

# PROGRAM COMMEMORATION AND LIBERATION CEREMONIES 2023 „CIVIL COURAGE“



Organized by Mauthausen Committee Austria  
and our local initiatives and associations

**“In memory of the blood shed by all peoples, in memory of the millions of brothers assassinated by Nazi-Fascism, we solemnly swear to never abandon this path. We want to erect the most beautiful monument that one could dedicate to the soldiers who have fallen for the cause of freedom of the international community on a secure basis: A world of free men! We direct ourselves to the entire world, shouting: help us in this work!”**

(Excerpt from Mauthausen Oath of liberated prisoners on 16 May 1945)

The **International Commemoration and Liberation Ceremony** at the Memorial Mauthausen and at sites of its former satellite camps has been organized and conducted since 1946 by the camp survivors and their associations. As the successor organization of the Austrian Association of Mauthausen Survivors, Mauthausen Committee Austria has taken over this task and will organize these celebrations in 2023 on the occasion of the 78th anniversary of the liberation of the Mauthausen Concentration Camp.

Because over 90 percent of the victims were neither German nor Austrian, to us, the commemoration of the victims of the Mauthausen Concentration Camp and its satellite camps has international significance. The **International Commemoration and Liberation Ceremony is the largest ceremony of its kind worldwide**. In addition to the main ceremony in Mauthausen, each year sees over 110 memorial events at locations of former satellite camps of Mauthausen CC and other sites of Nazi terror **throughout Austria**. Tens of thousands of visitors each year take a powerful stand: „**Never again!**“.

Each year we dedicate the Commemoration and Liberation Ceremonies to a special theme. Relevance to the present is an essential component of each annual theme. This is intended to provide young people in particular with reference to their world of experience today through an examination of the Nazi era and ideology. This year's Commemoration and Liberation Ceremonies are dedicated to **“Civil Courage”** (details on the next page).

**The legacy of CC survivors ([mkoe.at/aams](http://mkoe.at/aams))** forms the foundation of Mauthausen Committee activities. In addition to commemoration of the victims of Nazi crimes, especially crimes against prisoners held in Mauthausen CC and its satellite camps, other areas of focus are right-wing extremism, knowledge transfer, and decisive anti-fascist and anti-racist work, especially with young people.





# COMMEMORATION AND LIBERATION CEREMONIES 2023 „CIVIL COURAGE“

The use of the term civil courage dates back to 1848. The factors that lead to acts of civil courage always remain the same. However, the framework of conditions within which they take place in change over time. A special situation with regard to the scope for acts of civil courage can be found in authoritarian and highly repressive contexts. For example, during the National Socialist era, acts of civil courage, which very quickly crossed the narrow boundaries of the system, became acts of resistance against the regime.

People who resisted or rescued others, who initiated courageous individual actions against authorities or officials, and who led resistance activities in factories or in armament production, were mostly reported after the collapse of the system. But even then, the public recognition of acts of civil courage came late, often years or decades later, if at all. The courageous actions of a few people at a time when the majority lived in an adapted way or “tagged along” often triggered feelings of guilt or shame later on, which not infrequently even led to doubts or defenses of these actions. From today’s perspective, the term civil courage seems hardly suitable for the behaviour of people who helped other people during the National Socialist era, who took action against the National Socialists, or who joined the resistance. For all those who, as a result of their actions, fell into the repressive machine of the National Socialists were accused, persecuted, degraded, punished and all too often had to pay with their lives.

Such conditions are among the most extreme for demonstrating civil courage. The regime pursued acts that were classified as resistant or “criminal” with brutal severity and arbitrariness. The population lived in an atmosphere of total surveillance and legal uncertainty, which made the need for self-protection and the fear of repression understandable and justified. In the 1970s, psychologist Revital Ludewig-Kedmi turned to the results of the study by American political scientist Manfred Wolfson from the 1960s: Her investigation revealed that the majority of the rescuers were “ordinary” people who had neither special financial resources nor large homes, no better education or important contacts. An important insight, two-thirds of the helpers were women.<sup>1</sup>

One example for helpers were the Langthaler family from Upper Austria’s Mühlviertel. Anna Hackl, the daughter of Maria Langthaler, and her family hid two escaped Soviet concentration camp prisoners – risking their own lives.

“I thought, if anyone comes to me, I will not let them be shot, I will help them and hide them,  
I have five boys in the war and I also want all five to come back. And they also have families and mothers.”<sup>2</sup>

**Maria Langthaler**

<sup>1</sup> Verbotene Hilfe. Deutsche Retterinnen und Retter während des Holocaust (Forbidden Help. German rescuers during the Holocaust). Beate Kosmala, Revital Ludewig-Kedmi, Zurich, 2003

<sup>2</sup> Gugglberger, 2008, p. 64

# „CIVIL COURAGE“

The „Mühlviertel Manhunt“ was a horrific hunt for around 500 escaped Soviet prisoners from the Mauthausen concentration camp towards the end of the Second World War. In this war crime, the civilian population was also called upon to take part in the hunt for escaped “Serious Offenders”, as they were called by the SS. Many people responded to the call of the SS; terrible atrocities were committed. Few tried to help the escaped prisoners by, for example by putting potatoes outside the door or hanging clothes for them outside. The Langthaler family, however, showed outstanding civil courage and saved the lives of two escaped prisoners.

Helpers were not born or raised as such, they were not necessarily better people. In many cases, a specific situation triggered their civil courage, and they went above and beyond with inventiveness and perseverance. Many of them were religiously or politically motivated.

Legal philosopher **Arthur Kaufmann** aptly compared the relationship between civil courage, non-violent political actions, civil disobedience, protest and resistance (where the boundaries are sometimes fluid, especially in the political sphere) was by the with the “small-coin right of resistance”.

