

## **Special tools in special circumstances - about the connection between art and crisis, creativity and catastrophe.**

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While art and crisis management take on different tasks in society and pursue unlike goals, there is a broad commonality: mechanisms and framework conditions that trigger a crisis can be congruent with those that generate creativity, according to the principle that necessity is the mother of invention. This means that new things are created when there is a particular need for them.

The radically interdisciplinary approach outlined here is based on this common “origin”: spaces for invention and creativity are addressed in artistic work and artistic education using a wide variety of strategies. Similarly, outside of normal operations, special tools are essential for crisis management, which are able to react to new and unforeseen situations with creative measures.

We assume that the methods and approaches used in art and crisis management have at least some similarities under certain conditions and can therefore benefit from each other. The consideration of crises and disasters as spaces for invention (and design), or the elaboration of visual/creative/aesthetic processes, paves the way for the idea of prevention and preparedness that analyzes, understands and practices the basic mechanisms of creativity. <sup>1)</sup>

Such links to art (and therefore to cultural education) could be particularly interesting for young people and young adults: this attractive approach could strengthen resilience on a personal and subsequently a structural level.

It is assumed that crisis situations - at both a societal and individual level - will occur or become more relevant in the future. In addition, we can speak of delimited and cumulative crises: not only are the beginnings, causes and consequences more difficult to grasp; it must be assumed that single crises have a compounding effect on one another.

A detailed elaboration will follow and be developed in workshops with participants from both disciplines. The results obtained in this way will be made available to both sides.

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<sup>1)</sup> This comparison of similarities does not relativize the effects of crises and disasters on people and societies.