gusen Memorial with a school class
- Visitors from the region who are interested in history
- Cyclist on the Danube Cycle Path who spontaneously visits the Gusen Memorial

### **Analysis**

- Mayring qualitative content analysis of the workshop report
- The analysis is based on the workshop report
- Form of content analysis: Summarising content analysis
  - Inductive categorisation from the material
  - Summary of all categories derived from the text in seven main categories (see the results on p. 11)
  - Paraphrasing of text passages conveying content

### **Presentation of results**

- Summary of results and grouping subject to the question posed
- Overview of results by category and keyword

## 2. Evaluation method for expert panel

### Analysis

- Mayring qualitative evaluation of expert panel transcripts (computer-aided using QCAmap software)
- The analysis is based on the transcript of the panel discussion
- Form of content analysis: Summarising content analysis
  - Inductive categorisation from the material
  - Summary of all categories in the text in six main categories (see the results on p. 29)
  - Paraphrasing of text passages conveying content

### Presentation of results

- Summary of the results and their relation to the research question
- Overview of results by category and keyword

## 3. Evaluation method for surveys

### Analysis

- Quantitative analysis of the survey results through the survey software Microsoft Forms
- Qualitative evaluation of the free-text response fields
  - Coding and allocation to the main categories formed inductively in format 1 (see the results on p. 11)
  - Reduction of the statements to one to three keywords

### Presentation of results

- Graphical presentation of the quantitative analysis through the survey software Microsoft Forms
- Categorisation of the qualitative results and overview of the reductions belonging to the main categories formed, in graphical form

### Excursus: Mayring qualitative content analysis

German psychologist Philipp Mayring developed a general step-by-step model for qualitative content analysis. The aim thereof is to use a data set to formulate new theoretical considerations in the field of a research question. The direction of the analysis decides **who** or **what** the objective of the analysis is. Overall, Mayring proposes **three different forms of analysis** of the data material: summarising, explication and structuring. The **summarising content analysis** chosen here reduces the examined material to a manageable short text and its essential content. The interpretation of the results depends on the form of content analysis, but is always based on one **category system**, in which the material is classified, and examined according to **quality criteria of qualitative research**: *Transparency* of the procedure, *range/reproducibility* of the analysis and *intersubjectivity* of the evaluation.

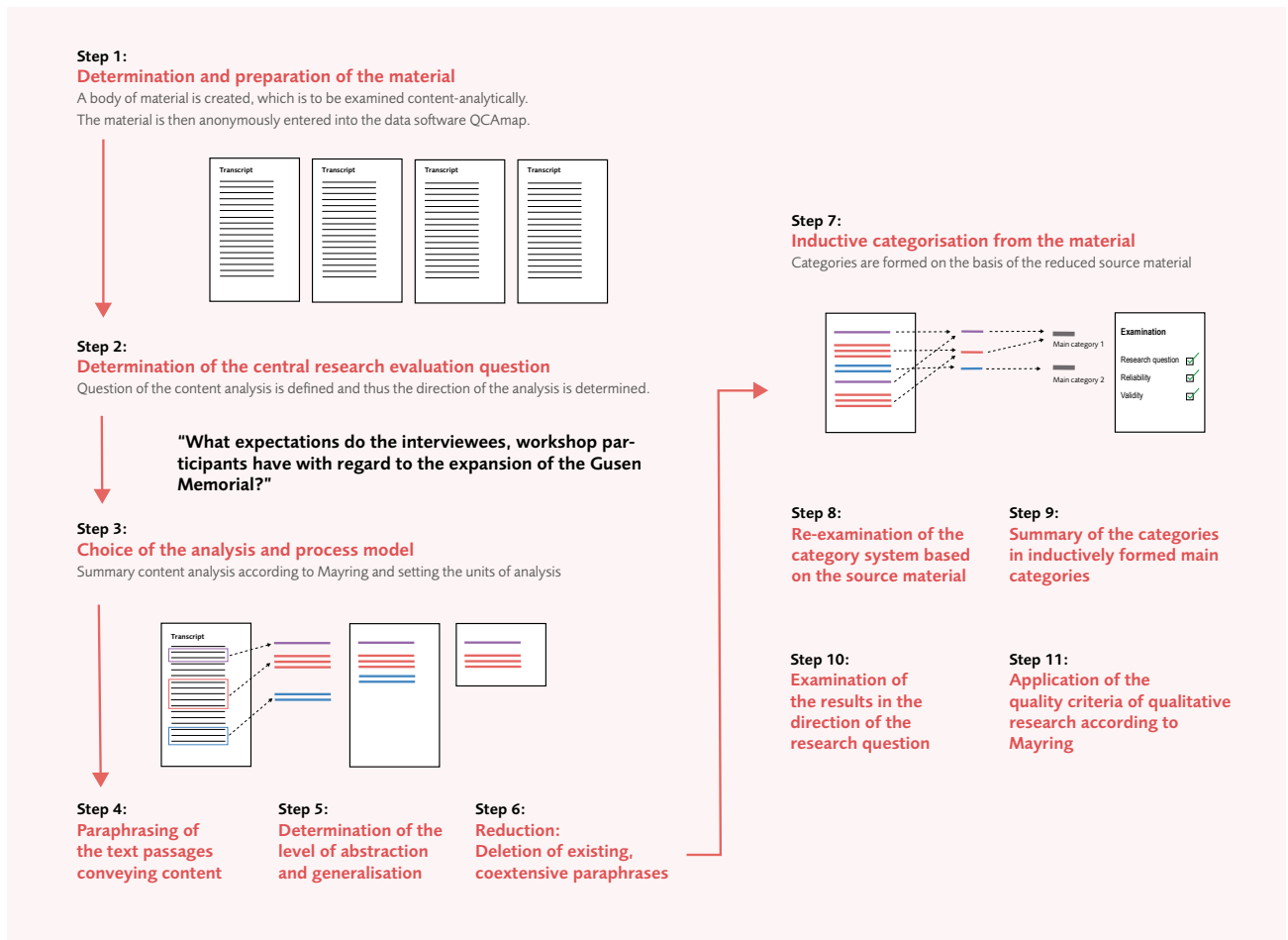


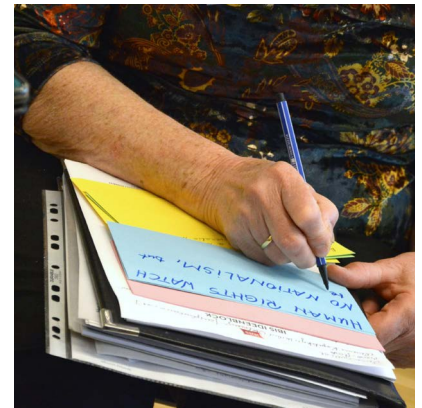
Fig. 1: Flowchart summary content analysis

Main category	Category code	Sub-category	Highlighted text	Paraphrasing	Generalisation	Reduction	Presentation of results
Encounters & networking	RQ1-14	Regional Initiatives	In addition, I also consider that these needs must be a part of the whole concept and that resources also have to be considered.	Consideration of sufficient resources	Sufficient resources	Resources	Setting sufficient resources aside
Encounters & networking	RQ1-14	Regional Initiatives	We owe the fact that we are there to the local commemoration initiatives – of course, there is no question at all that also by having joined forces with many other embassies that have supported the commemoration initiatives, victims' organisations – however, the foundation has been laid by commemoration initiatives. In this respect, they are very important in the planning, in the implementation and also, afterwards, for bringing together professionalism, volunteerism, region, memorial and awareness region. There has to be a clear division of roles.	The merit of local commemoration initiatives and the need for connecting them with one another and dividing roles among them	Connecting local commemoration initiatives and dividing roles among them	Connecting, dividing of roles among commemoration initiatives	A clearer division of roles between the various initiatives

Fig. 2: Example of the paraphrasing and result presentation process

## **Detailed evaluation**

### **Stakeholder workshops & youth workshop**



## Impressions of the stakeholder workshops

In the topic-specific stakeholder workshops of phase 2 (consolidation phase), the expectations for the expansion of the Gusen Memorial were deepened. Concrete scenarios for the development were discussed on the basis of plans.



## Detailed evaluation of the stakeholder workshops & the youth workshop

Throughout the four stakeholder workshops and the youth workshop, various discussion formats were carried out with all participants and the results documented with photographs and in writing. The documentation of the workshop formats was then evaluated according to the methodology explained on page 3.

### 1. Stakeholder workshop

#### Topic: Transmission and exchange of knowledge

14 April 2023, 13.00-18.00, Langenstein Municipal Office

Keynote speech by Christian Angerer, coordinator at [www.erinnern.at](http://www.erinnern.at)

Keynote speech topic: Challenges of historical/political educational work

Organisations and interest groups represented:

- Comité International de Mauthausen
- Mauthausen Memorial
- Third-generation descendant of an SS member
- The Austrian Bishops' Conference
- The Papa Gruber Circle
- The Johann Gruber Platform Association

Excused:

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium, Embassy of Hungary, Association of Social Democrat Freedom Fighters, victims of Fascism and Active Anti-Fascists, Austrian Trade Union Federation, participants from the regional population, Future Fund of the Republic of Austria

### 2. Stakeholder workshop

#### Topic: Commemoration and representation

15 April 2023, 10.00-15.00, House of Remembrance, St. Georgen an der Gusen

Keynote speech by Robert Vorberg, curator at the Mauthausen Memorial

Keynote speech topic: Evolution of the representation of victim groups in Austrian concentration camp memorial sites

Organisations and interest groups represented:

- The Mauthausen-Gusen-St. Georgen Awareness Region
- Embassy of the Republic of Poland
- Embassy of the Kingdom of Spain
- Comité International de Mauthausen
- Jehovah's Witnesses in Austria
- The Austrian Mauthausen Committee
- Mauthausen Memorial
- National Fund of the Republic of Austria for Victims of National Socialism
- Participants from Langenstein
- Participants from St. Georgen an der Gusen

Excused:

Embassy of Ukraine, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, The Vienna Homosexual Initiative, The Jewish Community of Vienna, The Cultural Association of Austrian Roma

### 3. Stakeholder workshop

#### Topic: Visibility and locations

21 April 2023, 13.00-18.00, Langenstein Municipal Office

1. Keynote speech by Petra Weiss, Technical Director of the Federal Monuments Office  
Keynote speech topic: Handling of relics and archaeological remains
2. Keynote speech by Michael Mondria, Managing Director of Ars Electronica Solutions  
Keynote speech topic: Use of digital technologies

Organisations and interest groups represented:

- Embassy of the French Republic
- Embassy of the Slovak Republic
- Embassy of the Czech Republic
- Burghauptmannschaft Österreich
- Comité International de Mauthausen
- The Gusen Memorial Service Committee
- Mauthausen Memorial
- The ÖVP comradeship of the politically persecuted and their allies for Austria
- Participants from Langenstein
- Participants from St. Georgen an der Gusen

Excused:

Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia, Embassy of the State of Israel, Federal Association of Austrian Anti-fascists, Resistance Fighters and Victims of Fascism, Association of Survivors of Mauthausen

### 4. Stakeholder workshop

#### Topic: Infrastructure and mobility, green and open areas

22 April 2023, 10.00-15.00, House of Remembrance, St. Georgen an der Gusen

Keynote speech by Helmut Koch, Co-Managing Director komobile - transport planning office  
Keynote speech topic: Innovative transport and mobility planning

Organisations and interest groups represented:

- 3 participants from Langenstein
- 3 participants from St. Georgen an der Gusen
- The Mauthausen-Gusen-St. Georgen Awareness Region
- Mayor of the Municipality of Langenstein
- Burghauptmannschaft Österreich
- Comité International de Mauthausen
- Mauthausen Memorial

Excused:

Embassy of the Italian Republic, Embassy of the United States of America, Mayor of the Municipality of St. Georgen an der Gusen

## 5. Youth workshop

26 May 2023, 10.00-17.00, House of Remembrance, St. Georgen an der Gusen

Institutions represented:

- 6 students from the Federal Business Academy Perg, Austria
- 4 students from the Prachatice Secondary School, Czech Republic
- 6 students from the Léopold Sédar Senghor Lycée, France
- 4 students from the Wojciech Kilar State Music School Katowice, Poland

## Evaluation categories

Using the method described on p. 3, the following main and subcategories were formed from the workshop reports. The results of the stakeholder workshop and the youth workshop are allocated to these categories in the summary below.

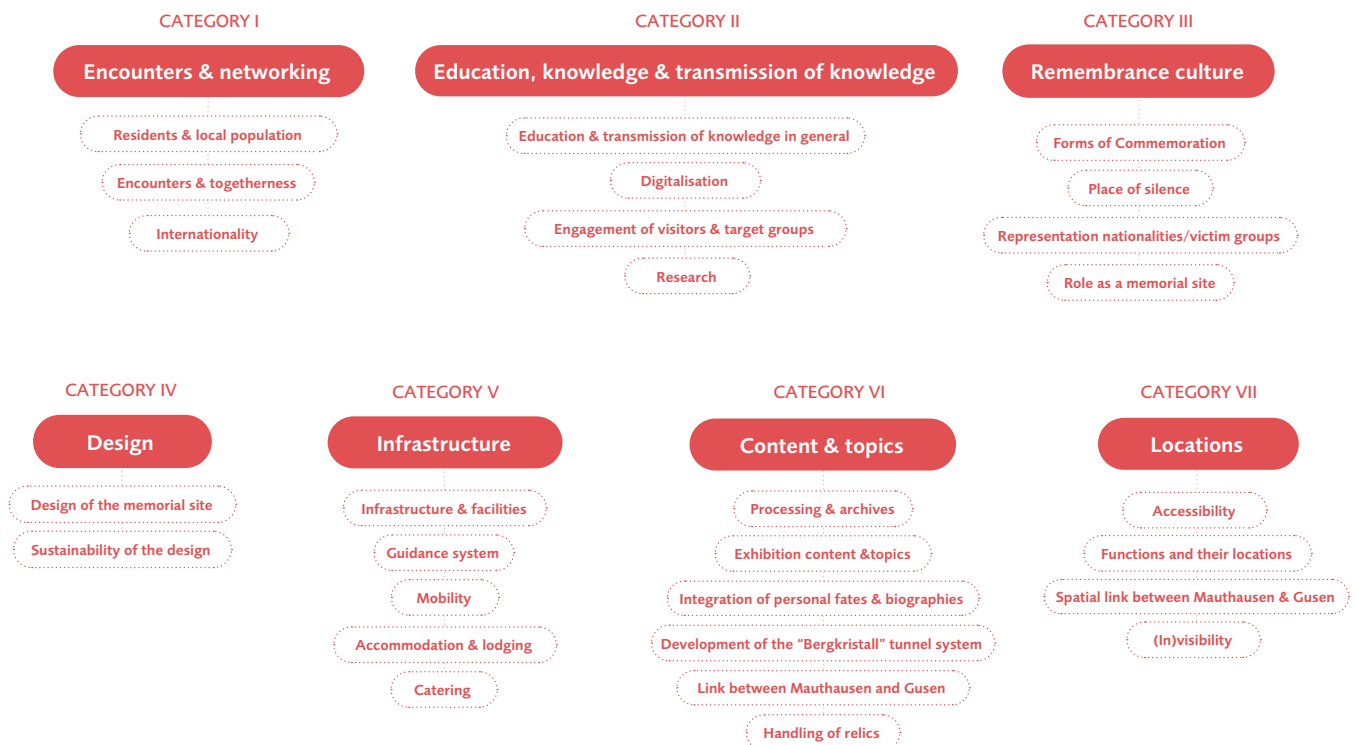
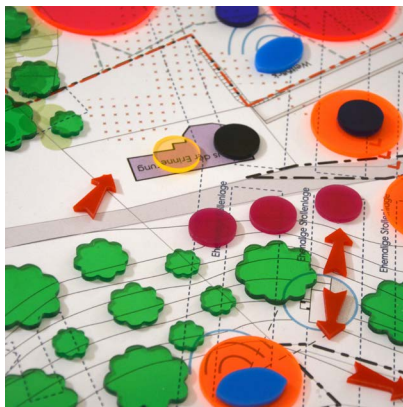


Fig. 3: Main and sub-categories formed from the workshop reports



## Impressions of the youth workshop

20 pupils from four nations took part in the youth workshop. The day before the workshop, the group visited Gusen and Mauthausen Memorial.

## Presentation of results – Stakeholder workshops & youth workshop

The results of the discussion format "World Café" from the stakeholder workshops and the youth workshop are presented by category and summarised by keyword.