“One should not underestimate the importance of such small resistance. This small resistance has to be put up constantly, so that great resistance is not required again one day. This great resistance demands great sacrifices, it may cost one’s life. The small resistance, that is, the resistance that is possible and necessary in democracy, costs courage and civil courage.”<sup>3</sup>

Civil courage is a more visible resistance out of conviction. Acts of civil courage are about the everyday freedom of expression, about accepting contradiction, about commitment against the discrimination of people who stand up for law and justice, and about respect for human dignity. Orientation towards humanitarian and democratic values as well as personal courage are important components of acts of civil courage.

Today we are not only increasingly becoming victims, but also witnesses of racism, verbal threats of violence and death, bullying, exclusion and discrimination. We are also increasingly confronted with this problem on online platforms. Cyberbullying, online hate, conspiracy theories and fake news have been on the rise for many years.

Racism, discrimination and violence cannot be eliminated overnight. However, a lot can be achieved in small steps. That is, when people look, when the uninvolved intervene to help and when victims do not remain powerless.

More information about civil courage and examples of civil courage today can be found in the brochure „Zivil.Courage.Wirkt“, which is available download free of charge at [www.zivilcourage.at](http://www.zivilcourage.at), and can be found on [www.zivilcourageonline.at](http://www.zivilcourageonline.at) and the associated free App.

<sup>3</sup> Gerd Meyer, Ulrich Dovermann, Siegfried Frech, Günther Gugel (eds.), Zivilcourage lernen. Analysen – Modelle – Arbeitshilfen (Learning civil courage. Analyses - models - working aids), Baden-Württemberg, 2004, p. 40

# International Commemoration and Liberation Ceremony

**SUNDAY, 7 MAY 2023**

**MAUTHAUSEN**

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International  
Commemoration  
and Liberation  
Ceremony  
Mauthausen  
concentration  
camp memorial site  
Upper Austria

**11:00**

## **International Liberation Ceremony 2023 „Civil Courage“**

The International Liberation Ceremony will take place at the Mauthausen Concentration Camp Memorial to mark the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Mauthausen concentration camp. As in previous years, the International Liberation Ceremony will start with a commemorative procession with an unlimited number of participants.

The International Liberation Ceremony will start with the commemorative procession at 11:00 a.m. Designated meeting points have been set up for all delegations. Delegations will take part in the procession by alphabetical order. Delegations will form for the procession starting 10:20 a.m.

The procession will start with the virtual reading of the „Mauthausen Oath“ by young people in several languages. After the wreath-laying, participants in the commemorative procession are invited to attend the joint liberation ceremony on the former roll call square. There is limited seating for elderly persons and persons with impairments. Unfortunately, seats cannot be reserved.

Contributions by Willi Mernyi, Chairman of the Mauthausen Committee Austria, and CIM president Guy Dockendorf will be part of the commemoration. The International Liberation Ceremony will be hosted in several languages by actresses Mercedes Echerer and Konstanze Breitebner. The thematic focus of the Liberation Ceremony is „Civil Courage“. Essentially, this year's ceremony will build a bridge to the present.

The ceremony will be broadcast by ORF III in Austria and streamed internationally and in several languages on the on-line channels of Mauthausen Committee Austria.

On the day of the liberation celebration, all wreaths must be delivered before 7:30 am at the latest. To enter the grounds of the CC memorial site, you need a delivery card (QR Code for delivery). On the day before the liberation celebration, the wreaths can be delivered until no later than 4:30 pm to the former camp for protective custody.

[Here you can find details about Directions & Shuttle, Visitor Information and the Commemorative Procession Route.](#)

The ceremony will be held in compliance with the current COVID safety regulations.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## FRIDAY, 27 JANUARY 2023

### BREGENZ

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Vorarlberg-Museum  
Kornmarktplatz 1  
Vorarlberg

**09:00 - 20:00**

**Theme day on the occasion of the international Holocaust remembrance day**

For his exhibition "M 48° 15' 24.13" N, 14° 30' 6.31" E Special Exhibition Mauthausen - The eradication of memory", Marko ZINK will talk about how he designed this exhibit and the memorial on the site of the former Mauthausen Concentration Camp. Moreover, there will be lectures by Adam SCHMIDTBERGER, a tour guide at Mauthausen memorial, by historian Florian GUGGENBERGER, and by Werner DREIER, about how to convey memorial culture and resistance under the NS regime.

### VILLACH

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Dinzlschloss  
Schloßgasse 11  
Carinthia

**19:00**

**Commemorative reading featuring Robert SCHINDEL**

We invite you to a commemorative reading featuring Robert SCHINDEL at Dinzlschloss on the occasion of the International Holocaust Memorial day on 27 January, the day the Auschwitz concentration camp was liberated by the Red Army.

### WELS

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Minoriten Wels  
Minoritengasse 1  
Upper Austria

**19:30**

**Event against violence on Holocaust Memorial Day**

Ensemble Vocalodie will be performing works by Andreas Salzbrunn, Rudolf Mauersberger and Heinrich Schütz.

First performance of Michael Hazod's Sounds of Stone ("Töne aus Stein"); Tina KELLER and Erwin FRIEDL will be reading works by Wolfgang Borchert:

"Requiem for a Friend", "Generation without Farewell", "And then there is only one thing!"

Stefan PETERMANN, former writer-in-residence of Wels, talks about his text Sounds of Stone.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## TUESDAY, 31 JANUARY 2023

### GALLNEUKIRCHEN

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Protestant Parish  
Church  
Hauptstraße 1  
Upper Austria

**19:00**

#### **Memories of the “Mühlviertel Manhunt”**

Author reading and literary talk featuring Elisabeth SCHMIDAUER. Schmidauer's novel “Fanzi” documents memories which, initially suppressed within families, came back to haunt them. Memories of the “Mühlviertel Manhunt” and the annihilation of persons in need of care will be shown.

## WEDNESDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2023

### GALLNEUKIRCHEN

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Memorial for Peace  
Anton-Riepl-Straße/  
Gallneukirchner Straße  
Upper Austria

**19:00**

#### **Commemoration at the Memorial for Peace**

A commemoration will be held at the Memorial for Peace with a word collage on the “Mühlviertler Menschenhatz im Februar 1945” (eng. “Mühlviertel Manhunt in February 1945”) with a focus on the guiding theme. Afterwards the participants will walk to the memorial of the protestant Diakoniewerk. Along the way, the names of children and young people who were murdered in the former Hartheim satellite camp as “Useless Life” will be called out.

## THURSDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2023

### GALLNEUKIRCHEN

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Memorial Stone  
Hauptstraße 7  
Upper Austria

**19:30**

#### **Commemoration Ceremony at the Memorial Stone**

In commemoration of the “euthanasia killings” 1940-1944.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## THURSDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2023

### MAUTHAUSEN

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Donausaal

Mauthausen

Josef-Czerwenka-

Straße 4

Upper Austria

**20:00**

#### **Theater revue featuring poems by Erich Kästner newly set to music**

Gruppe Zelinzki will present a theatre revue with poems by Erich Kästner which have been newly set to music. Though largely known as an author of children's books, Kästner was also as a critical chronicler of the times. His poems are a lasting plea for peace and justice, for a decent and enlightened life. The music group Zelinzki has set 14 of his poems to music and collated them in a theatre revue in 13 acts.

## WEDNESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2023

### WELS

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Bildungshaus Schloss

Puchberg

Puchberg 1

Upper Austria

**20:00**

#### **12<sup>th</sup> Political Ash Wednesday at Bildungshaus Schloss Puchberg**

In a conversation with Wilhelm ACHLEITNER, psychiatrist Heidi KASTNER discusses human stupidity, ignorance and the power of "alternative facts". "We encounter stupidity in many forms - but how can we recognize it?" An entertaining discussion about a serious topic, which in such crisis-ridden times and under the influence of social media continues to grow in social importance.

The Wels Initiative against Fascism has been inviting interesting personalities to a dialogue on Ash Wednesday every year since 2011 as a civil society counter to the hate and hate rallies of right-wing parties.



# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**SATURDAY, 25 MARCH 2023**

## OBERWART

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Town Hall  
Hauptplatz 9  
Burgenland

**13:00**

### **Symposium "Rethinking Commemoration"**

RE.F.U.G.I.U.S. – Rechnitz Refugee and Commemoration Initiative

In recent years, we have been confronted with many new challenges concerning the way we commemorate the Shoah: The last contemporary witnesses are dying, the historical message has long since failed to reach all of society, and the warning message commemoration conveys is apparently not enough to prevent anti-semitism from becoming more widespread and more overt. What effect do ritualized days of remembrance still have today? What about the culture of remembrance and what warnings the Shoah holds for the present? And could digital media offer new opportunities?

These and many other questions will be discussed at this conference on forms of commemoration in the 2020s.

## PEGGAU

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Protestant Peace Church  
St. Margarethenstraße 4  
Styria

**14:00**

### **Memorial Trail**

In memory of the march of the prisoners from the work places to the former camp area

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Peggau memorial site  
Mittereggstraße 1  
Styria

**15:00**

### **Ecumenical commemoration ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp Peggau**

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**SUNDAY, 26 MARCH 2023**

## RECHNITZ

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Kreuzstadl Rechnitz  
Geschriebenstein-  
straße  
Burgenland

**14:00**

**Commemoration of all victims of the construction of the South-East wall**

RE.F.U.G.I.U.S. invites you to this memorial with  
Paul GULDA, RE.F.U.G.I.U.S.

Vice President Claudia PRUTSCHER, Jewish community Vienna

Chief Cantor Shmuel BARZILAI, Jewish community Vienna

Representative of the Jewish community Zalaegerszeg

Music: Bogdan Laketic

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Naturparkmittelschule  
Rechnitz  
Schulgasse 10  
Burgenland

**16:00**

**Book presentation**

in commemoration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of RE.F.U.G.I.U.S.

In February 1991, the RE.F.U.G.I.U.S. - Rechnitzer Flüchtlings- und Gedenkinitiative initiative (Rechnitz Refugee and Commemoration Initiative) was founded around the Anti-Fascist Persons Committee Burgenland and the association "Grenzlos". It set itself the goal of remembering the atrocities of National Socialism and counteracting the process of forgetting. Since then the association has dedicated itself to "commemoration and remembrance": holding commemorative ceremonies, symposia, benefit concerts. In addition, talks and negotiations with public authorities at federal, province and municipal level are intended to initiate a new policy of dealing with the past and a new culture of remembrance in Burgenland. The publication contains a detailed presentation of these processes and may be used as guidance by others.

**TUESDAY, 28 MARCH 2023**

## VIENNA-SIMMERING

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Gasthaus „Zur Bast“  
Haidestraße 22,  
Oriongasse, Vienna

**14:00**

**Commemoration ceremony at the former satellite camp Vienna Saurer-Werke**

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## TUESDAY, 4 APRIL 2023

### WIENER NEUSTADT

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Memorial at Serbenhalle Pottendorferstraße 47 Lower Austria	<b>10:30</b> <b>Wreath-laying ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp Wiener Neustadt</b> At the memorial near Serbenhalle in a small group with municipal representatives.
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## FRIDAY, 7 APRIL 2023

### HINTERBRÜHL

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Memorial Site Johannesstraße 16-32 Lower Austria	<b>14:30</b> <b>Liberation celebration at the site of former satellite camp Hinterbrühl with prayer at the Stations of The Cross</b> Participants can visit five different stations of the cross with varying themes, and with musical accompaniment.
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## FRIDAY, 14 APRIL 2023

### CITY OF SALZBURG

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Roma and Sinti Memorial Ignaz Rieder Kai 21 Salzburg	<b>11:00</b> <b>Commemoration ceremony at the Roma and Sinti Memorial</b> The Cultural Association of Austrian Roma and the Peace Office Salzburg jointly invite to a commemorative ceremony at the Roma and Sinti memorial. During the National Socialist regime, Roma and Sinti were imprisoned at the former Trabrennplatz and taken from there to the Maxglan camp, which the National Socialists called a "gypsy camp". The Maxglan camp was abandoned in late March / early April 1943 by virtue of the Auschwitz decree. The majority of the Roma and Sinti were deported to Concentration Camp Auschwitz, a smaller group to Camp Lackenbach. Only a few of them survived.
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# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**WEDNESDAY, 19 APRIL 2023**

## ENNSDORF

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Ennsdorf Wayside  
Shrine  
at the corner of  
Bäckerstrasse/  
Westbahnstrasse  
Lower Austria

**18:00**

### **Remembrance of the victims of the death marches**

The commemoration of the victims of the death marches from Mauthausen/Gusen to Gunskirchen starts in the village of Ennsdorf at the bildstock. After a short speech we will walk together along the death march route to Enns.

