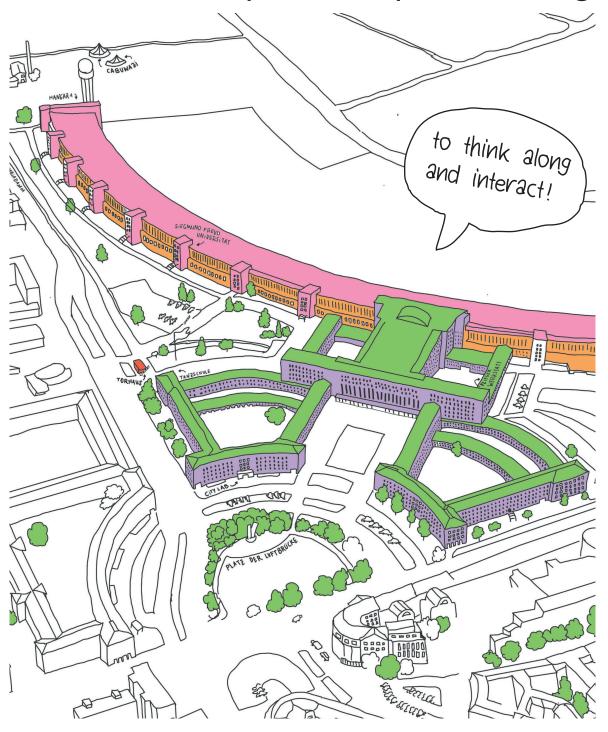
LET'S TALK THF!

Documentation of the conference about the Tempelhof airport building



Imprint

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Dear Readers!

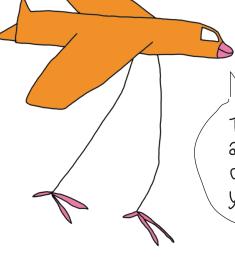
et us present to you: The Tempelhof airport building, or THF for short. Many may not know it very well, only from a distance (from the field) or from another time. But right now is a good moment for a new approach: Important decisions about the use, renovation or renewal as well as the costs will be taken in the coming years, because a new urban quarter is to be created in this 312,000m2 building within the next few years.

How should this be approached? What challenges and opportunities arise? What do we actually know about the Tempelhof airport building — its history, its many spaces and what is inside them? How must the development be shaped in order for THF to become part of the solution to current and future challenges?