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### CATEGORY I: ENCOUNTERS & NETWORKING

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Encounters & Networking", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



- CATEGORY I
- CATEGORY II
- CATEGORY III
- CATEGORY IV
- CATEGORY V
- CATEGORY VI
- CATEGORY VII

#### RESIDENTS & LOCAL POPULATION

- The overall concept should be designed in such a way that the interests of the population are also taken into account
- Achieve positive impacts and added value for the local population
- The route through the area should be chosen in such a way that does not encroach upon the privacy of the residents
- The acceptance of the population can be increased by considering buffer zones between the inhabited area and the commemorative areas
- Ensuring the population and the memorial sites can coexist should always be a priority
- Spatial and historical references to the neighbourhood should be established

#### ENCOUNTERS & TOGETHERNESS

- An international youth meeting site should be built and corresponding infrastructure facilities considered in the overall concept
- The horticultural design of the meadow in front of the memorial should be ambitious and used both as an arrival zone for groups and as a meeting place for the local population
- The area behind the visitor centre at the memorial site should be opened up towards the municipality, and a meeting zone with seating created there

#### INTERNATIONALITY

- Gusen must become an international memorial site that represents the diversity of the victim-group nationalities
- Internationality in the transfer of knowledge too (e.g. by using multiple languages)
- Promote scientific cooperation at international level
- Digitalise and network international sources
- Make country-specific sources accessible and use them (e.g. biographies)

## CATEGORY II: EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE & TRANSMISSION OF KNOWLEDGE

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Education, Knowledge & Transmission of Knowledge", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:

### Education, knowledge & transmission of knowledge

#### Education & transmission of knowledge in general

##### Digitalisation

#### Engagement of visitors & target groups

##### Research

### EDUCATION & TRANSMISSION OF KNOWLEDGE IN GENERAL

#### Knowledge transfer & methods

- Make knowledge transfer as accessible as possible and enable as much participation as possible
- Knowledge transfer should be tailored to target groups, also in relation to different national cultures of remembrance
- Offer multi-day programmes for national and international visitors
- Preparation and follow-up of visits should be designed specific to target groups
- Increase the follow-up of visits
- Use music as an international language
- Expand the existing audiowalk
- Create knowledge transfer and research programmes that are specifically tailored to descendants

#### Participatory further development of the memorial site

- Enable ongoing, participatory co-design and further development of the memorial site by visitors ("growing memorial")
- Involve visitors in the redesign process of the memorial site through knowledge transfer programmes
- "Space of the future" that can be co-designed by young people

#### Places for knowledge transfer and education

- The knowledge transfer should start from the sites
- Exhibitions and education/knowledge transfer should be conceived more strongly together and linked locally
- Places for knowledge transfer should be created indoors and outdoors
- Sufficient exhibition space should be planned
- The areas for knowledge transfer should offer a good learning atmosphere
- In contrast to semi-public spaces outdoors, the "House of Remembrance" at the "Bergkristall" tunnel system is an educational space with a very good infrastructure where you can work privately with groups

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

- The "House of Remembrance" at the "Bergkristall" tunnel system should remain a place for education and knowledge transfer, also creating space there for exhibitions
- The former SS barracks should not be used as a visitor centre, but for knowledge transfer and education

## DIGITALISATION

- Cautious use of digital technologies
- Only use digital technologies when they promote exchange and stimulate discussions within groups
- Digital technologies are expedient for preparation and follow-up for example, to promote interaction and reflection
- Make digital archives accessible and create research opportunities on site
- Create a digital research opportunity directly on site (complete database)
- There is a need not only for digital programmes but also for physical places that convey realistically how it used to be

## ENGAGEMENT OF VISITORS & TARGET GROUPS

### Engagement of specific target groups

- Participants of political delegations
- Media as a multiplier
- People with a migration or refugee background
- Interreligious encounter groups
- People with disabilities
- Influencers
- Random visitors
- Programmes for visitors from specific professions (e.g. teachers, police officers)
- Create offers for second and third-generation relatives of former prisoners and descendants of the perpetrators

## RESEARCH

- Prepare sources well and make them available
- Digitalise and network international sources
- Offer research workshops working with sources
- Make digital archives accessible and create research opportunities on site
- Make country-specific sources accessible and use them (e.g. biographies)
- Create a digital research opportunity directly on site to connect places, people and events (complete database)

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

## CATEGORY III: REMEMBRANCE CULTURE

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Remembrance Culture", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



- CATEGORY I
- CATEGORY II
- CATEGORY III**
- CATEGORY IV
- CATEGORY V
- CATEGORY VI
- CATEGORY VII

### FORMS OF COMMEMORATION

- Openness towards new rituals
- Commemoration must offer a framework for encounter
- Historical artefacts can be points of reference for commemoration
- Consider digital forms of commemoration
- Art as a "new language" of representation and remembrance
- Art can play a central role in creating an emotional and social impact (e.g. performative forms of presentation)
- Involving international artists would make a strong gesture here

### PLACE OF SILENCE

- Create a "room of silence" for individual commemoration
- "Room of silence" as a place for contemplation and inner reflection within the area
- Create places "open to interpretation" that can be chosen individually for commemoration
- Enable contemplation and inner reflection

### REPRESENTATION NATIONALITIES/VICTIM GROUPS

- Instead of nations, the commemoration should prioritise individuals and their fates
- The focus should be on individual commemoration based on reasons for persecution and biographical information
- Different reasons for persecution should be communicated clearly
- There should be no "competition" between the victim groups
- The representation of victim groups that were previously underrepresented (e.g. "asocials" or "criminals") should be increased
- Respect means taking all nationality groups into account among the prisoners
- Present the fates of survivors after the war and work with biographies
- Art can become a "new language" of representation



## ROLE AS A MEMORIAL SITE

- The future memorial site should enable a timeless, transnational form of commemoration and offer space for new rituals
- The memorial site should provide space for new rituals to emerge with the involvement of young people (e.g. "Room of the Future")
- Create dynamic space for commemorative rituals (e.g. for placing commemorative plaques)
- Make the diversity of commemorative cultures visible and offer sufficient space for this
- Communicate the value of solidarity and bring it into the present day
- The place should focus on the future
- It should also be taken into account that monuments are places where visitors actively want to set an example and leave something behind
- In lieu of graves, the existing memorial will continue to play a key role in commemoration
- The memorial will be perceived as a place of individual remembrance and a key place of commemoration
- The roll call square will be perceived as a place of official commemoration
- The roll call square could be used as a place for group events, but not diminishing the importance of the memorial as a key place of commemoration
- A central place of commemoration at the stone crusher would be conceivable
- There should be no "memorial park"
- There should be no "commemorative plaque park"
- Thought should be given to whether the ashes found during construction work at the Lungitz railway station, which are assumed to originate from the Mauthausen and Gusen crematoria, can be buried at the site of the Gusen Memorial

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

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CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

## CATEGORY IV: DESIGN

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Design", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

### DESIGN OF THE MEMORIAL SITE

- The design chosen should not gloss over the location's past
- The area of the former depot could be used as a vantage point for the roll call square
- A vantage point does not necessarily have to be built, levels of the existing terrain could also be used
- A low-threshold, natural design is preferred

- Use vegetation to make visible what used to be there
- Vegetation can conserve rather than expose
- Historical areas of conflict can be made visible by means of the design

#### SUSTAINABILITY OF THE DESIGN

- Develop showcase project for dealing with nature, water, insects, ecological diversity and biodiversity
- Work with native diversity when planting
- Include plants from the victim's countries when planting

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

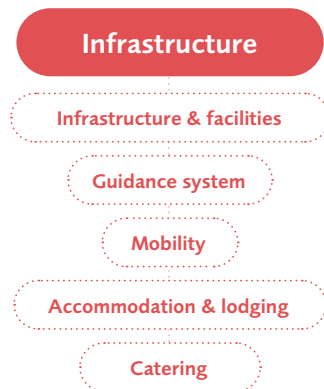
CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

## CATEGORY V: INFRASTRUCTURE

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Infrastructure", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

#### INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES

- To ensure visitors can spend quality time there, appropriate outdoor infrastructure is needed, such as shading, seating, toilets, rubbish bins and water taps
- An additional toilet would be needed in the outdoor area of the visitor centre at the memorial
- Noise protection would need to be taken into account for immediate neighbours
- A fence should not just be a fence, it should be integrated into the design
- Fences could become usable places, e.g. for exhibition content
- Where possible, work with hedges instead of fences
- For the existing memorial, shading and rain protection for memorial services should be considered

#### GUIDANCE SYSTEM

- Good guidance systems and information are needed throughout the region
- There should be historical information at railway stations

## MOBILITY

- The railway stations of Mauthausen and St. Georgen should be defined as central arrival points, from where buses should be organised to cover the last mile.
- To improve connections between the memorial sites, a hop-on hop-off bus link based on the existing route or an individual call system would be options.
- The "missing link" in the public transport links to Mauthausen should be eliminated, more frequent bus connections or a shuttle concept should be created.
- The customer journey and traffic concept should be adapted.
- The traffic concept is planned for the standard days, and tailored solutions should be identified for peak days with increased footfall.
- Synergies should be sought with the municipality of Langenstein with regard to parking
- Keep the number of parking spaces on the site manageable, so find a solution for this outside the site
- Traffic safety should be ensured at bus stops, e.g. prevent overtaking at these points
- Create improved cycling infrastructure (optimisation of cycle paths, rental system for e-bikes for example at railway stations, optimisation of parking facilities)
- Involve railway stations and ÖBB car parks intensively in the planning process
- Develop the existing route of the former industrial railway – which the audiowalk also passes by – as a combined footpath and cycle path and merge it with the Danube cycle path
- Enable walking or hiking in the area

## ACCOMMODATION & LODGING

- An international youth meeting site should be built and corresponding infrastructure facilities considered in the overall concept
- Accommodation is needed in the region for youth groups staying more than one day (capacity for roughly 50-60 people)
- Encourage cooperation between tourism businesses and mobility partners

## CATERING

- A catering establishment at the Gusen Memorial should be open to all, including the population from the region, and be run by a local operator if possible
- Create synergies with hosts and landlords from the region
- Just like in Mauthausen, a catering business in Gusen could be run as a social project
- Vending machines could be possible as a minimum option instead of own catering units
- Inform large international travel groups about catering options in the region

## CATEGORY VII: CONTENT & TOPICS

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Contents & Topics", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



### PROCESSING & ARCHIVE

- Large and as yet untapped databases on Soviet prisoners could be processed with the help of young people

### EXHIBITION CONTENT & TOPICS

#### Methods & forms of presentation

- The history should be told from multiple perspectives
- Places should be linked with topics
- Places should be linked with other places
- Places should be linked with different timeframes
- Need for a museum with reduced forms of presentation and little text (in-depth content, via QR codes for example)
- Create "visual aids" with the help of technology (e.g. by using tablets)

#### Location-specific topics & content

- SS barracks represent the topic of "perpetrators and propaganda"
- SS barracks as potential location for archive and research opportunities
- Area of former ornamental garden represents the topic of "Population and surrounding area"
- Stone crusher represents the topics of "Economy, industry and forced labour"
- Preserve the visitor centre at the memorial site as an exhibition venue, addressing the post-war history here; the experiences of the local population could be included in this
- The roll call square represents the topic of "degradation and control"
- The square is associated with the daily roll call, so violence should be talked about in this place
- The representation of victim groups that were previously underrepresented (e.g. "asocials" or

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

- "criminals") should be increased
- Adopt a differentiated approach to talking about the perpetrators
  - The history of the perpetrators must be addressed in Gusen, and in connection with this, the surrounding area of the concentration camp too
  - Explain the progression of radicalisation and draw contemporary comparisons
  - Give hope and a positive outlook so that visitors can take something positive away with them

#### **INTEGRATION OF PERSONAL FATES & BIOGRAPHIES**

- Address the history of the perpetrators (e.g. via biographies, and explain how they became perpetrators)
- Adopt a differentiated approach to talking about the perpetrators
- Address the individual fates of the different groups of victims
- Use objects to illustrate biographies

#### **DEVELOPMENT OF THE "BERGKRISTALL" TUNNEL SYSTEM**

- A partial opening of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system is welcomed and deemed necessary to forge an understanding of the place and its dimensions

#### **LINK BETWEEN MAUTHAUSEN AND GUSEN**

- Possible key substantive issues: Mauthausen could represent the victims, Gusen the place of the perpetrators, and the "Bergkristall" tunnel system the surrounding area
- Connect places with materials: Mauthausen – granite, Gusen – concrete, St. Georgen – sand
- Spatial and content-related networking of the places, since each place refers to another (link for example via existing path and the routines of the prisoners)
- A name change to "Mauthausen-Gusen Memorial" would be desirable to set an example on the semantic level against forgetting and in favour of commemorating the prisoners

#### **HANDLING OF RELICS**

- Various historical layers should be made visible (spatially and temporally)
- Creating holes in the floor as a window into the past

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

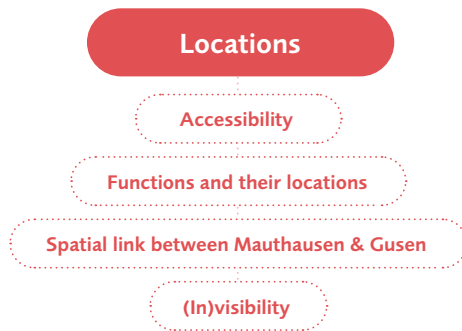
CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

## CATEGORY VIII: LOCATIONS

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Locations", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



### ACCESSIBILITY

- A partial opening of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system is advocated and deemed necessary to forge an understanding of the place and its dimensions
- Non-stop opening and accessibility of the future arrival area of the memorial site is advocated
- The area around the roll call square should not be accessible non-stop and it should be able to be closed off
- Opening up the site around the stone crusher by making the area accessible via the municipality could lead to conflicts with local residents
- Area behind the visitor centre at the memorial site should be opened up towards the municipality, and a meeting zone with seating created there

### FUNCTIONS AND THEIR LOCATIONS

- Connect places with topics, connect places with other places, and connect places with times
- Every place refers to another, so having the places linked spatially and content-wise should be targeted (link for example via existing paths taken by prisoners)
- Different functions should not be mixed too much in one place
- References to the neighbourhood should be made
- Create places of retreat and special areas for young people to spend time
- Create places for knowledge transfer indoors and outdoors
- Areas can be partially defined as wind-down and transition zones
- Consider space for cultural offerings (e.g. construction of a concert hall)

### Memorial

- Preserve the visitor centre at the memorial site as an exhibition venue, addressing the post-war history here; the experiences of the population could be included in this
- The meadow in front of the memorial should be used as a meeting place for local residents

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

- The meadow in front of the memorial should be used as a park
- The horticultural design of the meadow in front of the memorial should be ambitious and used both as an arrival zone for groups and as a meeting place for the local population
- The unobstructed view of the memorial should be preserved

#### Roll call square

- The roll call square offers itself as a place of remembrance
- What happened at the roll call square should be made visible, but it would also be conceivable to keep the square open or to produce a reduced artistic intervention there
- The roll call square represents the topic of "degradation and control"
- The roll call square could become a kind of "accessible legend" that reveals the history of the camp
- When allocating functions, the noise level at the roll call square must be taken into account due to the surrounding businesses

#### SS barracks

- In the area of the former SS barracks, a 3D model could provide some orientation about the entire area
- The former SS barracks should not be used as a visitor centre, but for knowledge transfer and education
- Create a meeting area for young people at the former SS barracks

#### The stone crusher

- If possible from a safety point of view, the top of the stone crusher should be made accessible in order to make the scale of the former camp visible from a vantage point
- The great effort and investment to make the stone crusher safe and accessible should be weighed up well
- The stone crusher also leaves a very strong impression when viewed from below
- Visually, the stone crusher is a key part of the memorial, the buildings are connected with each other, and so a structural change to the stone crusher would be problematic for this reason
- The stone crusher and the "Bergkristall" tunnel system are linked in terms of content
- It should be explained to visitors how the stone crusher worked (e.g. with the help of augmented reality)
- It would also be possible only to make the ground floor and the basement of the stone crusher accessible
- The terrain cannot just be revealed by the view from the stone crusher alone, other vantage points can also be considered
- Other potential vantage points on the site could be developed without major construction measures, for example using existing levels of the terrain
- Verticality was a means of violence and control, so it would also be conceivable to keep things deliberately flat and less hierarchical, planning only at ground level
- Using the stone crusher as a capitalist exploitation machine, the economic factor becomes clear
- Using the stone crusher as a powerful-looking concrete element that is part of modernity and industrialisation, cross-references can be made between the layers of time
- It must be addressed that other places had stone crushers as well
- Consideration should be given to the fact that if the stone crusher were developed as a vantage point, this would offer views into neighbouring properties
- Developing the stone crusher as a vantage point would mean significant interventions in the materials and structure, and change the external character
- The original and its surfaces should be preserved as authentically as possible