## ENNS

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Commemoration of the  
victims of the Death  
Marches  
Crossing B1/  
Wienerstraße  
Upper Austria

**18:30**

### **Commemoration ceremony of the victims of the death marches of 1945**

A new memorial monument opened here in October 2022, depicting death march victims in the surrounding communities and highlighting David Hersch's rescue story. After the presentation of the monument, the path continues through the elementary school in Enns, past the memorial plaque for Bozena Skrabalek.

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St Lawrence Basilica  
Staircase  
Lauriacumstraße  
Upper Austria

**19:00**

### **Commemoration in Enns at the staircase leading up to Basilica St. Laurenz**

The memorial service for the 87 victims who were buried in Enns will then take place at the staircase to the Basilica of Enns-St. Laurenz. There, concrete victims will be commemorated with music and speeches.

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Parish hall  
Enns-St. Laurenz  
Lauriacumstraße 4  
Upper Austria

**19:30**

### **Evening event on Civil Courage**

The 2023 commemoration will conclude in the Enns-St. Laurenz parish hall with texts, stamps, exchanges and stories about people who acted courageously and thus stood up for others.



# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## SATURDAY, 22 APRIL 2023

### FÜRSTENFELD

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Fürstenfeld municipal  
park (memorial site)  
Fürstenfelder Straße 23  
Styria

**12:00 - 13:00**

**Solemn Vigil of the Catholic Austrian Student Fraternity  
Riegersburg Fürstenfeld (MKV)**

Against neo-Nazism, violence and extremism on the focal theme of  
"Civil Courage".

Commemorative speech: Gerald GUSCHLBAUER.

## MONDAY, 24 APRIL 2023

### WELS

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Memorial for the  
Victims of the Death  
Marches, Wels  
Cemetery  
Friedhofstraße 63  
Upper Austria

**18:30**

**Commemoration ceremony at the memorial for the victims of  
the death marches**

In the spring of 1945, the Nazis drove more than 15,000 people, most of them Hungarian jews, on so-called death marches from the overcrowded concentration camp of Mauthausen to Gunskirchen satellite camp. During the three-day long foot march, about 6,000 people lost their lives. At Gunskirchen camp, 200-300 people starved daily, or they died from dysentery or a typhus epidemic. 1,030 of these victims were buried on Wels cemetery, where a memorial stone was erected upon initiative of the Wels Antifa in 2001.

Welcome: Rudolf SPITZER, board member of the Wels Initiative against Fascism

Speaker: Director and screenwriter Andreas GRUBER

Concluding remarks: Chairperson Mag. Werner RETZL, Wels Initiative against Fascism

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## WEDNESDAY, 26 APRIL 2023

### ANSFELDEN

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Gasthaus Stockinger  
Kremsbrücke  
Upper Austria

**18:00**

#### **MEMORIAL WALK – “Civil Courage”**

Commemoration of the death marches of Jews from Mauthausen/Gusen to Gunskirchen at Kremsbrücke near Gasthaus Stockinger.

*“The more citizens with civil courage a country has, the fewer heroes it will need one day.”* Franka Magnani, Italian journalist, 1925-1996.

## THURSDAY, 27 APRIL 2023

### LENZING

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Pettighofen Memorial  
Stone  
Agerstraße  
Upper Austria

**18:00**

#### **Liberation ceremony and wreath-laying at the site of the former satellite camp Lenzing**

Welcome: Mascha AURACHER

Memorial speech: Margret LEHNER-WESSELY

Flowers will be laid down in memory of the deceased women prisoners.

### ST. AEGYD/NEUWALDE

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Kulturstadl St. Aegyd  
Marktplatz  
Lower Austria

**18:30**

#### **Commemoration ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp St. Aegyd am Neuwalde**

Pupils of the secondary school St. Aegyd will be responsible for organising the contents of the ceremony on the theme of “Civil Courage”. The commemoration will begin at Kulturstadl on St. Aegyd’s market square, followed by a silent march to the concentration camp cemetery.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**FRIDAY, 28 APRIL 2023**

**ZIPF/VÖCKLABRUCK**

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Memorial in Zipf  
Langwies 48  
Upper Austria

**18:00**

**Commemoration ceremony and wreath-laying at the memorial**

Memorial speech: Mayor Alois SIX, Neukirchen an der Vöckla  
Contributions by students of MS Neukirchen an der Vöckla  
Musical accompaniment by students of MS Timelkam

Flowers will be laid down in memory of the deceased prisoners.

**FRIDAY, 5 MAY 2023**

**GLEISDORF**

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Memorial  
Rathausplatz  
Styria

**10:30**

**Celebration of the Memorial Day against Violence and Racism**

on the topic of "Civil Courage". Greeting by Mayor and Member of Parliament Christoph STARK. With a speech by Ursula REITER and a musical contribution by the music school Gleisdorf.

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Catholic parish center  
Gleisdorf  
Alois-Grogger-Gasse 10  
Styria

**19:00**

**Movie night and discussion**

"3400 Semmeln: Flüchtende.Helfende.Menschen." (engl. "3400 buns: refugees.helping.people.")

Director Heinz TRENCZAK and protagonists will be available for questions from the audience after the screening.