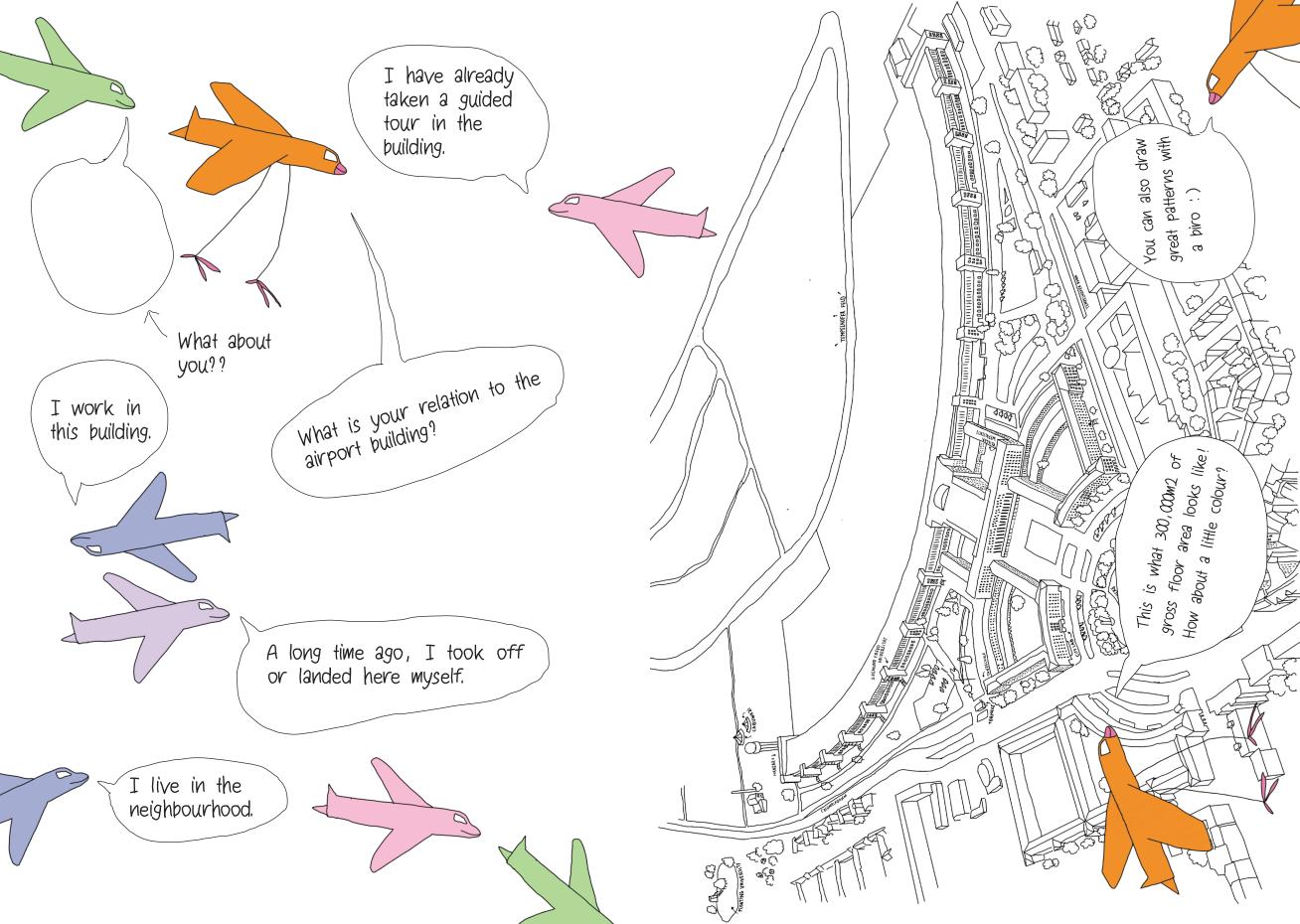
At the interactive conference "LET'S TALK THF - THF, LASS UNS REDEN" from September 1-3, 2021 many future makers came together to discuss the past, present and future of the Tempelhof airport building: initiatives, committed residents, politicians, members of associations, artists, cultural workers, administrative staff, activists and many more.

During the three days of the conference, experiences expertise were exchanged, networking took place, and short- and longterm action plans were drafted that show how the THF can contribute to achieving the sustainability goals in Berlin. The result is a basis for discussion that contains concrete ideas as well as necessary next steps and offers to politicians and administrators, but does not claim to be exhaustive; instead, it aims to stimulate public dialogue about the development of the airport building.