### The "Bergkristall" tunnel system

- A partial opening of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system is welcomed and deemed necessary to forge an understanding of the place and its dimensions
- The green areas in front of the tunnel entrance should remain open to the public, the meadow in this area can become a meeting point, but also serve as a buffer zone between the neighbourhood and visitors
- There needs to be a green buffer zone towards the residential buildings
- A meeting zone with seating should be provided in the entrance area to the tunnel system
- The site should be developed from the direction of Bahnhofstraße
- 
- Currently there is no indication of the tunnel system from the outside, a visible sign could change this
- There is support for a route along the embankment above the "House of Remembrance", but it should not become a tourist vantage point
- The existing concrete walls could be used for an artistic display (e.g. projection of names)

### Purchase of additional land

- The purchase of further properties and/or the construction of an additional building are required to create additional infrastructure (e.g. as an exhibition area).
- Efforts should continue to purchase the former Jourhouse and the two former prisoner barracks (blocks 6 and 7)

### SPATIAL LINK BETWEEN MAUTHAUSEN AND GUSEN

- Maintain local connections as well as historical references and promote content-related links
- It is important to establish an understanding of scale and dimensions, the place is much larger than what it seems to be
- Hiking or walking around the area can help to grasp the dimensions and connections between the different places of the memorial site

### (IN-)VISIBILITY

- Various historical timeframes should be made visible (spatially and temporally)
- Interventions are needed to make the timeframes clear
- Creating holes in the floor as a window into the past
- Measures and interventions are needed in the area of the former ornamental garden to make the existing relics visible



## Presentation of results – Youth Workshop

The results of the **"Change of Perspective"** discussion format from the youth workshop are presented and summarised by keyword. As part of this format, the participants were to change their perspective of the future concentration camp memorial and put themselves in the role of different target groups – each represented by a fictitious so-called persona – often mentioned during the stakeholder interviews in Phase 1 (Analysis phase) of the participation process. For this purpose, the participants were divided into small groups and each assigned to a persona. The groups discussed the specific expectations of a visit to the future concentration camp memorial from the perspective of each persona. These were then presented and discussed during the plenary session.

The requirements derived from this for a visit to the future memorial site were then allocated to the main categories, formed using formats 1 and 2.

---

### PERSONA 1: 18-YEAR-OLD PERSON WHO VISITS THE GUSEN MEMORIAL TOGETHER WITH AN INTERNATIONAL YOUTH GROUP

#### Encounters & networking

- Create meeting places where international groups can exchange ideas and experiences

#### Education, knowledge & transmission of knowledge

- Enable multi-day stays, during which knowledge of the entire complex is conveyed
- Knowledge transfer formats should be tailored to target groups
- Clearly elaborate the differences to content of other memorial sites
- Convey realistic impressions
- Choose visual forms of presentation
- Create multilingual offerings

#### Infrastructure

- Ensure good accessibility by public transport (bus and train)
- Plan visitor infrastructure, such as water taps

## PERSONA 2: RELATIVE OF A VICTIM WITH REDUCED MOBILITY

### Education, knowledge & transmission of knowledge

- Family histories and biographies should be made accessible and illustrated
- Enable multi-day stays, during which knowledge of the entire complex is conveyed
- Establish research opportunities on site
- Consider relatives as an important target group

### Infrastructure

- Ensure good accessibility by public transport (bus and train)
- The future memorial should be as accessible as possible
- Barrier-free accessibility should also be created in existing buildings
- Plan for sufficient shading outdoors

## PERSONA 3: TEACHER WHO VISITS THE GUSEN MEMORIAL WITH A SCHOOL CLASS

### Education, knowledge & transmission of knowledge

- Create multilingual offerings

### Infrastructure

- Ensure good accessibility by public transport (bus, train, shuttle)
- Offer combined visits to the memorials in Mauthausen, Gusen and St. Georgen
- Combine knowledge-transfer programmes with different mobility concepts (e.g. guided cycling tour)
- Plan for sufficient shading and rain cover outdoors
- Plan sufficient seating and places to spend time

## PERSONA 4: VISITOR FROM THE REGION WHO IS INTERESTED IN HISTORY

### Education, knowledge & transmission of knowledge

- Include digital ways to transfer knowledge
- Visit can increase awareness of the history of the site and the region
- Consider specific offers for visitors from the region

### Infrastructure

- Ensure good connections to cycle routes in the region

## PERSONA 5: CYCLIST ON THE DANUBE CYCLE PATH WHO SPONTANEOUSLY VISITS THE GUSEN MEMORIAL

### Education, knowledge & transmission of knowledge

- Offer basic information for people who happen to visit
- The history should be told from multiple perspectives
- Make different narratives and perspectives accessible (e.g. tour from the perspective of a prisoner)
- Avoid overburdening visitors

### Infrastructure

- Gastronomy options are required (particularly important for cyclists)
- Gastronomy options can encourage random visitors to visit the site

## **Detailed evaluation**

### **Expert panel**

## Detailed evaluation of expert panel

A panel discussion was held with the listed experts. The discussion was then transcribed and evaluated according to the methodology explained on page 5.

### Participants

- **Francisco Ferrándiz**, anthropologist at the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, Advisor in the State Secretariat for Democratic Memory of the Ministry of the Presidency in Spain's central government
- **Tomasz Kranz**, historian, Director of the State Museum Majdanek
- **Astrid Messerschmidt**, educationalist, Professor at the University of Wuppertal, member of the Scientific Advisory Board Mauthausen
- **Bertrand Perz**, historian, Professor at the University of Vienna, Institute of Contemporary History, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board Mauthausen
- **Jan Rydel**, historian, Professor at the Pedagogical University of Krakow and Poland's representative on the International Advisory Board Mauthausen

### Evaluation categories

Using the method described on p. 5, the following main and subcategories were derived from the transcripts of the panel discussion. The results are allocated to these categories in the summary below.

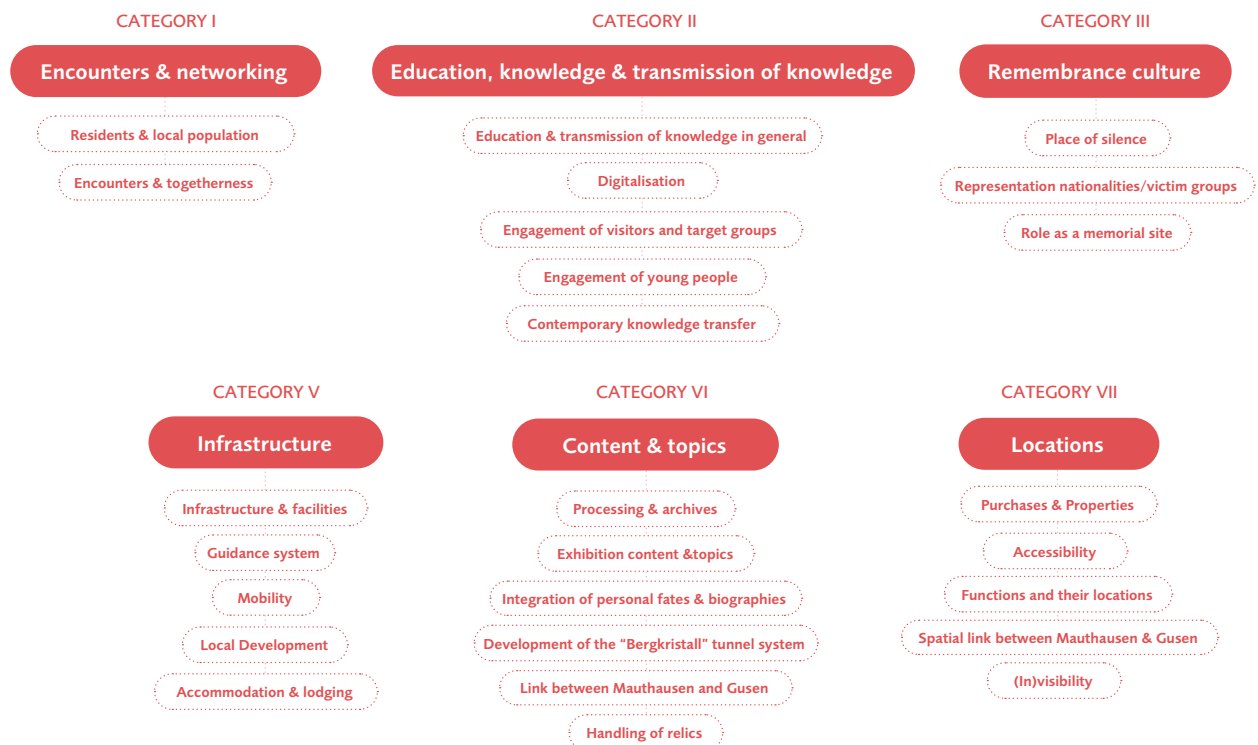


Fig. 4: Main and sub-categories of the panel discussion with the experts

## Presentation of results – Expert panel

The results of the expert panel discussion are presented by category and summarised by keyword below.

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### CATEGORY I: ENCOUNTERS & NETWORKING

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Encounters & Networking", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:

#### Encounters & networking

##### Residents & local population

##### Encounters & togetherness

#### RESIDENTS & LOCAL POPULATION

- Privacy measures to protect the private lives of the local population

#### ENCOUNTERS & TOGETHERNESS

- The expansion and/or redesign of the memorial should create a place for learning, speaking, hearing and listening
- The facilities for visitors should also be linked to the local population in economic terms
- It is very important how this new complex comprising many elements is integrated into the overall picture of the site

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

## CATEGORY II: EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE & TRANSMISSION OF KNOWLEDGE

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Education, Knowledge & Transmission of Knowledge", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

### Education, knowledge & transmission of knowledge

#### Education & transmission of knowledge in general

#### Digitalisation

#### Engagement of visitors & target groups

#### Engagement of young people

#### Contemporary knowledge transfer

### EDUCATION & TRANSMISSION OF KNOWLEDGE IN GENERAL

- The exhibition must be attractive and interesting and it must offer potential for educational work
- Construction of a multifunctional building with exhibition areas and space for educational and public relations work
- Incorporating issues (discrimination, human rights and moral courage) should not be part of the memorial but part of the educational programme
- Elements of comprehensive political discourse (such as racism or colonialism) can be discussed, but should not be part of the exhibition
- Broader themes should not be part of the memorial

### DIGITALISATION

- The use of augmented reality can be helpful to get an impression of the dimensions of the camp
- Digital technologies are not an end in themselves and should not be brought to the fore, but they can be used as tools for conveying knowledge
- When employing digital technologies, care must be taken to ensure that dignity and respect for the victims are maintained
- Tie in with digital offerings of the Mauthausen Memorial, whose concepts and programmes developed well during the pandemic
- Work closely with young people when integrating digital technologies
- Only use technologies that support the narrative of the exhibition
- Technologies should be contemporary and reflect the current state of the art

## ENGAGEMENT OF VISITORS AND TARGET GROUPS

- Create programmes for people who want to stay longer than one day
- Create diverse programmes for different visitors and target groups
- Visitors should be given the opportunity to "read" the landscape

## ENGAGEMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

- Young people should be involved in the process because they perceive their environment differently and speak a different language
- Work closely with young people when integrating digital technologies
- The exhibition must be able to attract and inspire young people
- Authenticity should not be an objective, because when young people come to the memorial, they are four generations removed from the Second World War

## CONTEMPORARY KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

- In conveying the content of the exhibition, the focus should not be on the national groups as such, but on the reasons for the persecution as well as their individuality
- Emotionality, sensitivity and authentic empathy should not be produced conceptually and set as a goal
- It is precisely because of the time gap that authenticity and emotionality should not be an objective of the knowledge transfer
- People should try to learn something from the abstraction, the emptiness of the space, because you don't have to relive or empathise with everything authentically
- Attempts should not necessarily be made to reconstruct something, but to take the conditions on site, i.e. the traces and the transformation of the place as a starting point
- People want to experience in the museum what they cannot experience at home
- We should not necessarily enable people to experience the past in the exhibition, but rather address the fate of the victim groups
- The abstraction does not have to be produced conceptually, it is already there due to the emptiness of the place and the absence of people
- The exhibition must convey knowledge, it should be interesting and be able to tell selected stories
- The idea of the "Room of Names" could be taken on for Gusen and developed further
- The exhibition should not be presented purely through biographical stories, but first and foremost to give space to groups that have received little attention so far
- We should be very conscientious and cautious when presenting the history of the perpetrators and persons from that environment
- Adequate representation of the characteristic groups of victims and their fates
- Dealing with the post-history of the place and what has disappeared, i.e. what is no longer visible there today, would be an important part of the memorial site education



## CATEGORY III: REMEMBRANCE CULTURE

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Remembrance Culture", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



### PLACE OF SILENCE

- Establish the former roll call square as a place of silence, remembrance and reflection
- The roll call square can be established as a place for commemorative ceremonies or as a gathering place for large ceremonies
- The former roll call square should become a mixed-function space, and not serve only as a place of commemoration or silence

### REPRESENTATION NATIONALITIES/VICTIM GROUPS

- We should try to overlay national representation, European remembrance and transnational remembrance in the same exhibition space or memorial site
- Gusen is a place of European remembrance and therefore also a European memorial site
- Gusen was a very international concentration camp because it held prisoners from over 30 nations
- A separate section should be dedicated to the Polish prisoners because of the special events
- Instead of national monuments and individual memorials, there is a need for large monuments with a universal character
- At any rate, all victim groups should be represented
- Representing all the victim groups in the exhibition helps to increase credibility
- The innovative exhibition of the Sinti and Roma in Auschwitz contributes to the fact that the relationship of this group to this memorial as a place of remembrance is very positive

### ROLE AS A MEMORIAL SITE

- Showing what happened in this place after the war is a shared responsibility of Europe for current and future generations
- A European monument of forgetting and remembering should be built in Gusen
- National representation, European remembrance and transnational remembrance could be overlaid within an exhibition space or within a memorial site
- The interaction between the national and the transnational shows that Gusen is obviously a place of European remembrance
- Gusen should not be a national memorial, but a place of European remembrance
- As an unstructured and spontaneous place appropriated by visitors, the existing memorial site has special significance and should definitely be preserved

- Private commemoration has an important meaning and is deemed very impressive, because it conveys the step from abstraction to the real fate of people
- It should still be possible to affix individual commemorative plaques
- An additional place of remembrance should be created if the number of plaques increases
- The Gusen Memorial must be linked to Mauthausen, this would be a very important sign for the complex history of the location

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY IV

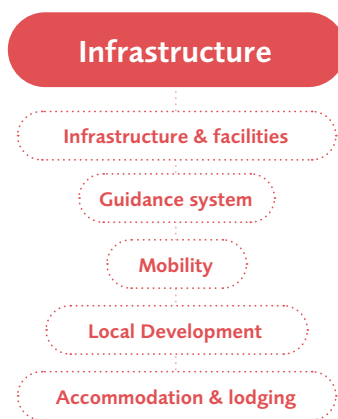
CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

## CATEGORY V: INFRASTRUCTURE

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Infrastructure", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

### INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES

- Create sufficient infrastructure to link both memorial sites
- There should be programmes and infrastructure facilities for engaged visitors who want to spend more time on site
- Accommodation, places to stay and other infrastructure facilities must be coordinated between Gusen and Mauthausen
- Create accommodation and supply infrastructure for multi-day stays
- Due to the diversity of topics, it will be necessary to provide a large exhibition area that meets the needs

### GUIDANCE SYSTEM

- All the memorial site locations should be seen as one complex and one coherent landscape, and should be equipped with a uniform guidance system
- Connecting the memorial sites and the pieces of land in Gusen will be a challenge
- All the parts of this complex landscape should be connected with each other in a special, artistic way

- At a glance, visitors should get an impression of the dimensions of the camp
- Developing the area as a historical path with a uniform guidance system is possible, but it should be evident that each location is part of a larger complex

#### MOBILITY

- A shuttle bus or similar would be very helpful to link both places

#### LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

- The site should be further developed as a meeting place between the local population and visitors, offering economic and social benefits to both sides