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**SPITAL AM PYHRN**

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Sankt Leonhard church  
Eggerweg 3  
Upper Austria

**17:00**

**Commemoration ceremony of the victims of National Socialism at the "Foreign Race Children's Home"**

Commemorative speech: Social researcher and author Dr.<sup>in</sup> Maria PRIELER-WOLDAN

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**FRIDAY, 5 MAY 2023**

## ST. VALENTIN

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Herzograd  
Memorial Site  
Anna-Strasser-Platz  
Upper Austria

**17:00**

**Commemoration ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp St. Valentin**

on the topic of "Civil Courage". Speakers: Prof. Kathrin STAINER-HÄMMERLE and Dr. Rupert GRILL from St. Valentin parish. Moreover, Mayor Mag. Kerstin SUCHAN-MAYR and City Councillor for culture, Leopold FEILECKER will give speeches. The event will be co-organised by students of Langenhart middle school and accompanied by music.

After the commemoration ceremony, the participants will lay white roses at the memorial.

## EBENSEE

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Entrance to  
"Löwengang"  
Alte Traunstraße  
Upper Austria

**18:00**

**Stations of Commemoration**

Presentation of music and texts at "Löwengang", near the former camp gate, at the memorial tunnel, and at the victims' cemetery.

## BRAUNAU

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Memorial Stone in the  
Salzburger Vorstadt  
Salzburger Vorstadt 13  
Upper Austria

**18:00**

**Commemoration ceremony for the victims of war and National Socialism**

Speeches by Mayor Johannes WAIDBACHER and Monika SOMMER from House of History Austria.



# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**FRIDAY, 5 MAY 2023**

**STILLFÜSSING**

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Memorial Site  
Stillfüssing  
Upper Austria

**18:30**

**Commemoration of the victims of National Socialism**

This commemoration is also the inauguration of the new anti-fascist memorial. It will replace a former Waffen-SS memorial that served as a pilgrimage site for right-wing extremists. The former Waffen-SS memorial is now an anti-fascist memorial. It provides information in German and English about the historical facts and it is exemplary of a vibrant culture of remembrance as well as of active commitment against right-wing extremism.

Introduction: Dr. Robert EITER, Spokesperson of the Upper Austrian Network against Racism and Right-Wing Extremism

Speeches: Dr.<sup>in</sup> Charlotte HERMAN, President of the Jewish Community Linz

Dipl.Päd.<sup>in</sup> Gabriele HOFER-STELZHAMER, MAS, President of Catholic Action Upper Austria

Will MERNYI, Chairman of Mauthausen Committee Austria

Closing remarks: Thomas ANTLINGER, B.Ed.Univ., Member of the State Parliament

Music: Pichler Truhlar Music

**SATURDAY, 6 MAY 2023**

**GUNSKIRCHEN**

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Memorial  
Bundesstraße 1  
Upper Austria

**10:00**

**“Walk of Solidarity”**

On Liberation Day, we will join survivors of the Gunskirchen concentration camp on the “Walk of Solidarity” for a joint liberation ceremony. The “Walk of Solidarity” starts at the memorial on Bundesstrasse 1 and ends at the site of the former satellite camp Gunskirchen.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**SATURDAY, 6 MAY 2023**

## GUNSKIRCHEN

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Concentration camp  
ceremony  
Upper Austria

**10:30**

**Liberation ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp  
Gunskirchen**

Welcome: Mayor Alexander BÄCK, Edt bei Lambach

Speakers: Writer Sabine SCHOLL, Gyorgy FRISCH, Representative of  
Hungarian Jews

Concluding remarks: Willi MERNYI, Chairman of the Mauthausen  
Committee Austria

## EBENSEE

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Memorial Site  
Max Ziegler Straße  
Upper Austria

**10:30**

**Liberation ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp  
Ebensee**

Memorial speech: Karl-Markus GAUSS and Ron MANHEIM, son of a  
survivor of Ebensee satellite camp.

## LANGENSTEIN/GUSEN

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Entrance to the  
Memorial Gusen  
Georgestraße 7  
Upper Austria

**17:00**

**Liberation ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp  
Gusen**

Speakers: Dr. Andreas KRANEBITTER, Mauthausen Memorial Archives:  
"Resistance groups in the Gusen Concentration Camps",  
Univ. Prof.<sup>in</sup> Dr. <sup>in</sup> Martina GUGGLBERGER, University of Linz:  
"Women in the resistance".

Tour of the only preserved tunnel of the "Bergkristall" plant, with short  
introduction at the museum of local history in St. Georgen an der  
Gusen, Färbergasse 2.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**SUNDAY, 7 MAY 2023**

## MAUTHAUSEN

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Quarry  
in the memorial  
Upper Austria

**Time will be announced**  
**International Youth Commemoration Ceremony**

---

Chappel in the  
memorial  
Upper Austria

**Time will be announced**  
**Ecumenical service**

---

Roma and Sinti Memorial  
in the memorial  
Upper Austria

**09:00**  
**Commemoration ceremony at the Roma and Sinti Memorial as  
part of the International Liberation Ceremony**

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Wailing wall,  
commemorative  
plaque for the 42  
resistance fighters  
in the memorial  
Upper Austria

**09:15**  
**Commemoration**  
for the resistance fighters who were murdered on 28 April 1945.  
The memorial plaque, which was unveiled in 2001 in memory of the 42  
antifascists who were gassed on 28 and 29 April 1945, is an important  
symbol of commemoration for the political resistance in Austria. The  
majority of the 42 were part of the so-called "Welser Gruppe" (engl.  
Wels group), that the Gestapo broke up in 1944.  
Organiser: CC association / VdA OÖ

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**SUNDAY, 7 MAY 2023**

## MAUTHAUSEN

International  
Commemoration and  
Liberation Ceremony  
Mauthausen  
concentration camp  
memorial site  
Upper Austria

**11:00**

### **International Commemoration and Liberation Ceremony under the motto of “Civil Courage”**

The International Liberation Ceremony of the Mauthausen Concentration Camp Memorial will take place on the occasion of the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Mauthausen concentration camp. This year again, the International Liberation Ceremony will start with a commemorative procession with an unlimited number of participants. After the wreath-laying ceremony, the participants of the commemoration procession will be invited to take part in the joint liberation ceremony at the former roll call square. The International Liberation Ceremony will be hosted by actresses Mercedes ECHERER and Konstanze BREITEBNER in several languages. The ceremony will be broadcast in Austria on ORF III and streamed internationally in several languages on the online channels of MKÖ.