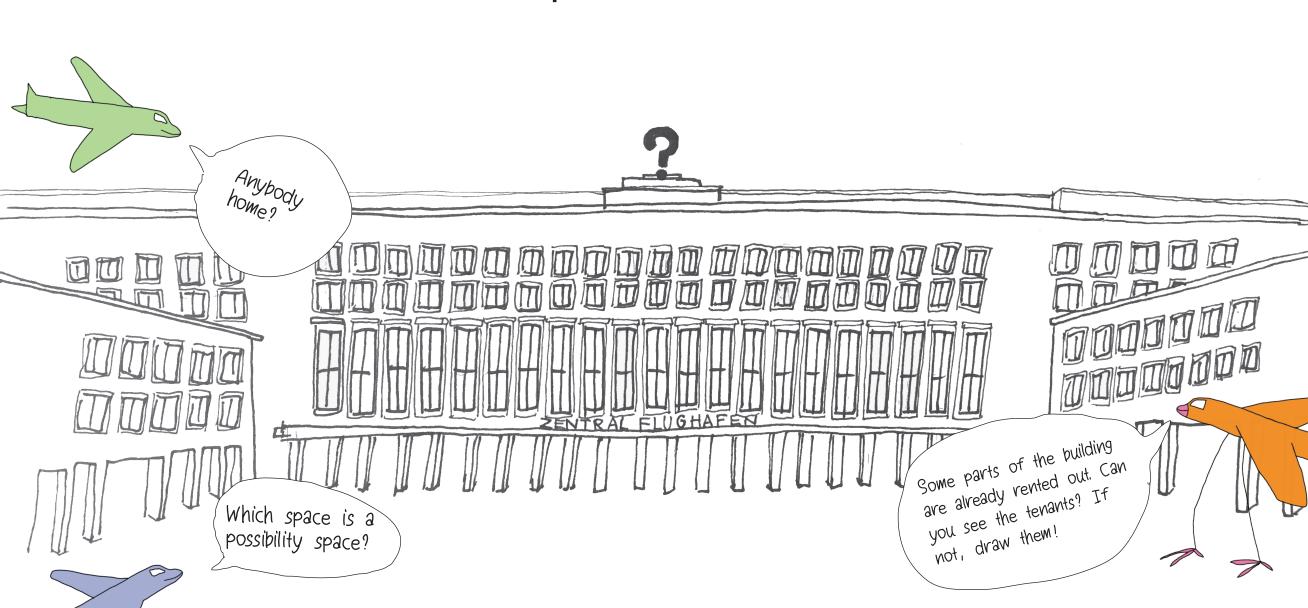
On the following pages we present the results of the conference: What this place can and must become — and what this means for political decisions in the coming legislative period.



This booklet invites you to think along! You can contribute your own ideas and suggestions.... So get your pen out and get going



A total of five working groups discussed possibilities for the spaces at the Tempelhof Airport: Where are the challenges, what is the potential, who has the necessary expertise and how can it best be brought in? Each working group developed an action plan with measures and next steps.



Zero-Waste Capital Berlin? A centre for climate-friendly resource use at THF!

und Feld" (transformation of house friendly resource use.

ABOUT: Berlin can, wants and must and field), Kunst-Stoffe (art/ become a zero-waste capital! To artificial materials), Labor für this end, the waste management Kunst und nachhaltige Bildung (lab concept was adopted in Berlin in for art and sustainable education), June 2021 with "Zero Waste" as the RESTLOS GLÜCKLICH (happy without guiding principle. At the session, waste), Wood Sisters and Zero Waste Berlin 21, BUND Berlin, Circular among others, discussed what role City, the Donut Berlin initiative, the building complex can play as a the initiative "Transformation Haus cross-district centre for climate-

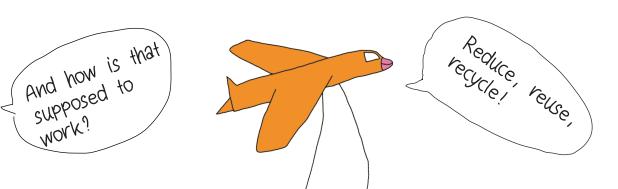
"We need a change in the overall direction at THF."

What does the future of the airport look like to us?

At THF, forward-looking resource use strategies and concepts are thought about cooperatively in a pluralistic approach and understood as diversity: from sustainability and circular economy to donut economy and cradle to cradle to commoning and an economy for the common good. This diversity is used to significantly reduce the urban ecological footprint so that everyone's quality of life is improved in terms of wellbeing. This is practical climate protection!

"We, the actors from Zero Waste and sustainable, circular resource use, offer a community-oriented neighborhood development and are a bridge between civil society and the city. We work on solutions that are tested at the grassroots level."