#### ACCOMMODATION & LODGING

- Visiting all the memorial sites will take a lot of time, so accommodation and lodging options are needed
- Create programmes for people who would like to stay for several days
- Create accommodation and supply infrastructure for multi-day stays
- Accommodation, places to stay and other infrastructure facilities must be coordinated between Gusen and Mauthausen

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII

## CATEGORY VI: CONTENT & TOPICS

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Contents & Topics", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:

CATEGORY I

CATEGORY II

CATEGORY III

CATEGORY V

CATEGORY VI

CATEGORY VII



#### PROCESSING & ARCHIVE

- Coming to terms with the suppression of Gusen's history from Austria's collective memory can be achieved by linking Mauthausen and Gusen
- Gusen should be a European monument for a critical analysis of the past, of history and of remembrance

- Whether a separate section is dedicated to the Polish prisoners depends on the concept of the exhibition, as well as on the available sources (testimonies, artefacts)
- Even though the site is empty in many places, you can still learn and experience something from it, especially about the extremely violent forced labour that took place here
- The overall concept, the idea of the exhibition, depends on the availability of historical materials and artefacts
- When selecting suitable biographies, ensure that there is sufficient historical knowledge about these people and a gender balance
- It will be very interesting for many visitors from other countries to see how the local population behaved during the Second World War
- A reappraisal also appears to be particularly important for the local population of Upper Austria, because their ancestors were not victims, but participants or even perpetrators
- The role of the prisoner functionaries (kapos) constitutes a particularly complicated part in the process of this reappraisal, this should be addressed too

## EXHIBITION CONTENT & TOPICS

### Representation of nationalities and victim groups

- The exhibition does not offer a national or international focus, but an adequate representation of the characteristic groups of prisoners and their fates
- A general exhibition in which all victim groups can be found and in which their specific characteristics are highlighted is preferable to a group-specific exhibition
- Create a general exhibition in which all victim groups are represented
- Thinking in national categories should be avoided
- We should try to overlay national representation, European remembrance and transnational remembrance in the same exhibition space or memorial site
- The exhibition must have an international character, as people from up to 30 nations were imprisoned in this camp
- The fate of the prisoner groups should be presented in an overall exhibition that not only deals with national groups but also, for example, with Sinti and Roma or religious groups
- Care should be taken not to reproduce the categorisation of prisoners as was adopted in the camp system
- The focus in the portrayal of the victim groups should be on how the prisoners were perceived by the "dominant society"

### Key substantive issues

- In addition to an exhibition on the history of the camp, there will be an exhibition telling the special story of collective forgetting and rediscovery
- The exhibition should not only refer to the history of the situation in 1939-1945, as it is being launched 85 years after the end of the war
- The main focal points of the exhibition should be the history of the camp and the groups of victims
- The focus in terms of prisoner representation should be on the exploitation and forced labour in conjunction with the anti-Semitic and racist definition by the dominant society
- There should also be space for an exhibition on the post-war history and on remembrance culture
- The memorial offers great potential to enable visitors to read this landscape, the memorial and the entire complex
- Effort should be made to reconcile the levels of history, repression and remembrance
- Emotion and sensitivity should not be produced conceptually and set as a goal of knowledge transfer
- Biographies, especially of groups that have received too little attention so far, are an essential part of exhibitions on the history of the concentration camps, but they only make up part of the story

- The exhibition in Gusen should be a continuation and supplement to the exhibition in Mauthausen
- Exhibition space that meets the needs is necessary to be able to present the diversity of topics
- Permanent exhibitions present the past based on sources (texts) and exhibits, and therefore only topics for which sufficient sources are available can be covered comprehensively
- Socio-political topics such as racism and colonialism should not be part of the exhibition in Gusen
- Broader themes should not be part of the exhibition
- When preparing for the exhibition it will be seen whether a broader engagement with current politics should become part of the expanded programme

### Perpetrator history

- The history of the perpetrators, of people from the social environment and of the victims must be dealt with under the framework of the exhibition concept
- The role of the Gusen population as possible perpetrators and participants should be presented in the exhibition
- The comprehensive portrayal of perpetrators, victims and their environment is a challenge that must be met in Gusen, also because of its special history
- It must be possible to integrate the experiences of a perpetrator in the exhibition
- The group of prisoner functionaries (kapos) must also be considered in the exhibition
- It must be clarified what the relationship was between the camp, the municipality and the population (the special thing about Gusen was that forced labour and the village were more closely connected than elsewhere)

### INTEGRATION OF PERSONAL FATES & BIOGRAPHIES

- Individual fates are a proven way of describing life in the camp, but should be subordinate to the overall concept of the exhibition
- It is not possible to tell the story of 100,000 people of course, which is why narratives have to be shortened and biographies selected
- It is very common nowadays to be given a biography at the beginning of the exhibition that accompanies you throughout the exhibition, which allows events to be recounted from a personal point of view
- It would be very important for the exhibition if people, no matter where they come from, could find something to relate to
- The story cannot just be told through biographies, but they will be an essential part of the exhibition
- The story of the people of Gusen and the SS guards must also be told, i.e. the perpetrators and the environment

### DEVELOPMENT OF THE "BERGKRISTALL" TUNNEL SYSTEM

- The tunnel system should be opened because it contributes to the understanding of the entire Gusen–Mauthausen system
- Visitors should not be deprived of entering the tunnels, as the first section of the tunnel is already enough to give an impression of them
- The permanent opening and integration of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system into the overall concept offer great potential for the memorial site
- The tunnel system offers a way to better understand the dimensions of the forced labour and exploitation, and should therefore be employed within the memorial site
- With the help of sufficient financial support, the tunnels can become permanently accessible

## LINK BETWEEN MAUTHAUSEN AND GUSEN

- In the course of "transforming" Gusen in close connection with the Mauthausen Memorial, changing the name to "Mauthausen-Gusen" should be considered
- Gusen and Mauthausen should be designed as a unit, one institution should complement the other
- Understanding Gusen and Mauthausen as one exhibition site creates the conceptual and semantic connection
- On the one hand, the two memorials must be connected, on the other hand, there should be exhibits explaining what happened historically at the respective places
- Gusen can contribute to as well as complement the exhibits in Mauthausen, and at the same time, the exhibits in Mauthausen can enrich the experience in Gusen
- Both locations must relate to and complement each other in terms of exhibitions, meeting places, accommodation, transport and logistics
- Perhaps Gusen and Mauthausen can be linked by a similar kind of commemoration place as exists in Mauthausen with the "Room of Names"
- The exhibition in Gusen should be a continuation of and supplement the exhibition in Mauthausen
- If there is already an exhibition in Mauthausen on the subject of "perpetration", it should be considered whether this is also useful in Gusen

## HANDLING OF RELICS

- The stone crusher could be made accessible as a viewing platform
- The conditions on site, i.e. the traces and the transformation of the municipality, should be taken as a starting point
- The abstraction does not have to be produced in addition here, it is already there due to the emptiness of the place and the absence of people
- The stone crusher is an important and dominant element of the landscape, and could function as a symbol of the forced labour
- The integration of the stone crusher as a symbol of industrial plants and forced labour as well as extermination is very important
- The stone crusher is a crucial element and it can either stand as an inaccessible landmark in the landscape or be made accessible to visitors

## CATEGORY VII: LOCATIONS

The following inductive subcategories preceded the category "Locations", which were then summarised in the main category and are presented in the form of bullet points below:



### PURCHASES & PROPERTIES

- In the event the Jourhaus and the two former prisoners' quarters are purchased, they must be preserved, protected and integrated into the overall concept

### ACCESSIBILITY

- Developing the area as a historical path with a uniform guidance system is possible, but it should be evident that each location is part of a larger complex
- It is very important that visitors immediately get an idea of the actual dimensions and size of the camp
- There should be a publicly accessible vantage point
- The stone crusher should be made accessible and could function as a viewing platform
- The stone crusher could additionally serve as a vantage point for the Kellerbau tunnel facility and make it visible
- The industrial facilities are crucial as symbols of forced labour and exploitation, and should therefore be made accessible
- The "Bergkristall" tunnels should be made accessible to the public and fully integrated into the entire memorial in order to better understand the stone crusher and the general purpose of Gusen and their contribution to the military industry and to forced labour

### FUNCTIONS AND THEIR LOCATIONS

- The places of commemoration must be clearly defined, limited and determined
- The existing place of commemoration at the memorial provides enough space for commemoration and therefore should not be expanded
- For large groups or on days with higher footfall, the former roll call square could be used as a place of commemoration
- Larger ceremonies could be held at the former roll call square
- The roll call square can fulfil various functions, but should not be a pure "place of silence", as there is already a contemplative place of commemoration in Gusen

## SPATIAL LINK BETWEEN MAUTHAUSEN AND GUSEN

- Gusen and Mauthausen should be designed as a unit, one institution should complement the other, and so there should be spatial links too
- Visitors have to spend several days in Mauthausen and Gusen to be able to visit all the memorial locations
- Both locations must relate to and complement each other in terms of exhibitions, meeting places, accommodation, transport and logistics

## (IN-)VISIBILITY

- Gusen is a place of forgetting
- The history of Gusen has been suppressed from the collective memory in Austria
- We have to demonstrate the transformation of remembrance and that Gusen was forgotten for decades
- We have to show and explain the post-war history in Gusen, this forgetting and remembering, and the entire historical and political context
- This camp should be used as an example to show that many sites in Europe have been forgotten and not treated appropriately
- Dealing with this emptiness is crucial, that what used to be in this place is no longer visible.
- Many memorial sites have been de-industrialised and the industry that used to be there is no longer visible as an important part of concentration camps and forced labour
- The industrial facilities are vitally important, but often forgotten, even though they were a part of the extermination system



## **Detailed evaluation of surveys**

## Detailed evaluation of the regional survey

As part of Phase 2 (Consolidation phase), the expectations and concerns of the local residents of Langenstein and St. Georgen an der Gusen about the expansion of the Gusen Memorial were surveyed. The questions were selected based on the findings collected in Phase 1 (Analysis phase).

The survey was sent as an official communication to all households in the municipalities of Langenstein and St. Georgen an der Gusen. People could take part from 13 March 2023 to 2 May 2023, both in writing and online. There were **330** responses to the survey.

### STATISTICAL DATA

The following socio-demographic data were requested as part of the quantitative survey:

#### Gender

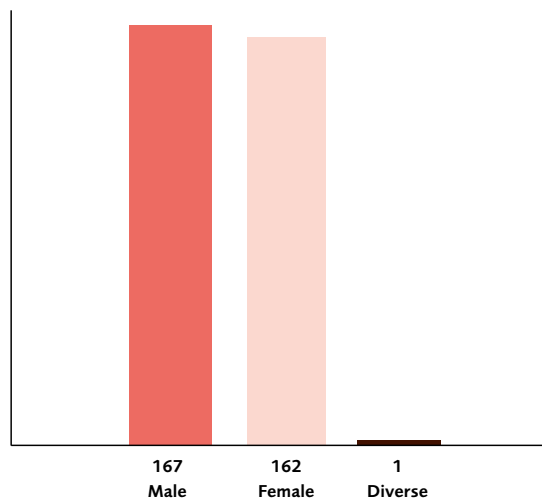


Fig. 5: Gender distribution of the participants of the regional survey

#### Age

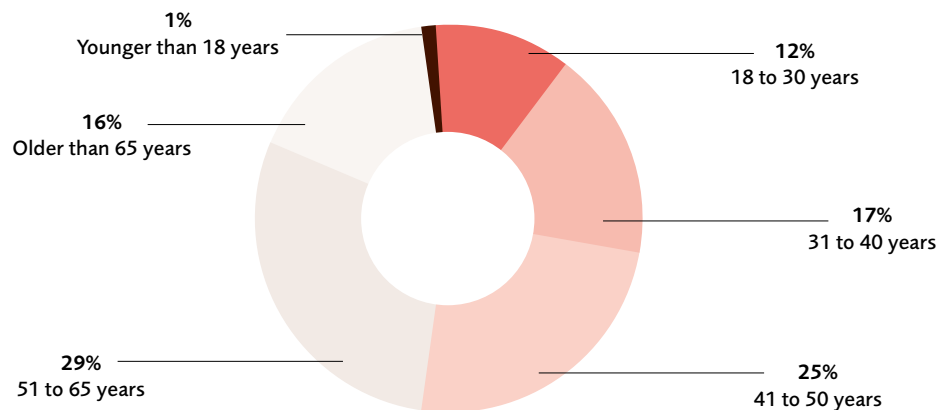


Fig. 6: Age structure of the participants of the regional survey

## Place of residence

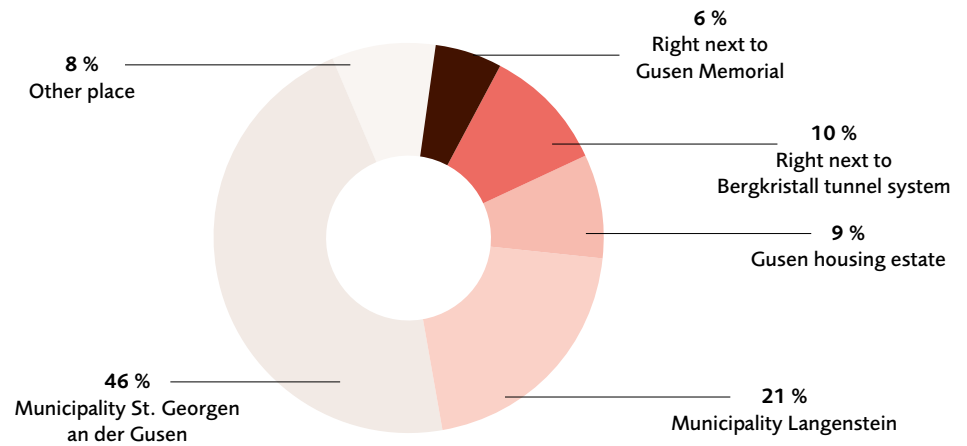
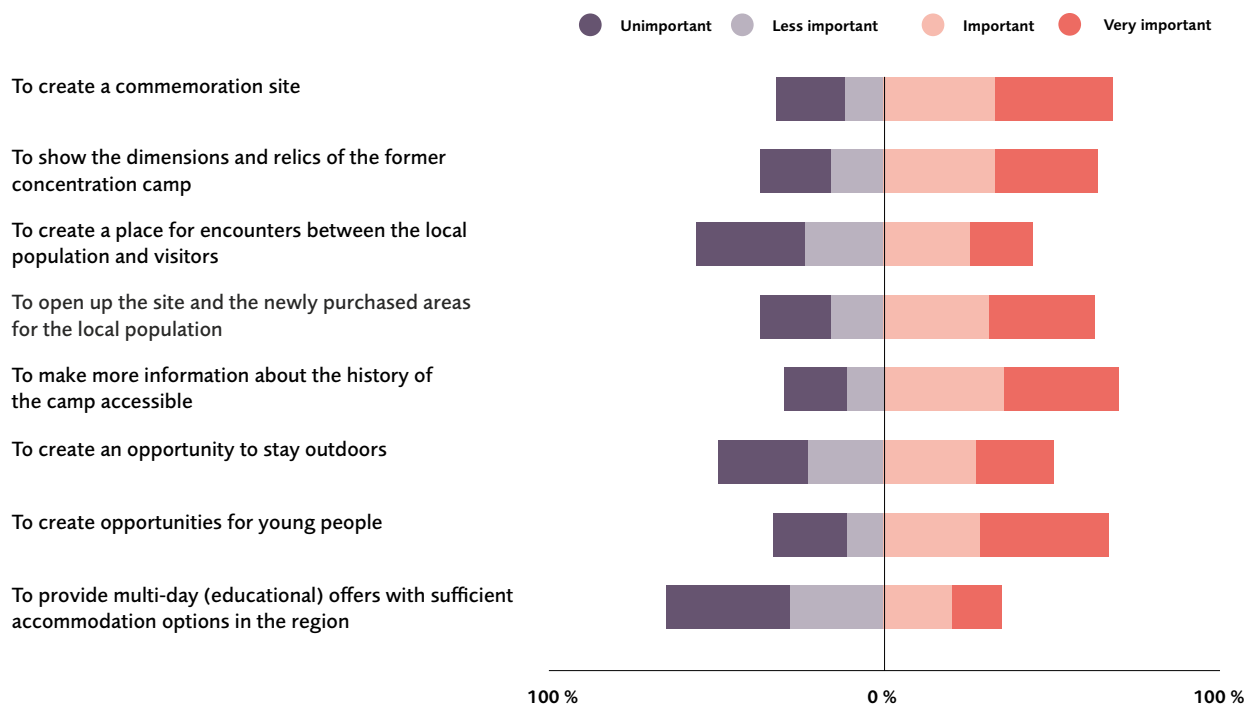