The liberation celebration is dedicated to the thematic focus of “**Civil Courage**”. Building a bridge to the present is also an essential component this year. In addition to the International Liberation Ceremony at the Mauthausen Concentration Camp Memorial, a **virtual commemoration** will be held on the annual theme.

**More information at [www.befreiungsfeier.at/en](http://www.befreiungsfeier.at/en).**

## RIED IN DER RIEDMARK

Memorial Stone Ried in  
der Riedmark  
Upper Austria

**15:30**

### **Commemoration in memory of the “Mühlviertel Manhunt”**

Opening and welcome by member of national parliament Sabine SCHATZ und Mayor Christian TAUSCHEK

Memorial speech: Thomas BAUM

Music: “Hausgemacht” (engl. homemade)



# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**MONDAY, 8 MAY 2023**

## AMSTETTEN

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Eisenreichdornach  
wayside shrine  
access via  
Schabfeldstrasse  
Lower Austria

**10:00**

### **Wreath-laying in commemoration of the former satellite camp Amstetten**

in remembrance of civilian victims of the bombings in 1944/45.

There will be a wreath-laying ceremony as well as ecumenical prayer.

Speeches: Mayor Christian HABERHAUER, Amstetten, representatives of MKÖ and of the state of Lower Austria, representatives of Amicale de Mauthausen (Belgium), cultural and musical programme by Amstetten schools.

## MELK

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Melk concentration  
camp memorial site  
Schießsstattweg 2  
Lower Austria

**10:30**

### **Liberation ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp Melk**

Young people from the region will provide substantive input to the theme of "Civil Courage".

## STEYR

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Steyr concentration  
camp memorial site  
Haagerstraße  
Upper Austria

**17:30**

### **Liberation celebration at the site of former Steyr satellite camp**

on the topic of "Civil Courage". Welcome: Mag. Karl RAMSMAIER - Mauthausen Committee Steyr; speech: Mayor Ing. Markus VOGL, Steyr, Memorial speech: Dr.in Brigitte HALBMAYR - Sociologist and political scientist. Words of commemoration: Daniel SIMON - Amical de Mauthausen; Contribution to the topic of "Civil Courage" by students of HLW Steyr; Music: Tromax, under the direction of Eva Schiffler. Followed by wreath-laying and a minute of silence at the Concentration Camp memorial. In case of bad weather, the event will take place at the Münchenholz fire station, Prinzstraße 1a, in Steyr.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**MONDAY, 8 MAY 2023**

VIENNA

Heldenplatz  
Vienna

**19:30**

## **Festival of Joy**

Commemorating the victims and the joy at the liberation from the Nazi regime of terror, MKÖ is organizing the Festival of Joy 2023 for the eleventh time. In 2023, the festival will be dedicated to the thematic focus of "Civil Courage". For the first time, there will be an international music programme featuring Konstantin WECKER and the Vienna Symphony Orchestra conducted by Mark MAST. The highlights of the event include speeches by Anna HACKL, a survivor, and Austrian Federal President Dr. Alexander VAN DER BELLEN. The Festival of Joy will be inaugurated by MKÖ Chairman Willi MERNYI.

Over the past ten years, numerous in-person visitors and online guests from Austria and abroad participating in the Festival of Joy have sent out a strong message in terms of ensuring a dignified commemoration on May 8 as liberation day.

**More information at [www.festderfreude.at/en](http://www.festderfreude.at/en).**

**WEDNESDAY, 10 MAY 2023**

VÖCKLABRUCK

Memorial stone/  
districts sport hall  
Bahnhofstraße 44  
Upper Austria

**10:00**

## **Commemoration ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp Vöcklabruck**

in cooperation with the secondary trade school Vöcklabruck

ATTNANG-PUCHHEIM

Memorial site at the  
railway station  
Upper Austria

**18:30**

## **Wreath-laying at the memorial**

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## WEDNESDAY, 10 MAY 2023

### ATTNANG-PUCHHEIM

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Attnang-Puchheim	<b>19:00</b>
cinema	<b>Commemoration at the Attnang-Puchheim cinema</b>
Mitterweg	With Austrian writer Barbara FRISCHMUTH.
Upper Austria	With students of the vocational school Attnang-Puchheim, of ORG Vöcklabruck, and with the vocal and instrumental ensemble <i>mira</i> .

### LINZ

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Private University of	<b>19:00</b>
Education, Diocese of	<b>“Rücksichten-Ansichten-Einsichten” (engl. considerations-</b>
Linz/chapel	<b>perspectives-insights)</b>
Salesianumweg 3	Geh!Denk!Feier! (commemoration) - by students of the Adalbert-Stifter
Upper Austria	practical middle school for the former concentration camp Linz II.

## FRIDAY, 12 MAY 2023

### VIENNA-FLORIDSDORF

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Memorial	<b>10:00</b>
Hopfengasse 12	<b>Commemoration ceremony at the site of the former satellite</b>
Vienna	<b>camp Floridsdorf</b>
	The event starts at the commemorative plaque at Hopfengasse and ends at the memorial stone at the Floridsdorf district museum.

