

**STEFAN SONVILLA-WEISS
SPACES OF COMMEMORATION AND COMMUNICATION**

Museum | Volume 75

Stefan Sonvilla-Weiss, Ph.D., born in 1961, is an international media scholar, designer, and professor from Austria. He has held full professor and administrative positions at the Aalto University, School of Art, Design and Architecture, Finland, and the University of Art and Design Linz, Austria. He is currently a senior faculty member at the College of Media and Communication Sciences at Zayed University Abu Dhabi. He has published widely in participatory media practices and digital culture, including *Mashup Cultures* and *(IN)VISIBLE. Learning to act in the metaverse*. (Springer Wien/New York)

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SPACES OF COMMEMORATION AND COMMUNICATION

*A NOVEL APPROACH AT THE
MAUTHAUSEN MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER*

[transcript]

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We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented. Sometimes we must interfere. When human lives are endangered, when human dignity is in jeopardy, national borders and sensitivities become irrelevant. Wherever men or women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must—at that moment—become the center of the universe.

Elie Wiesel in his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech on Dec. 10, 1986.