Fig. 7: Indicated places of residence of the participants of the regional survey

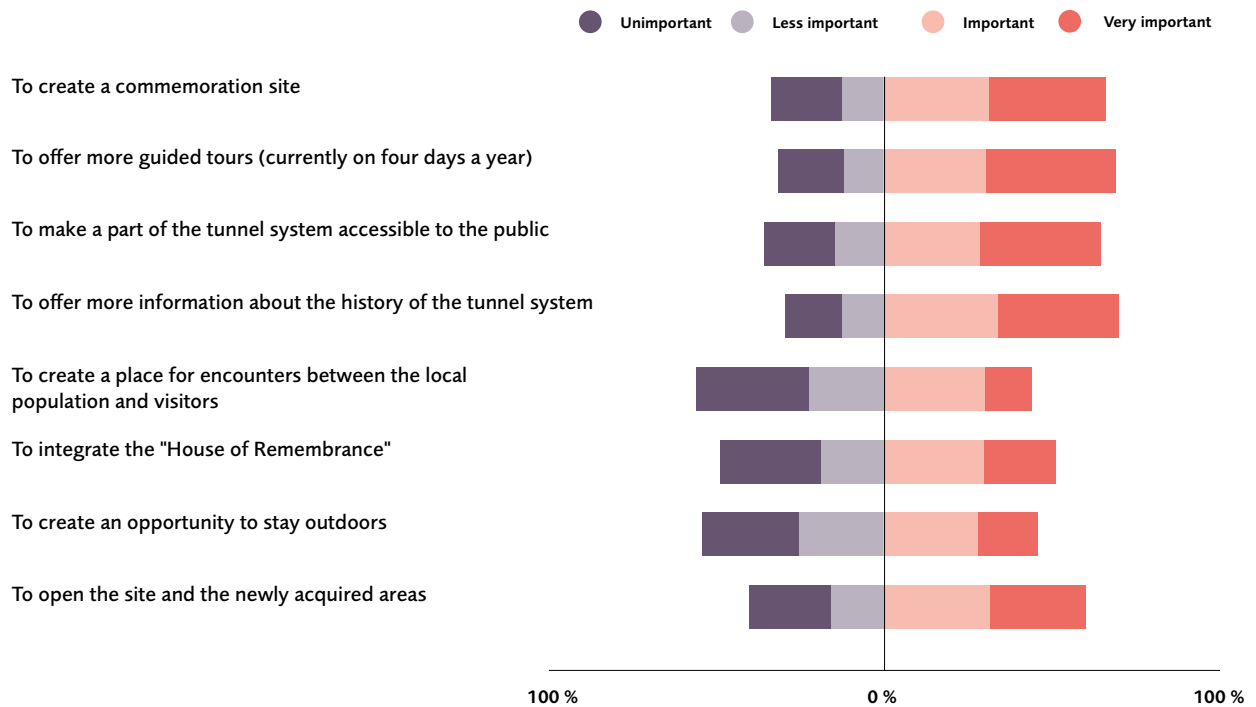
The regional survey was fully completed by 330 residents of the Langenstein/St. Georgen an der Gusen region. Almost half of the responses (46%) came from the municipality of St. Georgen an der Gusen, while 20% of the responses came from the municipality of Langenstein. 28 respondents (8%) named their place of residence as Gusen, 34 respondents (10%) named their place of residence as being right next to the "Bergkristall" tunnel system, and 19 respondents (6%) live beside the Gusen Memorial. 28 responses (8%) came from other places.

## RESULTS

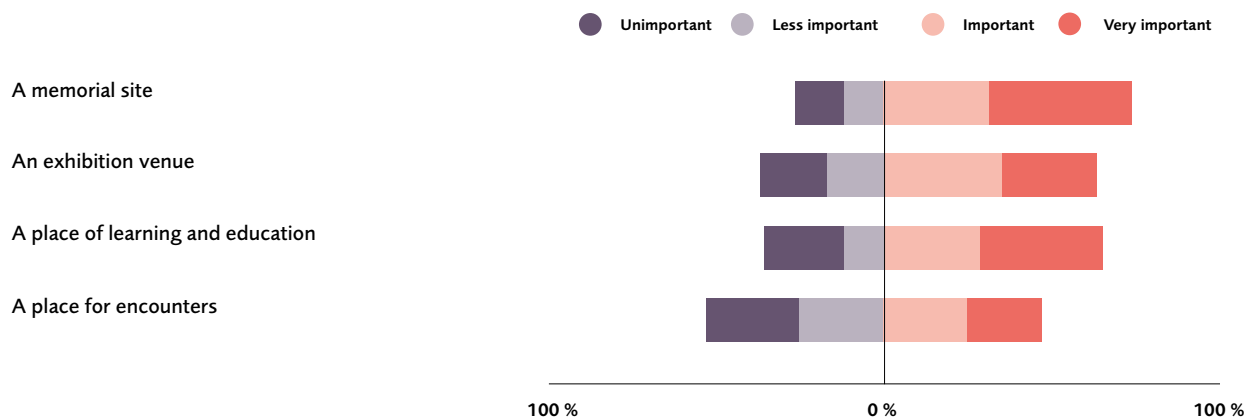
### What is important to you in the expansion of the Gusen concentration camp memorial site?



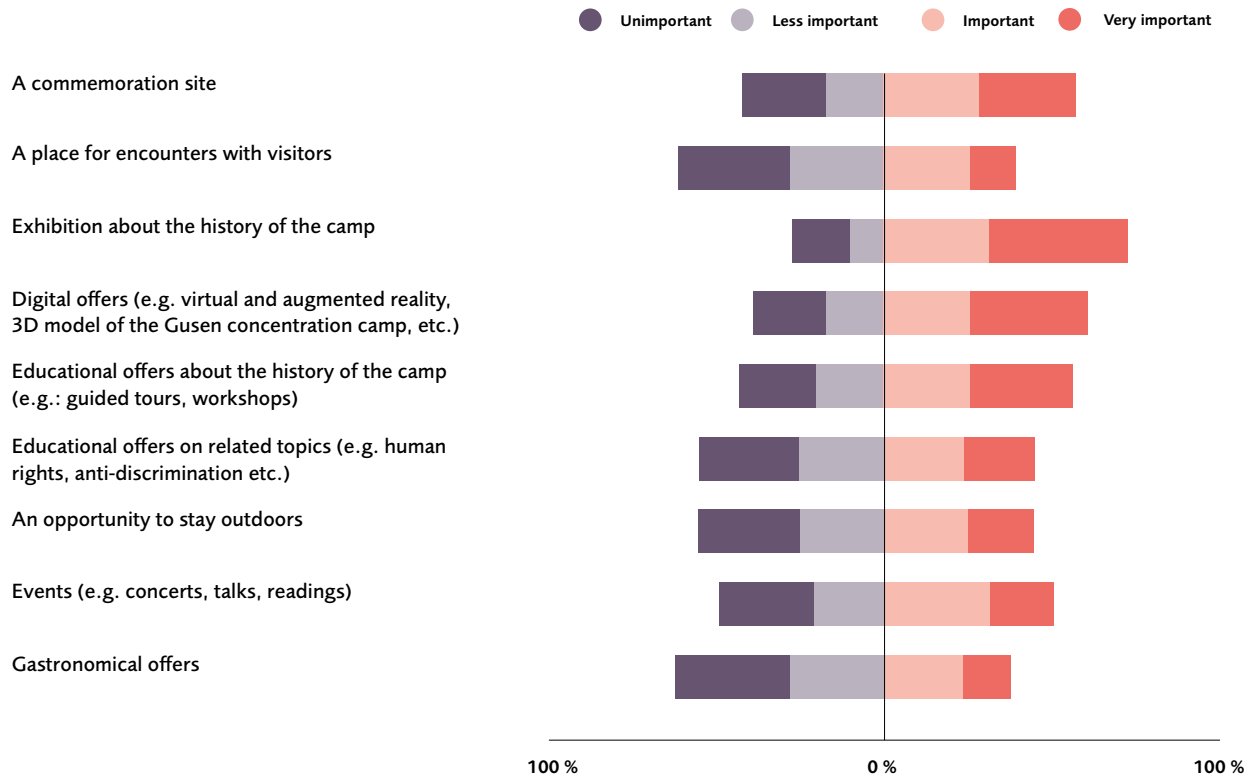
**What is important to you in relation to the development of the Bergkristall tunnel system in St. Georgen?**



**What functions should the Gusen concentration camp memorial perform in the future?**



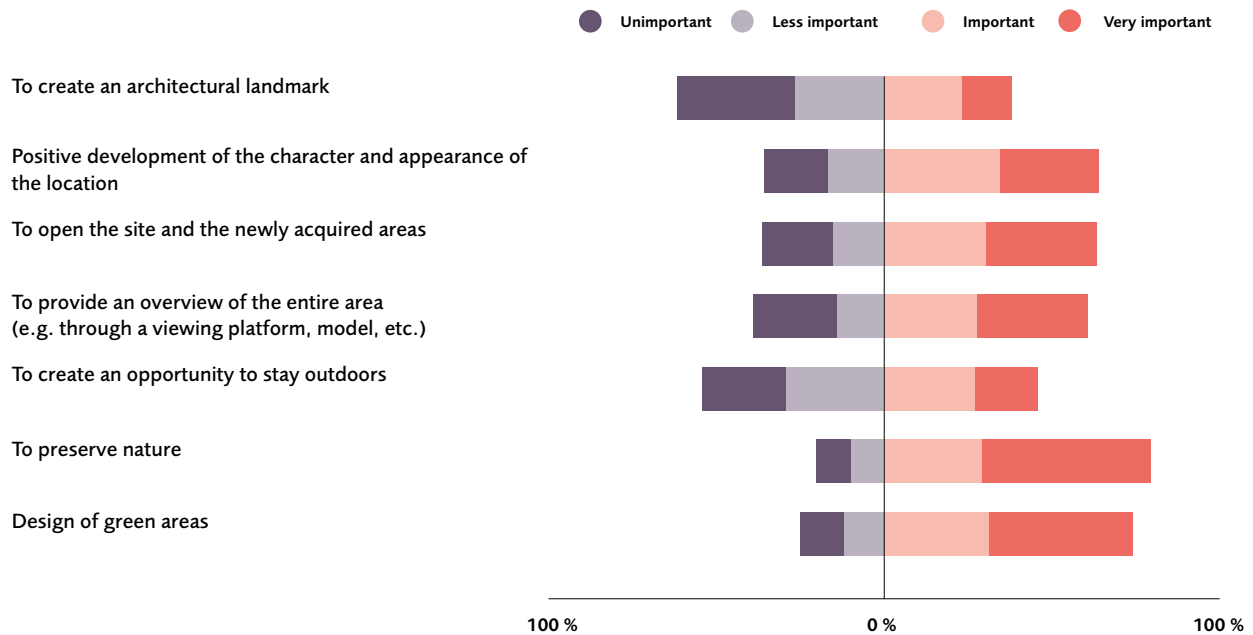
### Which places and offers of the expanded Gusen concentration camp memorial would you use personally?



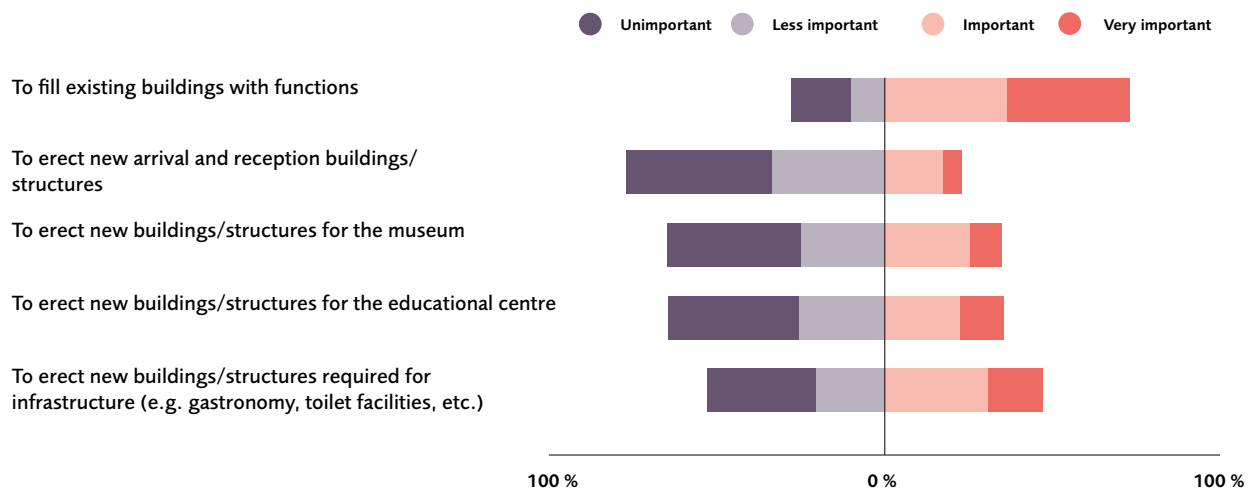
### What does it take to attract more visitors from the region?



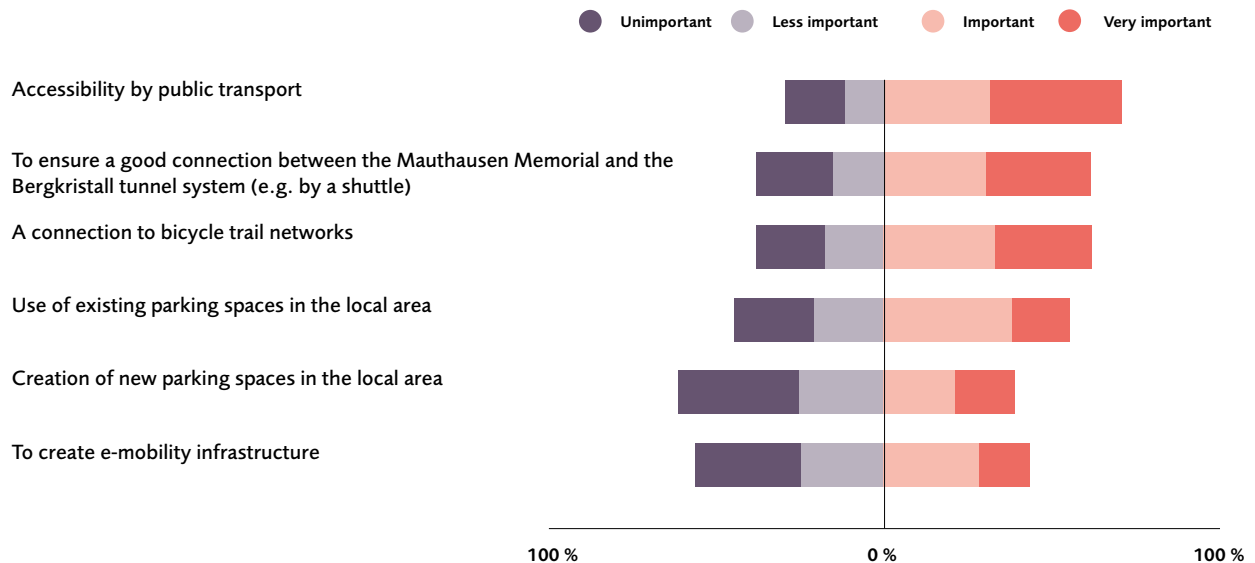
### What is particularly important to you in relation to the design of the Gusen concentration camp memorial?



### What do you consider important in terms of possible constructional measures?



### What is important to you in terms of transport links and accessibility to the Gusen concentration camp memorial?



### Summary of regional survey

During the expansion of the Gusen Memorial, local residents considered the provision of activities for young people particularly important. 38.5% of the respondents considered this very important. It is also important for residents to create places for commemoration and to make more information about the history of the camp accessible. Less important was creating places for meeting and providing multi-day programmes to convey knowledge. The latter category was judged to be the least important. 65% of the respondents considered the category "Provide multi-day programmes (to convey knowledge) with sufficient accommodation in the region" as less important or unimportant.

With regard to the development of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system, the residents in the region thought it particularly important to have a broader range of guided tours and more information about the history of the tunnel system. Meeting places for the regional population and visitors and the creation of outdoor places to spend time were considered less important or unimportant.