## SATURDAY, 13 MAY 2023

### GREIFENBURG

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Memorial for the	<b>16:45</b>
victims of National	<b>Commemoration ceremony at the memorial for the victims of</b>
Socialism	<b>National Socialism</b>
Bahnhofstraße	Commemoration of those the Nazi era persecuted in the Oberes
Carinthia	Drautal. With a memorial speech by writer Antonio FIAN and a scenic reading by students of HLW Spittal/Drau.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## SUNDAY, 14 MAY 2023

### GALLNEUKIRCHEN

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Peace Memorial  
Anton-Riepl-Straße/  
Gallneukirchner Straße  
Upper Austria

**18:30**

#### **Commemoration ceremony at the Peace Memorial**

Author Sabine SCHOLL will be the keynote speaker at the commemoration ceremony. With her books “Lebendiges Erinnern” (2021) and “Die im Licht, die im Schatten” (2022) the author has championed a contemporary culture of remembrance.

## TUESDAY, 16 MAY 2023

### VILLACH

---

Memorial of Names  
Widmannngasse 35  
Carinthia

**18:00**

#### **Annual commemoration ceremony at the “Memorial of Names” in Villach**

Welcome address: Alexandra SCHMIDT, greeting by mayor Günther ALBEL, speaker: Author Simone SCHÖNETT, winner of the 2022 Culture Award of the City of Villach

## WEDNESDAY, 17 MAY 2023

### PRÄBICHL

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Ski arena  
Eisenstraße  
Styria

**10:00**

#### **16<sup>th</sup> March for Life**

Meet at: 09:45, March for Life via the alpine chalets to the memorial.

Memorial  
Pass hight  
Styria

**11:00**

#### **Commemoration ceremony in remembrance of the 250 Hungarian Jewish victims in 1945**

The ceremony is part of the March for Life and will be accompanied by small pieces of music performed by pupils.

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## SATURDAY, 3 JUNE 2023

### NEUMARKT

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Schloss Lind/  
das ANDERE  
heimatmuseum  
Styria

**20:00**

**Liberation ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp  
Schloss Lind**

The ceremony will feature a concert by Harri Stojka: "Acoustic Drive Trio" and a speech by Heimo HALBRAINER from the Clio editing house.

## SATURDAY, 10 JUNE 2023

### LOIBLPASS STRASSE

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Tunnel portal Loibl-  
Nord, forecourt of the  
former customs house  
Carinthia

**09:00**

**Liberation ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp  
Loibl-Nord**

The commemoration ceremony follows the tradition of trying to anchor this long "forgotten" satellite camp in Carinthia's and Austria's cultural memory. As organiser, Mauthausen Committee Carinthia/Koroška feels a moral duty towards the victims of Loiblpass concentration camps, to tell the story of their suffering and dying, but also to preserve their story of courageous resistance and survival with honour. Memorial speech: diocesan bishop Dr. Josef MARKETZ. Representing contemporary witnesses: Ernst GRUBE, president of the Dachau camp community. Representing youths: Students of WiMo Klagenfurt. There will be musical accompaniment for the event.

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Memorial site  
Loibl-Süd  
Slovenia

**11:00**

**Liberation ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp  
Loibl-Süd**

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## THURSDAY, 29 JUNE 2023

### BRETSTEIN

---

Memorial site satellite camp Bretsteingraben Bretsteingraben 16 Styria	<b>11:00</b> <b>Commemoration ceremony at the site of former Bretstein satellite camp</b> Welcome: Stefan STRADNER, Chairperson, Grete GRUBER, Vice Chairperson, and representatives of the association Lila Winkel. Memorial speech: Irmgard GRISS
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## SATURDAY, 8 JULY 2023

### GOLDEGG

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Böndlsee Salzburg	<b>09:00</b> <b>Commemorative March</b> from Weng/Böndlsee to Hirtenkapelle chapel at Meiselstein.
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Memorial Stone Hofmark 100 Carinthia	<b>17:00</b> <b>Commemoration ceremony</b> Commemorative speech by Terezija STOISITS on "Desertion – Resistance – Rehabilitation".
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## FRIDAY, 21 JULY 2023

### WEIDENBURG

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Promoser Alm/ memorial chapel Carinthia/Friaul (Italy)	<b>10:00</b> <b>Commemorative service</b> Church service in the chapel in remembrance of the murder of civilians at the austrian-italian border by the National Socialists.
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# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

**SUNDAY, 23 JULY 2023**

**WEIDENBURG**

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Fire station

Weidenburg 21

Carinthia/Friaul (Italy)

**07:00**

**"Summer 1944 – Trails of Remembrance"**

Commemorative hike to the memorial chapel on Promoser Alm/Malga di Promosio (Italy) and further to Timau on the occasion of the upcoming anniversary of the massacre among the civilian population on the Italian Carnian alps. At the end of the hike, a bus or cab will take participants back to the starting point.

Important: long hike with a significant number of meters of altitude to cover and therefore requiring suitable equipment and a certain level of fitness.

Do not forget to bring a valid travel document!

**SATURDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**GROSSRAMING**

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Großraming power  
station in the national  
park building  
Eisenstraße 75  
Upper Austria

**16:00**

**Commemoration ceremony at the site of the former satellite  
camp Großraming**

**DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED**

**WEYER-DIPOLDsau**

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Dipoldsau Memorial  
Anger  
Upper Austria

**17:00**

**Commemoration ceremony at the site of the former satellite  
camp Dipoldsau**

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## SATURDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

### ST. PANTALEON

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Memorial site Camp Weyer Moosachstraße 18 Upper Austria	<b>18:00</b> <b>Commemoration ceremony for the victims of St. Pantaleon- Weyer camp</b> with wreath-laying.
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Municipal Office St. Pantaleon Pantaleoner Straße 25 Upper Austria	<b>18:45</b> <b>Lecture about the topic "The role of the police as public servants then and now"</b>
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## SUNDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2023

### ALKOVEN

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Alkoven/Hartheim palace Schloßstraße 1 Upper Austria	<b>11:00</b> <b>Commemoration ceremony for the victims of Nazi euthanasia at Hartheim palace</b>
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## FRIDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2023

### TERNBERG

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Pfarrbaracke Spielfeldstraße 1 Upper Austria	<b>18:30</b> <b>Commemoration ceremony at the site of the former satellite camp Ternberg</b> in remembrance of the victims of National Socialism. The memorial hall is open to visitors starting 5:00 p.m.
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# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2023

### KLAGENFURT

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Annabichl cemetery	<b>10:00</b>
Flughafenstraße 7	<b>Commemoration ceremony for the victims for a free Austria</b>
Carinthia	The memorial ceremony will be held in remembrance of the victims of the National Socialist reign of terror in Carinthia.

## SATURDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2023

### GOLDEGG

---

Memorial Stone in	<b>17:00</b>
Goldegg	<b>Silent remembrance</b>
Hofmark 100	
Salzburg	

## WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2023

### HINTERBRÜHL

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Memorial	<b>18:00</b>
Johannesstraße 16-32	<b>All Saints-Day commemoration ceremony</b>
Lower Austria	

## THURSDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2023

### PICHL BEI WELS

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Parish church Pichl bei	<b>19:00</b>
Wels	<b>All-Saints requiem</b>
Pfarrplatz1	
Upper Austria	

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Cemetery	<b>20:00</b>
Brucknerstraße 6	<b>Act of remembrance for the victims of the "Foreign Race Children's Home" at Schloss Etzelsdorf</b>
Upper Austria	

# Program Memorial and Liberation Ceremonies

## SATURDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2023

### LACKENBACH

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Roma und Sinti

Memorial

Ritzingerstraße 2

Burgenland

**10:30**

#### **Commemoration ceremony**

Rally and wreath-laying in front of the Roma and Sinti memorial in Lackenbach in memory of the Roma and Sinti murdered by the National Socialists.

On November 23, 1940, the Lackenbach camp, which the National Socialists called a "gypsy camp", was established in a former manor farm. Of the total of 4,000 Roma and Sinti interned at the Lackenbach camp, 2,000 were deported to the Lodz/Litzmannstadt ghetto in the fall of 1941 and murdered. Only 300 to 400 prisoners survived to be liberated by Soviet troops in April 1945.

## SUNDAY, 31 DECEMBER 2023

### HINTERBRÜHL

---

Memorial Site

Johannesstraße 16-32

Lower Austria

**18:00**

#### **Commemoration ceremony to mark the end of the year**

## DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED

### GRAZ-LIEBENAU

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Plaque at Maria-Cäsar-

Park

Mur cycling trail

Styria

**Time will be announced**

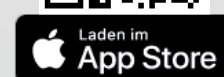
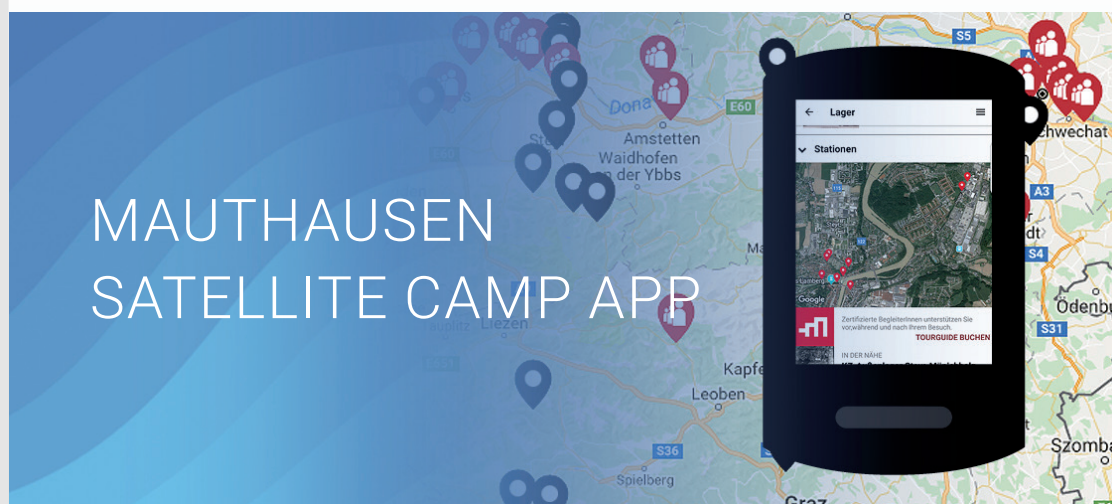
#### **Remembrance at the Maria-Cesär-Park commemorative plaque**

for the Nazi victims of the death march of Hungarian Jews, those murdered in the Liebenau camp and the nameless dead who were hastily buried at Grünanger. The women in the camp who had to undergo forced abortions and cruel experimental surgery at the Graz Women's Clinic will likewise be remembered.

# MAUTHAUSEN SATELLITE CAMP APP

Information, photos, videos on the history of the Mauthausen camp system and contributions by CC survivors are available in our free "Mauthausen Satellite Camp" App.

Free download: [www.mauthausen-guides.at](http://www.mauthausen-guides.at)



We kindly thank our supporters and partners, and especially the Austrian provinces and Memorial Mauthausen.



# YOUR DONATION IS NOW TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

## Donation towards „Never again!“

As in past years, despite financial support from the Memorial Mauthausen and the Austrian provinces, the organization and execution of the liberation ceremonies would be impossible without private donations. Therefore we invite you send a clear signal via your donation for the continuation of our work.

### Mauthausen Committee Austria works on a daily basis towards “Never again”.

Every donation has a direct effect and supports our work:

BAWAG, IBAN: AT62 1400 0100 1067 4528, BIC: BAWAATWW.

Donations are deductible under specification of first and last name, date of birth and purpose: Donation Liberation Celebration 2023.

[mkoe.at/en/donate-now](https://mkoe.at/en/donate-now)

Не забудем никогда! Nie Wieder! Nie Wieder!  
Никогда! Mai più! Nigdy więcej!  
Никад више! Never again! Niemals vergessen!  
iNunca lo olvidaremos! W żadnym zapominać! Ne jamais oublier! Soha öbbé! Soha nem felejténi! iNunca más! Jamais plus ca! Giammai dimenticare! Lest we forget!  
Никада да се Не заборави!

