

**The project «Herdenken voor de toekomst» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"**

**Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.1 "Town-Twinning"**

**Participation:** The project involved > 96.000 citizens, notably 157.000 participants from the city of Amersfoort (Netherlands), 30.000 participants from the city of Leusden (Netherlands) etc.

**Location/ Dates:** The events took place from October 2018 until December 2019 (Leusden, Netherlands)

**Short description:**

1 Remembrance (1 October 2018 – 30 September 2019):

1.1 Communication and awareness raising on upcoming museum

1.2 Development of first exhibition of upcoming museum

1.3.1 Announcement upcoming museum at remembrance ceremony 19 April 2019 (liberation ceremony)

1.3.2 Announcement upcoming museum at remembrance ceremony 4 May 2019 (ceremony for the deceased)

2 Working on freedom (1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019)

3 March of Fear and Hope on 11 October 2019 (1 July 2019 – 31 October 2019)

Due to COVID the actual opening of the museum had to be postponed to 19 April 2021

**Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns"**  
**Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"**  
**Strand 1 – "European Rememberance"**

**6 events have been carried out within this project:**

### **Event 1: Remembrance 1 October 2018 – 30 September 2019**

#### **Event 1.1 Communication and awareness raising on upcoming museum**

**Participation:** The event involved > 96.000 citizens, including 157.000 inhabitants from the city of Amersfoort (Netherlands) and 30.000 inhabitants from the city of Leusden (Netherlands) etc.

**Preparatory activities:** The municipal population was reached by means of newspapers, social media, radio items, folder disseminated at hotels and campings etc.

**Location / Dates:** The series of events took place in Leusden, Netherlands, from 01/10/2018 to 30/9/2019

**Short description:** The aim of the events was to address all citizens in the regional cities of Amersfoort and Leusden (the new museum is located at the border of the two municipalities) on the upcoming national museum. Present at the opening (later: 5 June 2021) was Prime-Minister Mark Rutte.

#### **Event 1.2 Development of first exhibition of upcoming museum**

**Participation:** The exhibition was developed by a team of professionals from Tinker Imagineers (Utrecht), Inbo Architecten (Amersfoort) and Nationaal Monument Kamp Amersfoort (Leusden).

**Preparatory activities:** a starting plan was written by the team professionals, wall designed to depict the transports by train to German war industry, out of 100 interviews with former prisoners eight themes about the camp live formed (food, entrance, punishment etc.) to present to visitors, objects and documents gathered to be exhibited, introduction movie for visitors developed, museal supporting texts for documents/objects delivered etc.

**Location / Dates:** between 1/10/2018 – 30/9/2019 the permanent exhibition was written and built in Leusden.

**Short description:** The exhibition represents ten biographs: six prisoners, three perpetrators and one aid. Each of them are illuminated with original documents, objects and photos. On the wall a map is projected with the transports to the east (200 from Amersfoort station). This exhibition focuses on the different groups of prisoners and the themes labour exploitation, hierarchy, hunger, help and . The central message is the blurry border between evil and victimhood: SS-man Willy Engbrocks helped prisoners and prisoner Teun van Es transformed from a resistance fighter into a violent, antisemitic and murderous kapo.

In order to reach upon as much European citizens as possible all museal texts have been translated into english as well.

P.S. The opening event was broadcasted too on national television and national radio too. International press releases have been issued to neighboring EU-countries, USA and Israel.

The predicted number of visitors will be 60.000 yearly, and the first two months (June and July) after releasing the restrictions of COVID-19 proved this feasible: 5.150 visitors (leaving outside the important, big educational group of school students).

#### **Event 1.3.1 Announcement upcoming museum at remembrance ceremony 19 April 2019**

**Participation:** The event involved 3.000 citizens, including numerous participants from cities throughout the country (Netherlands).

**Preparatory activities:** The yearly ceremony was prepared (involving 65 participators in this preparatory activity: 1 director of broadcasting, 9 people recording and light, 7 employees of Camp Amersfoort, 46 volunteers of Camp Amersfoort, 2 security officers), but now with extra speakers, attention and press releases towards the new museum: <https://www.kampamersfoort.nl/agenda/verslag-herdenkingen/>

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Leusden (Netherlands), on 19/04/2019.

**Short description:** The aim of the event was the remembrance of the liberation of the camp. For that purpose a massive, classical ceremony was organized in the woods in front of the former camp (and broadcasted via livestream: 12.000 hits around the world). The ceremony itself is attended by several ambassadors (Germany, Austria and Russia).

#### **Event 1.3.2 Announcement upcoming museum at remembrance ceremony 4 May 2019**

**Participation:** The event involved 2.500 citizens, including numerous participants from cities throughout the country (Netherlands).

**Preparatory activities:** The yearly ceremony was prepared (involving 38 participators in this preparatory activity: 1 director of broadcasting, 4 people recording and light, 7 employees of Camp Amersfoort, 14 volunteers of Camp Amersfoort regulating traffic, and about 12 civil servants from community service), but now with extra speakers, attention and press releases towards the new museum

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Leusden (Netherlands), on 04/05/2019.

**Short description:** The aim of the event was to commemorate the deceased of Camp Amersfoort, adjacent to the National Commemoration.

### **Event 2: Working on freedom 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019**

**Participation:** The educational program has been developed by Leiden University, involving school pupils and other youngsters from cities throughout the country (Netherlands), at least 5.000 yearly.

**Preparatory activities:** Developing the virtual reality, focusing on prejudices and dilemmas in modern society, by Leiden University and Nationaal Monument Kamp Amersfoort. In 2020 the recordings and installation of the hardware followed. An agreement with MBO (middle education) in the Centre of the Netherlands was closed for 5.000 pupils yearly.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Leusden (Netherlands), from 1/1/2019 to 31/12/2019.

**Short description:** The program confronts youngsters with dilemmas in modern society. Items such as exclusion, discrimination and personal choices are passing by, by means of a virtual reality. The program pertains to uniformed professionals as well. In order to reach as most European citizens as possible the virtual reality has been translated to English as well.

### **Event 3: March of Fear and Hope on 11 October 2019 (1 July 2019 – 31 October 2019)**

**Participation:** The event involved 1.000 citizens, including participants from the city of Amersfoort (Netherlands), the city of Leusden (Netherlands), the city of Putten (Netherlands) and the city of Neuengamme (Germany). Among them about sixty pupils from the Corderius College.

**Preparatory activities:** An agreement was reached with the Corderius College (middle education) to adopt the March of Fear and Hope. A delegation from Germany (Neuengamme) was invited and participated too. Together with the community service of the city of Amersfoort the route itself was developed, streets were blocked temporarily, candles lighted, press release edited etc.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Leusden (Netherlands), on 11 October 2019.

**Short description:** The aim of the event was to commemorate the prisoners participating on the biggest transport to the German war industry, more specifically 1.400 men to Neuengamme. A march through Amersfoort, with participation of local school pupils, revived the tragedy of 11/10/1944.