Respondents from the region would most likely personally visit an exhibition about the history of the Gusen concentration camp. Digital and educational offerings on the history of the Gusen concentration camp would also be used personally by the locals. By contrast, places for meeting visitors and gastronomy options were seen as things that local residents would certainly not or probably not use.

To attract more visitors from the region, the participants considered all the given answer options to be similarly important. Educational and learning opportunities for young people were rated most important, and events as least important. There were clear preferences in relation to the design of the concentration camp memorial. Nature conservation was very important or important to 80% of the respondents, with more than half of the respondents (50.6%) considering this criterion very important. The design of new green spaces was also very important to residents of the region. Opportunities to stay outdoors were rated as less important by the majority of the respondents. However, the creation of structural landmarks was least important to the respondents, which is also evident in the answers to the next question. Here, almost two thirds of respondents (73%) said that assigning functions to existing buildings was important or very important. New buildings were rated as less important or unimportant by the majority of the respondents, regardless of their function, with new buildings or infrastructure facilities rated as very important by 16% of the respondents.

As regards transport links and accessibility of the concentration camp memorial, accessibility by public transport was rated particularly important, while the creation of new parking spaces in the local area was seen as less important or unimportant by the majority of the respondents.



## Detailed evaluation of the international survey

As part of Phase 2 (Consolidation phase), the expectations and concerns of international interest groups, visitors to the Mauthausen and Gusen memorials and other interested parties were surveyed. The questions were selected based on the findings collected in Phase 1 (Analysis phase).

The survey was announced via the website and the newsletter of the Mauthausen Memorial and a printed version was available at the Mauthausen and Gusen memorial sites. People could take part from 13 March 2023 to 2 May 2023 both in writing and online, and in German and English. There were **687** responses to the survey.

### STATISTICAL DATA

The following socio-demographic data were requested as part of the quantitative survey:

#### Gender

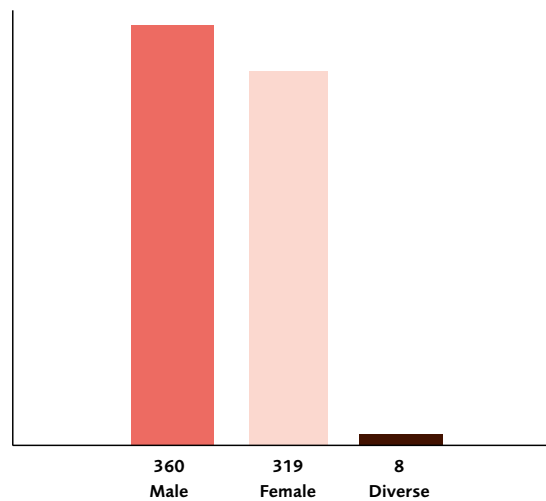


Fig. 8: Gender distribution of the participants of the international survey

#### Age

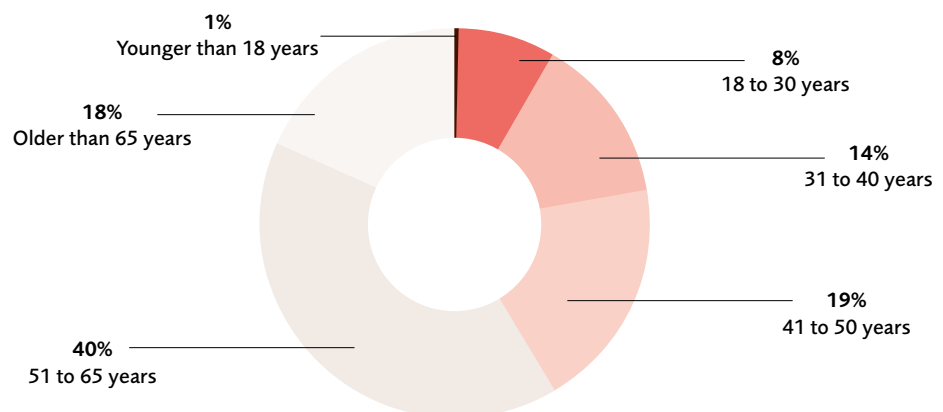


Fig. 9: Age structure of the participants of the international survey

## Place of residence

The international survey was completed by 685 people from 28 different countries. The majority of responses came from participants living in Austria (75%), with additional responses from Germany (9%), Poland (5%), the USA (3%) and Italy (2%).

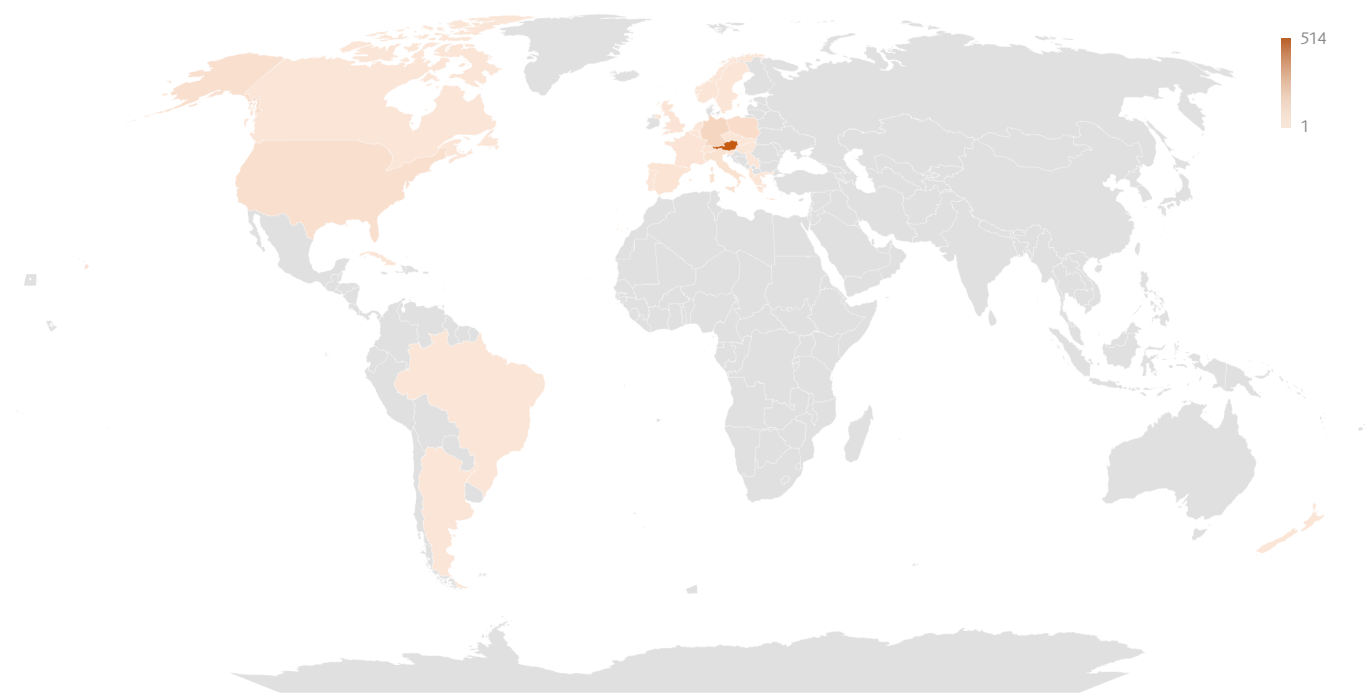
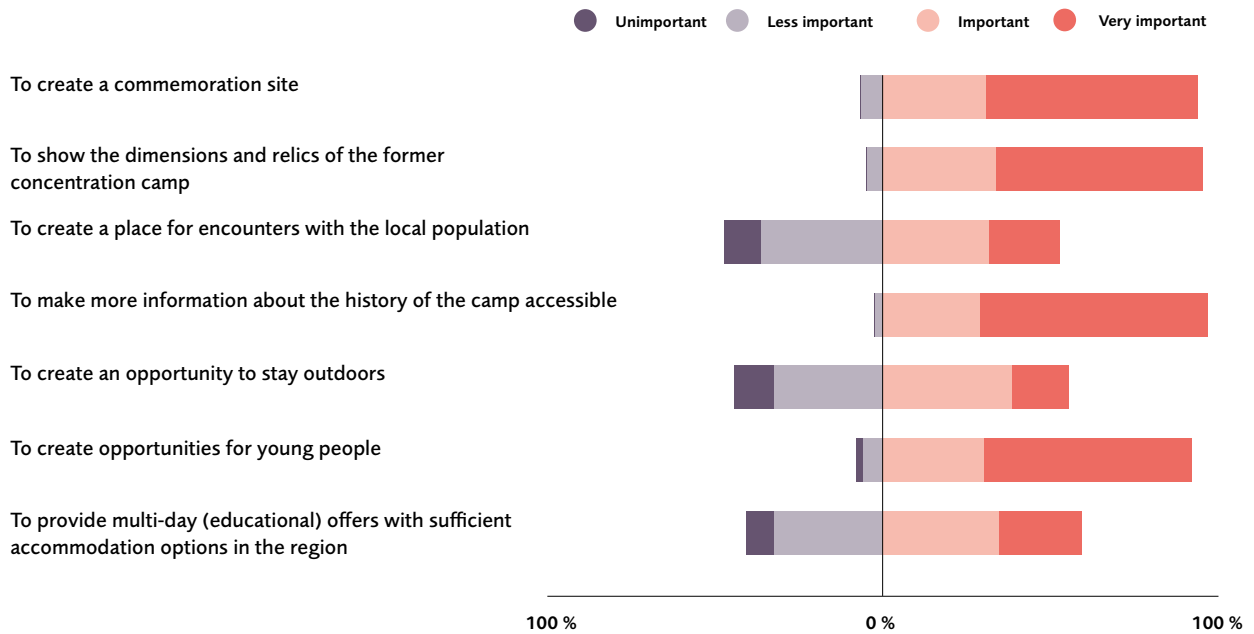


Fig. 10: Schematic representation of the places of origin of the participants of the international survey

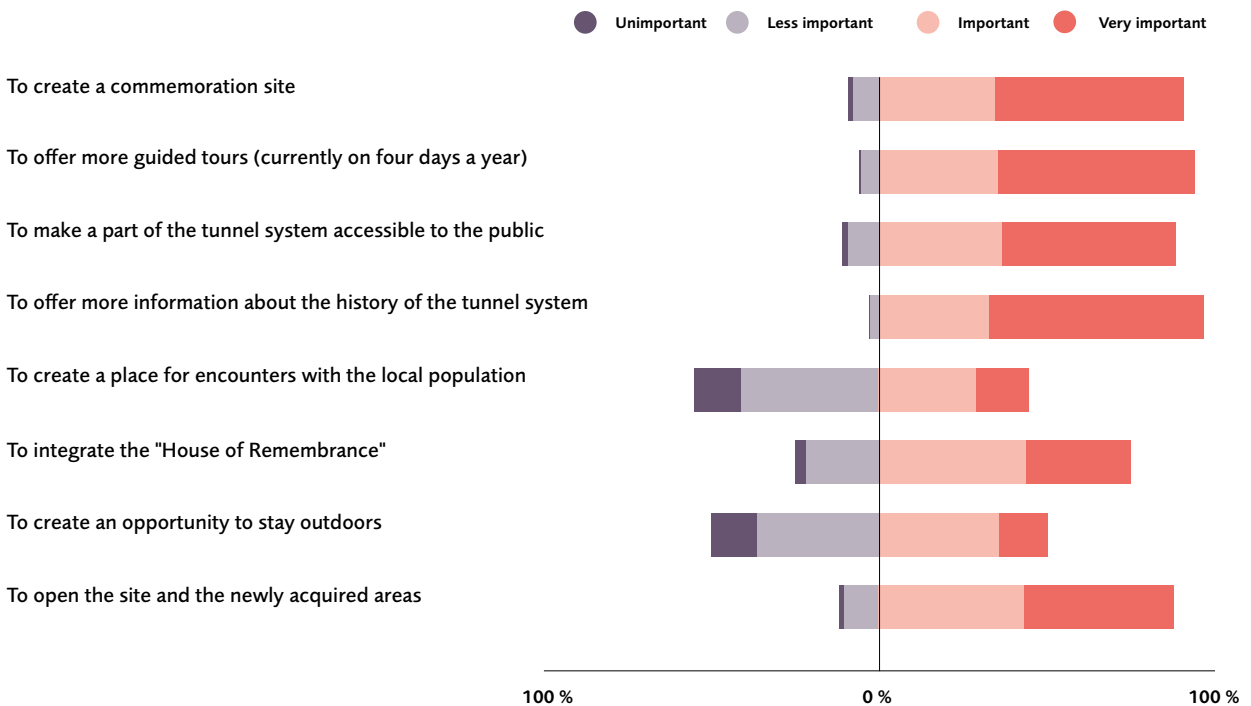
Country	Number	Country	Number	Country	Number
Austria	514	Netherlands	2	Cuba	1
Germany	58	Slovenia	2	Luxembourg	1
Poland	32	Albania	1	Norway	1
USA	22	Argentina	1	New Zealand	1
Italy	13	Belgium	1	Portugal	1
Switzerland	6	Brazil	1	Slovakia	1
Spain	6	Canada	1	Serbia	1
France	4	Czech Republic	1	Sweden	1
Australia	3	Greece	1	n.a.	4
UK	3	Hungary	1		

## RESULTS

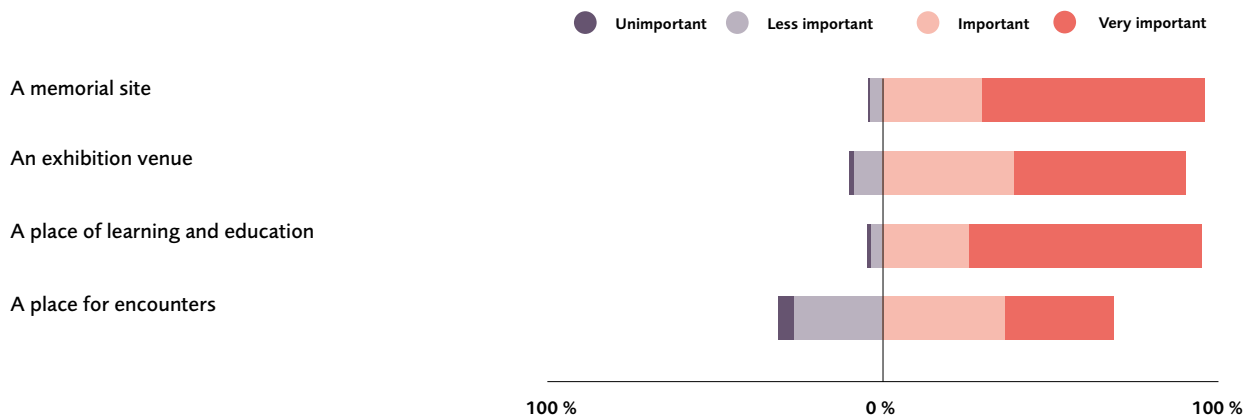
### What is important to you in the expansion of the Gusen concentration camp memorial site?



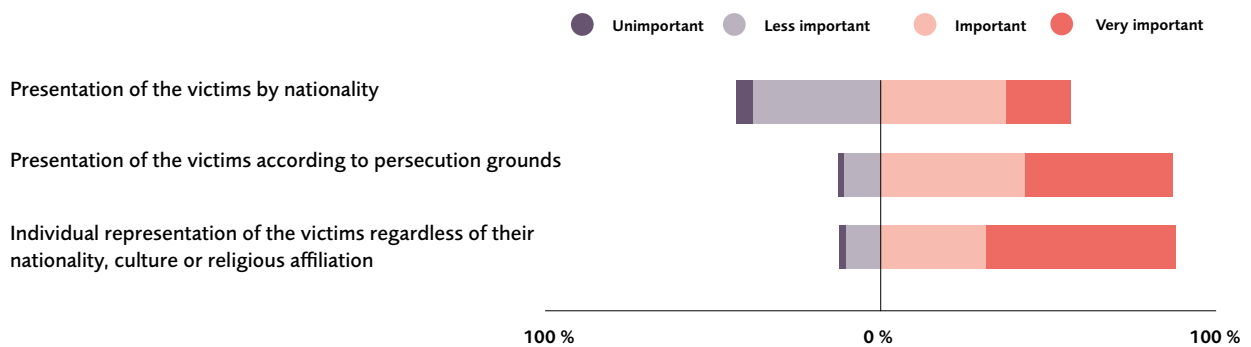
### What is important to you in relation to the development of the Bergkristall tunnel system in St. Georgen?



