



**Correctional Facility Klagenfurt**  
Head of Prison

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Mr  
Gottfried CREPAZ  
Sent by mail

Re.: Peace Education Program [PEP] at Correctional Facility Klagenfurt

Honored Mr. Crepaz, dear Gottfried!

The correctional facility at Klagenfurt is a judicial institution [for pretrial detention and terms of imprisonment up to 18 month]. Together with its external facilities it can accommodate up to 400 inmates. It is located in the center of the city of Klagenfurt near Lake Wörthersee. Due to its rather dilapidated condition, the construction of a new building is already in planning. Because of limited space it is only possible to offer vocational training for half of the inmates. To attenuate this deficit, the prison authority endeavors to offer a number of useful educational and recreational activities.

Because of the current mix of inmates [about 50 % are non-Austrians] special emphasis has been placed in recent years to offer political education. Aside from the principles of a democratic state and the importance of human rights, we are also trying to present topics which help us to achieve a peaceful community life.

The Peace Education Program has gained a very prominent place among the educational programs we offer. PEP offers the participants an excellent opportunity to gain a degree of self awareness, personal peace and reconciliation with themselves. This educational program which consists of a series of 10 one hour videos has become so very popular in our facility that we can offer it for the third time this year. Since we can run the program in both German and English, we can reach a number of non-German speaking inmates such as people from Serbia, Poland, Romania and also some Africans. Surprisingly the dropout rate of this program is much less than with other programs we are running. The active involvement of the participants, their work with the additional materials between modules and their willingness to share their reflections with the group has also been remarkable.

I can recommend the Peace Education Program with great pleasure to other correctional facilities and institutions which take an interest in the well being of humans.

With kindest regards  
Head of Prison  
Brigadier General Peter BEVC, sign personally  
Klagenfurt, May 2018