

## Festival of Joy 2022

### Social Media Activities

On 8 May, we celebrate the liberation from the Nazi regime and the official end of World War II in Europe. But we also commemorate the millions who were prosecuted and murdered by the Nazis. Tribute is paid to the victims and the resistance fighters on this day, on Vienna's symbolic Heldenplatz. In addition to the Festival of Joy on 8 May 2022, there will also be numerous social media activities about the day of liberation and this year's theme "Political Resistance".

The Nazis prosecuted all those who did not fit in with their racist criteria or who showed resistance to their dictatorship. In the concentration camps of Mauthausen and Gusen as well as in their satellite camps, the category of "political prisoners" included different groups of persons; people who were actively part of the resistance, but also individuals who dared to comment in the negative about the NS regime, as well as communists, monarchists, partisans, and people who were abducted and brought into the camps because their actions were considered resistant. During National Socialism, acting out of moral courage if that crossed the very narrow lines of the systems, was often considered political resistance.

For years now, we have seen a rise in the number of right-wing extremist incidents and crimes. Human beings are being discriminated, even attacked, in public spaces because of their origin, the colour of their skin, their religion, or their sexual orientation. The hate propaganda rising on the internet is especially worrisome. This makes it even more essential to take a public stand against such developments.

Mauthausen Committee Austria will also put social media focus on this topic and would like to invite you to also submit your statements.

#### **Ideas**

Maybe you'll be inspired by the following examples:

#### **1. Short video addressing one of the following questions:**

- What does moral courage mean to you in terms of the intention of the Festival of Joy?
- At the Festival of Joy, we are commemorating and paying tribute to the victims and resistance fighters. Send us your contribution on the topic of political resistance during the Nazi era (i.e. Quotes by resistance fighters, short bios etc.)

- Have you ever been witness to moral courage?
- Why is the Festival of Joy on 8 May important to you? What does 8 May mean to you?

We are thinking of a short video in which you give a short statement on the questions above (max. 1 minute). You are welcome to record the video with your mobile phone. Both landscape and portrait mode are accepted.

## **2. Posting of your statement**

You may also put together a written statement (approx. 90 characters) and add a photo of yourself, commenting on one of the questions above, which we will post on our social media channels.

## **5. Impressions of the Festival of Joy**

We would love for you to also share your impressions and photos of the Festival of Joy on 8 May on your social media channels. We very much welcome photos and videos!

**Important! Please tag Mauthausen Committee Austria in your posts on social media. This is the only way we can share your post on our channels!**

Facebook: @Mauthausen Komitee Österreich

Instagram: @mauthausenkomitee

You are also welcome to use hashtags such as #neveragain #niemalswieder #weremember #fdf2022 #mkoe #mauthausenkomitee

Thank you very much for your initiative!

**Please send us your contributions until mid-April 2022 at the latest, to [online@mkoe.at](mailto:online@mkoe.at)**