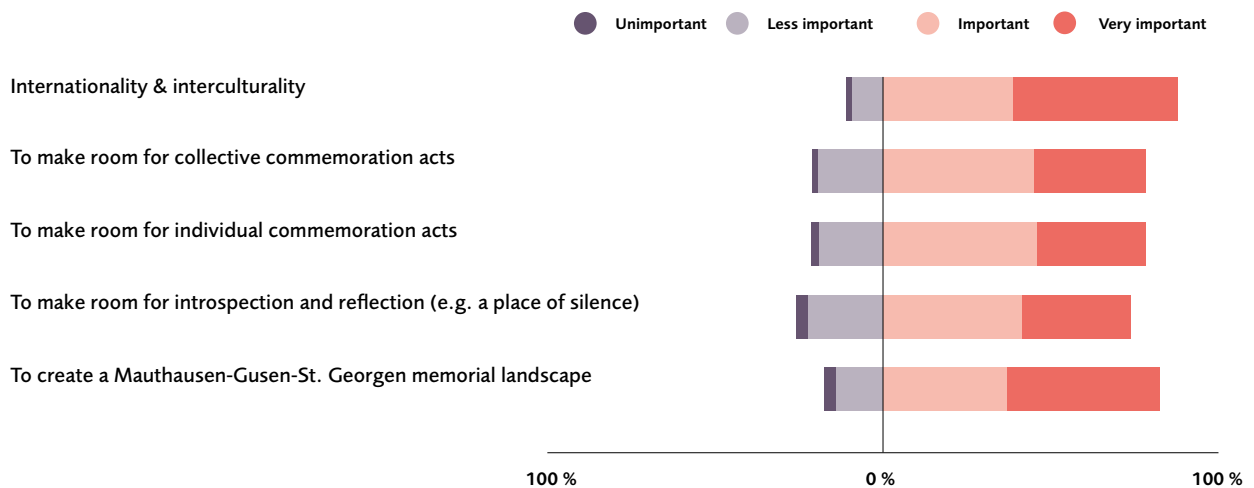
### What functions should the Gusen concentration camp memorial perform in the future?



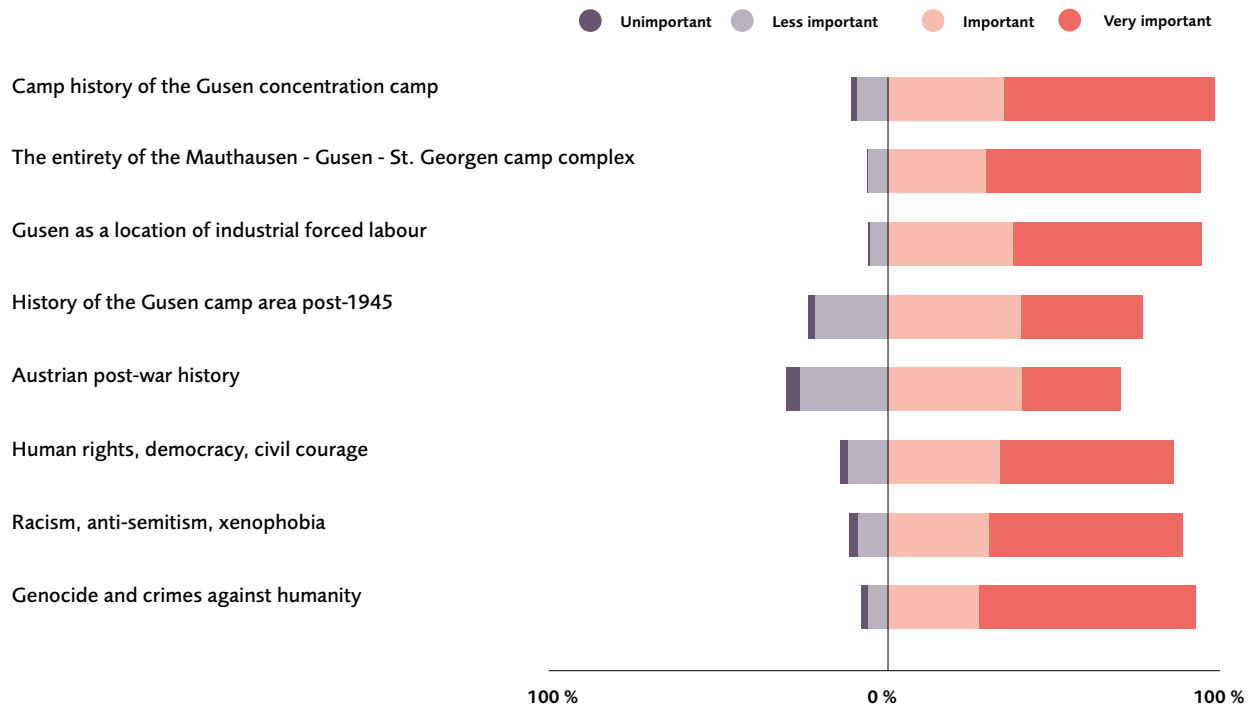
### What do you consider important in relation to the representation of the different victim groups?



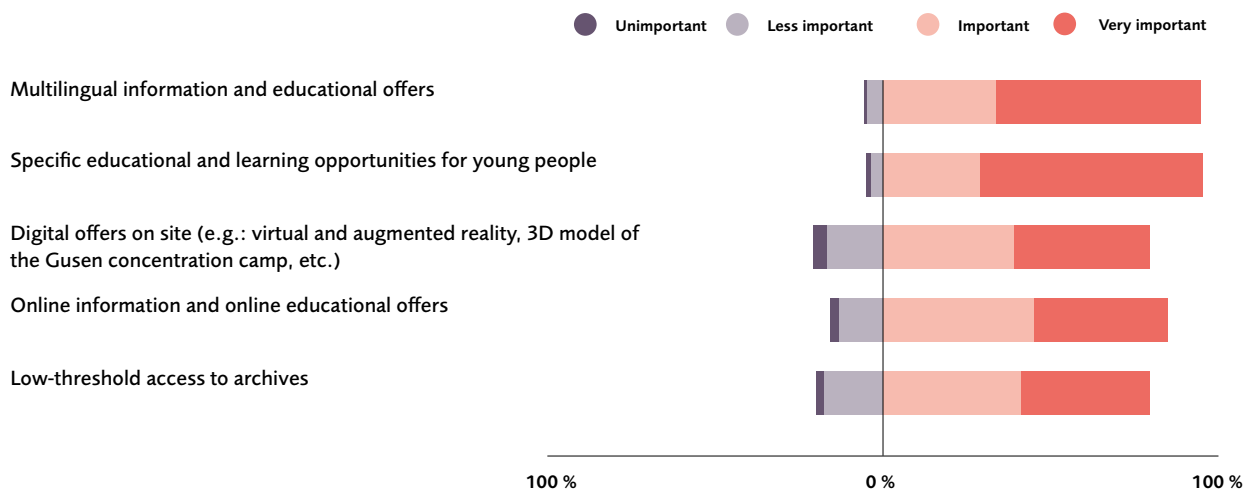
### What do you consider important when creating a memorial site?



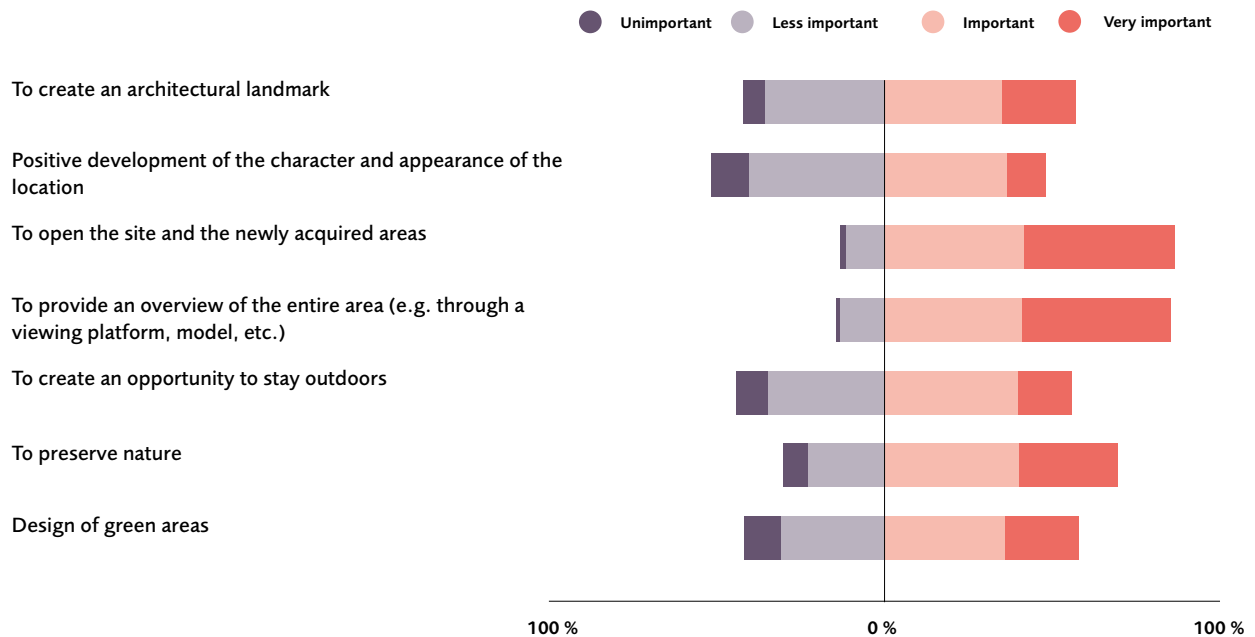
### Which topics should be covered at an expanded Gusen concentration camp memorial?



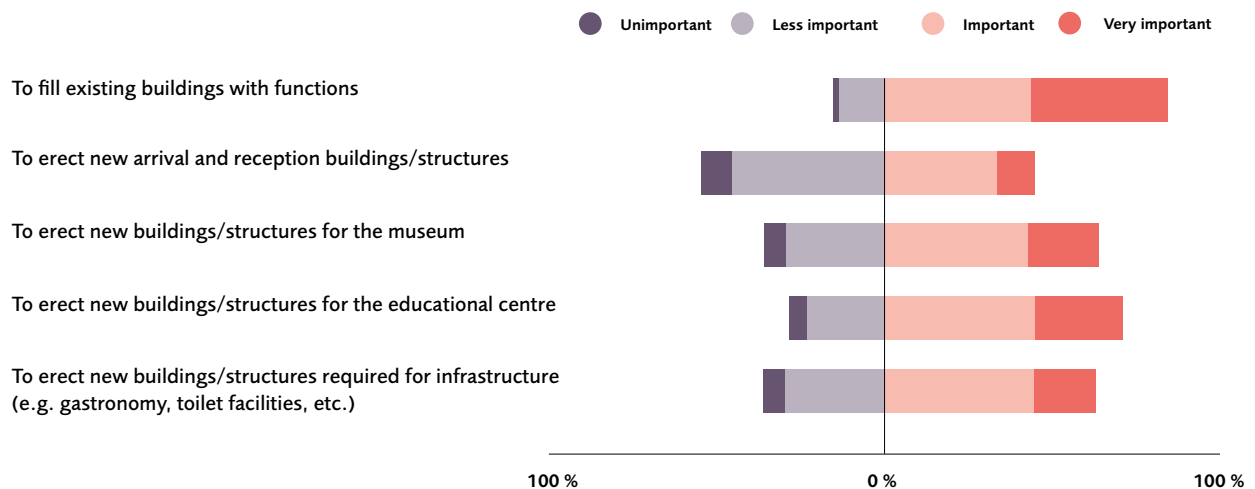
### Which information and agency offers are needed?



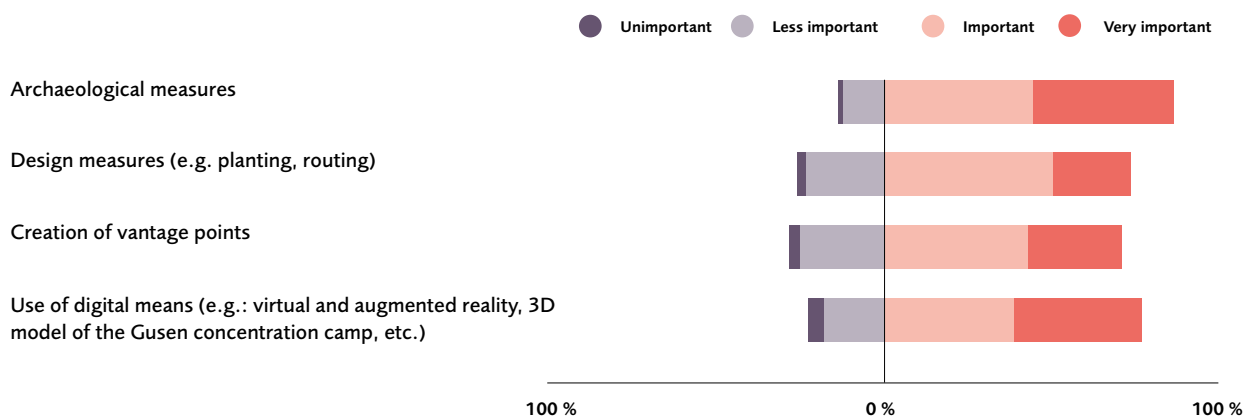
### What is particularly important to you in relation to the design of the Gusen concentration camp memorial?



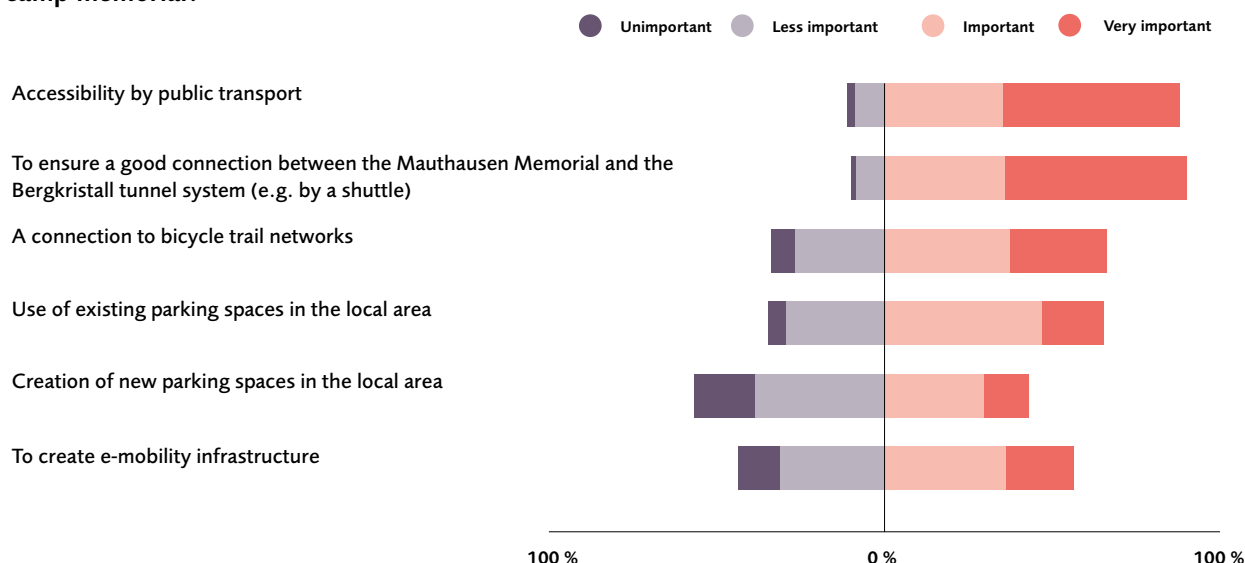
### What do you consider important in terms of possible constructional measures?



### Which measures do you consider suitable to make the structures of the former camp visible?



## What is important to you in terms of transport links and accessibility to the Gusen concentration camp memorial?



## Summary of international survey

With regard to the expansion of the memorial, the participants in the international survey considered it particularly important to show places for commemoration, the dimensions and relics of the former concentration camp, make more information about the history of the concentration camp accessible, and create programmes for young people. Over 90% of respondents rated these categories as important or very important. Less important to the respondents of this survey was creating meeting places, opportunities to be outdoors and the provision of multi-day programmes to convey knowledge.

With regard to the development of the "Bergkristall" tunnel system, the international respondents rated most of the proposed measures as important or very important. However, the integration of the "House of Remembrance" was accorded significantly less importance, while places for meeting and opportunities to be outdoors were generally considered unimportant or less important. Also with regard to the functions that the concentration camp memorial should fulfil in the future, its role as a meeting place was declared unimportant or less important by the majority of respondents compared to other functions.

With regard to representing different groups of victims, the representation of victims according to reasons for their persecution and the individual representation of victims were both largely considered important or very important. However, there were different opinions on the presentation of victims by nationality. Some 57% of the respondents felt this was important or very important, while about 43% felt it was unimportant or less important.

In terms of the proposed topics that the memorial should address, most were considered important or very important by the vast majority of respondents. However, two topics stand out that were rated as unimportant or less important by respondents more often than the others: the history of the Gusen camp area after 1945, and Austrian post-war history.

In terms of providing information and conveying knowledge, doing so in multiple languages along with specific educational and learning activities for young people were rated as important or very important by more than 90% and 95% of the respondents respectively. Digital services were also rated as important or very important by 80% of the respondents, but less so than the other potential offerings.

With regard to the design of the area, most important to the respondents was opening up the area and the overview of the entire territory. The positive development of the local landscape and opportunities to stay outdoors were most often described as less important or unimportant, closely followed by the creation of structural landmarks and the design of green spaces.

In terms of potential structural measures, assigning functions to existing buildings was rated particularly important. Opinions differed on the potential new buildings, but there was only one category that was rated as less important or unimportant by more than half of the respondents: the construction of new arrival buildings.

To make structures of the former camp visible, all proposed measures were considered important or very important by the majority of respondents. In terms of transport links and the accessibility of the memorial, there was agreement on accessibility by public transport and the connection between the Mauthausen memorial and the "Bergkristall" tunnel system. There was less agreement on other categories, with more than half of the respondents believing that creating new parking spaces in the local area was less important or unimportant.

## Comparison of regional and international survey

There were similarities between the responses of the two surveys in several categories. Creating programmes for young people was considered very important by both residents of the region and respondents to the international survey, while meeting places for the regional population and visitors to the memorial were predominantly rated as less important or unimportant by both sides in all questions in which this answer option was available. Having multi-day activities was also less important to both groups. There was also agreement on the high importance of having the future expanded memorial site as a place of commemoration. With regard to the design of the memorial, creating a structural landmark was rather considered less important or unimportant for both groups, and assigning functions to existing buildings was deemed very important by both groups. There was also agreement between the two groups on the topic of transport links and accessibility, with public accessibility being considered important by both groups and creating new parking spaces rated as rather unimportant by the majority of respondents.

Opinions differed, for example, on the topic of the memorial site design. Although more than 50% of both groups rated the creation of structural landmarks as less important or unimportant, a positive development of the local landscape was more important to the locals in the region than the other respondents. Opening up the area and the newly acquired areas as well as providing an overview of the entire area was generally rated as more important by the international respondents than by the residents of the region. Although more than half of both groups considered nature conservation important or very important, residents of the region deemed the design of this green space to be more important than the international respondents.

Finally, the participants of both surveys were asked about the **three most important criteria for the successful development of the Gusen Memorial**. The responses are presented below according to topic group and weighted by frequency of mention:



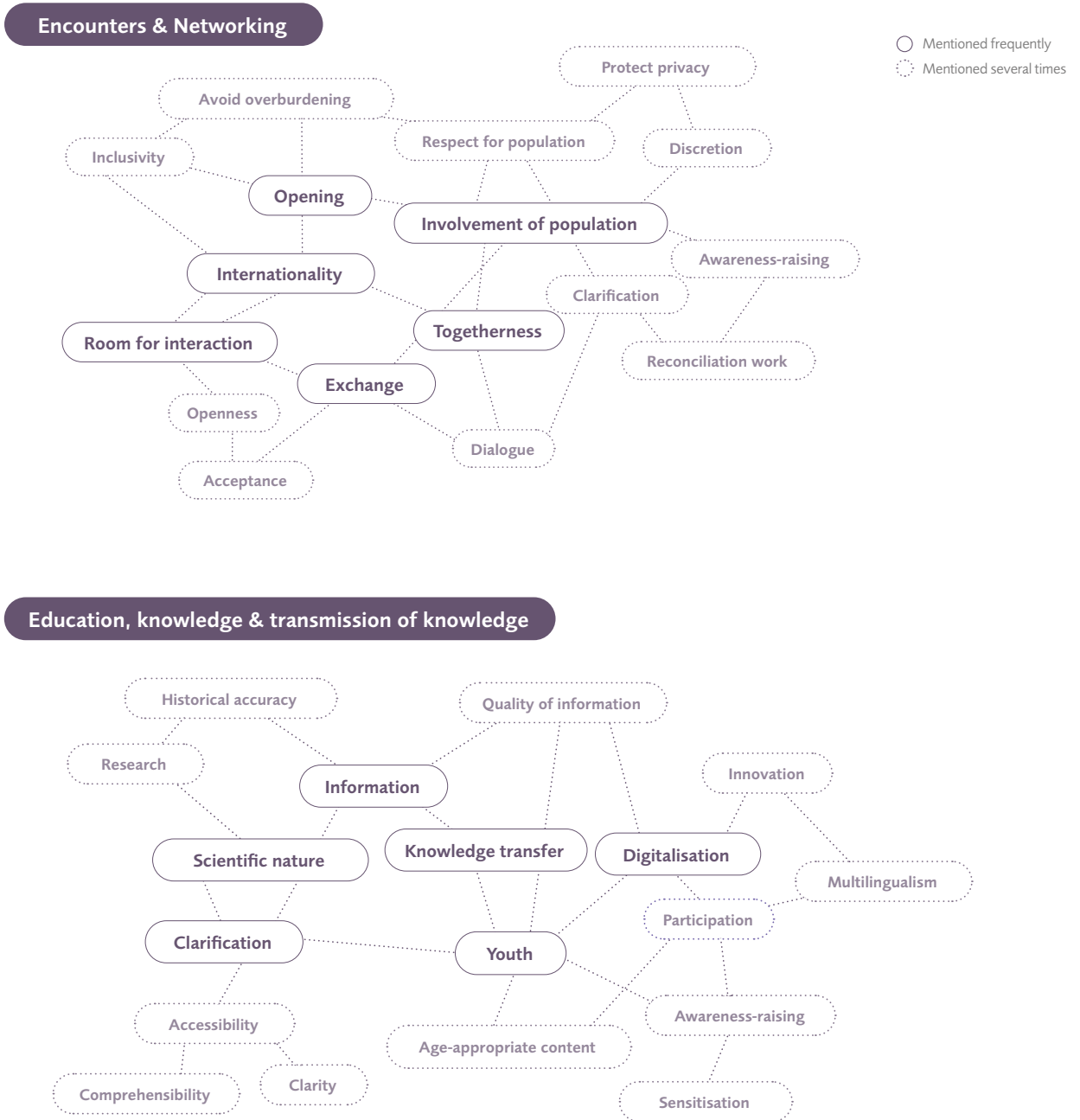


Fig. 11: Criteria for the successful development of the memorial site mentioned in the regional and international survey, weighted according to frequency of mentions

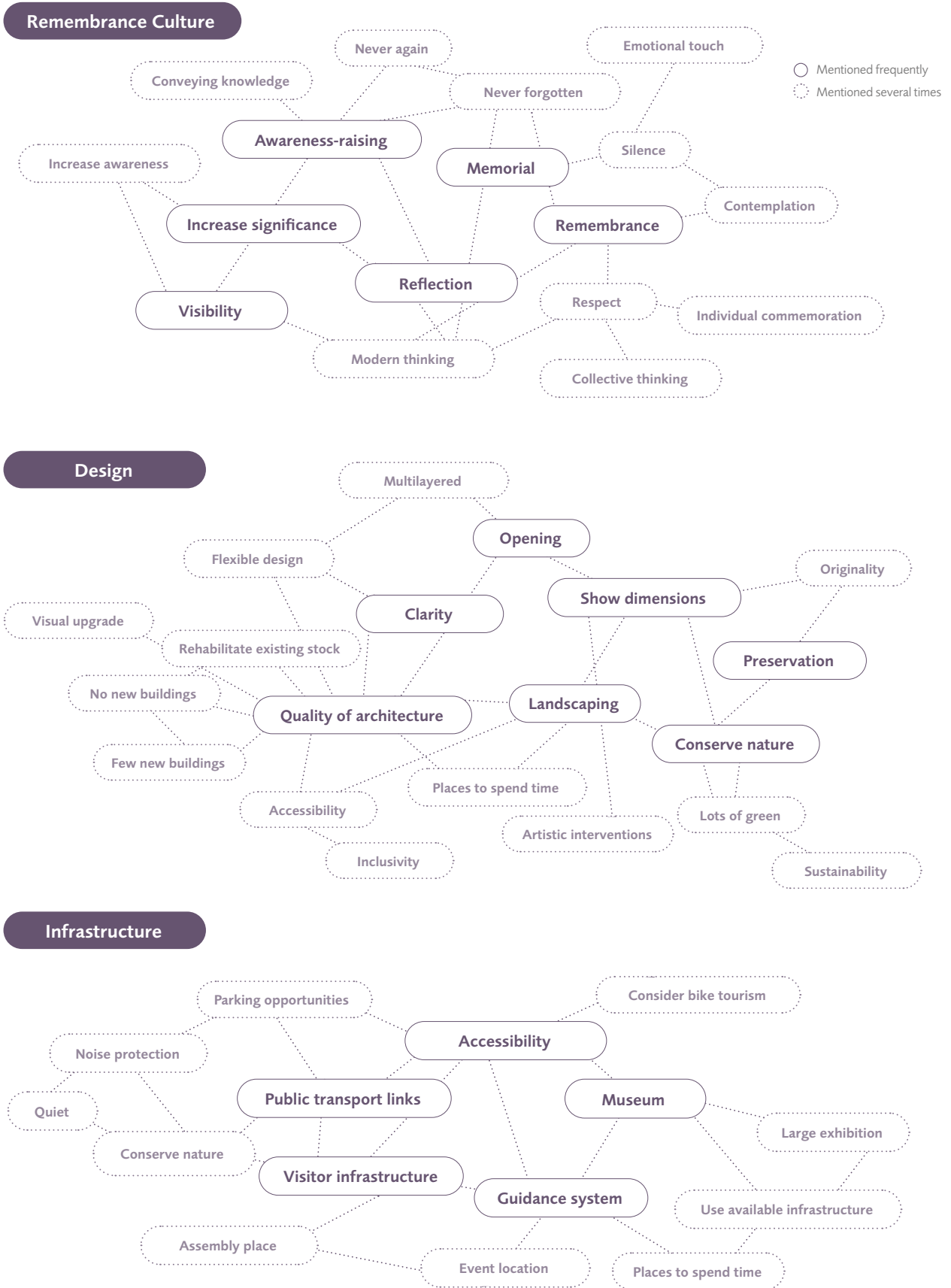
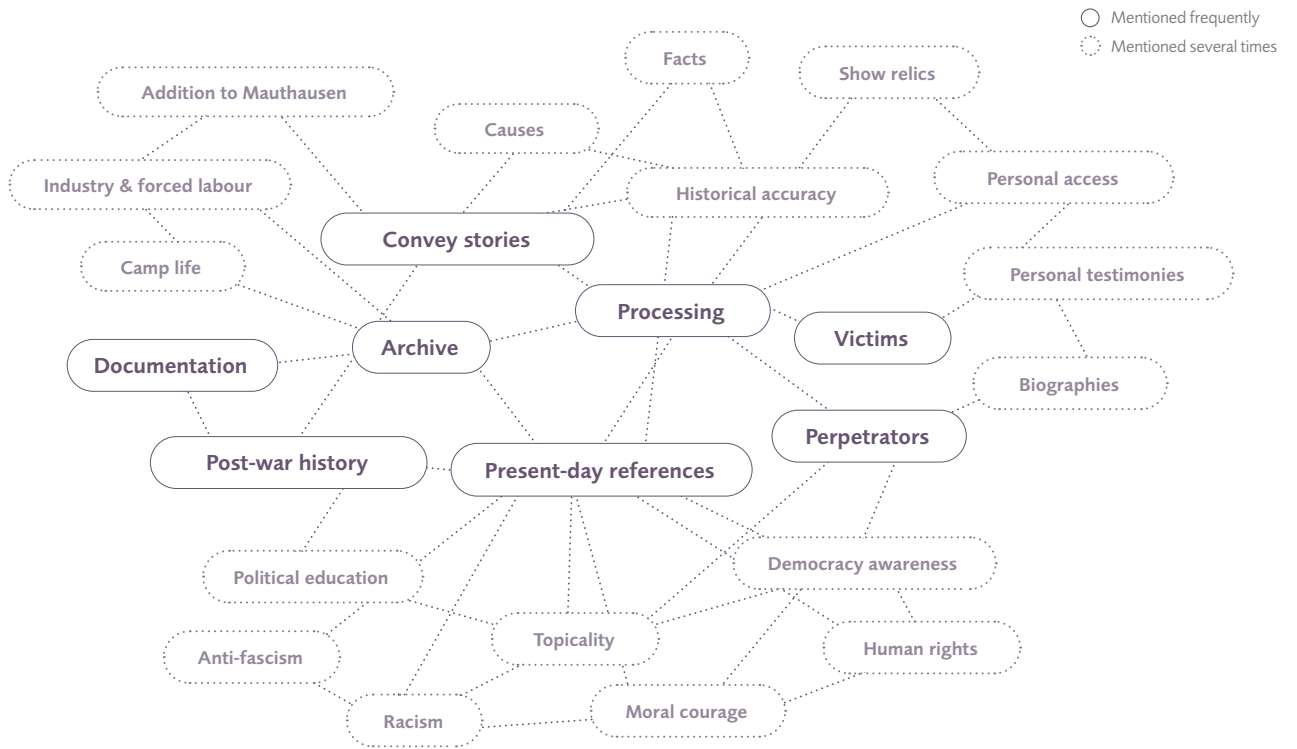


Fig. 12: Criteria for the successful development of the memorial site mentioned in the regional and international survey, weighted according to frequency of mentions

**Content & Topics**



**Locations**

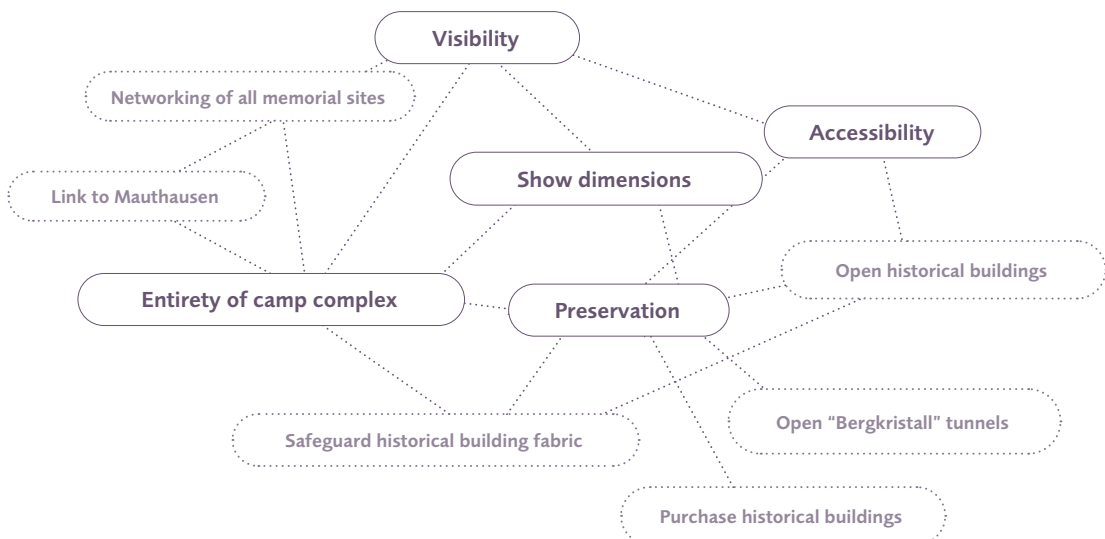


Fig. 13: Criteria for the successful development of the memorial site mentioned in the regional and international survey, weighted according to frequency of mentions

## Imprint

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[www.gusen-memorial.org](http://www.gusen-memorial.org)

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Figures by: art:phalanx, Mauthausen Memorial / Bernhard  
Mühleder, Julius Sevcik

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