- 1. Berlins politicians and the Senate <u>declare</u> part of the THF building to be the Centre for Climate-friendly Resource Use (ZfkR_THF: Zentrum für klimaschonende Ressourcennutzung) in order to strengthen the network and capitalise on synergies.
- 2. Locating the state-owned Zero-Waste Agency at THF (intended as a HUB to advance centres for environmental education and ESD throughout the city and develop additional ZfkR in other districts).
- 3. Rapid use and establishment of a resource conservation hub at THF even before redevelopment (which must be done under C2C standards).
- 4. Participation of stakeholders (Common Public Partnership) and civil society in the development of the THF building complex.
- 5. Permanently securing spaces (co-financed by the state) and supporting zero waste and climate-friendly resource use concepts and the corresponding initiatives for installing a development and education location at THF.





Climate protection at THF What contribution does the airport make to climate protection?

various Berlin energy experts and its various aspects. networkers discussed how optimal climate protection and climate

ABOUT: Where will the airport adaptation can look like in the building be in terms of climate building. The session was shaped by protection in 15 years? In the the recognition that Berlin already session organised by THF.VISION has great but as yet largely untapped and the Berlin Food Policy Council, expertise in climate protection and

"How can the overall expertise that exists in Berlin actually be called upon so that climate protection in the building does not happen to the exclusion of the public?"

What does the future of the airport look like to us?

The Tempelhof airport building currently has an annual energy and heat consumption equivalent to at least that of 2,200 households. With a new energy concept, developed with the participation of the expertise available in Berlin, the building will become a place of integrated climate protection. Areas such as food system change, urban gardening and a largely car-free mobility concept are also being considered.

"We have a historic project here. This can't somehow be handled according to 08/15 patterns. The opportunity to think about the current social challenges here - it would be a shame if that didn't happen."

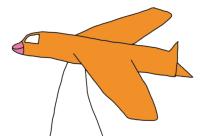




What is necessary for this?

- 1. Berlin has a great deal of expertise in energy and heating/cooling technology, including university research and innovative projects. This expertise must now be integrated into the planning for the "Technical Infrastructure 2030", especially in the detailed planning that will soon begin. This will in return not only gain expertise, but also additional acceptance in the city for the projects at THF and their costs.
- 2. Transparency is essential for this. To ensure this, tender documents must stipulate in advance that required expert opinions or other documents are to be published.
- 3. Climate protection must be thought of holistically. For example, food is responsible for about 30% of CO2 emissions. THF must become the place for a climate-friendly food culture in Berlin, with an initial kitchen project in the building wing K2, the former officers' casino, implemented as a lighthouse project with priority.
- 4. Urban gardening concepts and how the green spaces of the outdoor areas are dealt with must be taken into account in the climate protection concept for the building.
- 5. The airport building needs a mobility concept that puts an end to the previous car orientation. To achieve this, the number of car parking spaces must be reduced. This saves CO2 emissions and also creates space for more shade trees and the unsealing of tarmac surfaces.
- 6. The climate protection actors in Berlin already have a wide range of expertise for integrated climate protection planning that go far beyond the departmental possibilities of individual administrations. As of now, they should be actively involved in the planning process.

Act now! There is no Planet B!





UN_PLANNING THF Develop Tempelhof Airport in a power-critical and intersectional way!

ABOUT: In and around the airport long term. With a lecture by Dr. Fabio What does a corresponding queer, intersectional and postcolonial planning process look like? Organised by Lena Wegmann, Charlotte Polak and Mona Saddei in cooperation with Torhaus Berlin, urban researchers, change-makers and urban activists discussed how to respond to the challenges in Berlin and at the THF site and how to create an inclusive and socially sustainable district in the

building, a new, lively district is to Santos and invited representatives be created with broad participation. from Black Brown Berlin, Casa Kuà, GLADT, Migrationsrat Berlin (migration council Berlin), Commons Institute and an expert for networking and community work in Berlin.

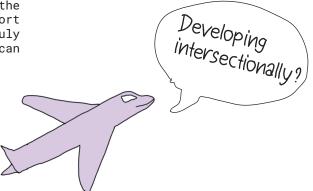
> "We all want this to be a space for everyone. The question is, how can this be achieved?"

"It may be radical, but it's not unthinkable: Planning Tempelhof Airport as the antithesis of its past."

like to us?

Intersectional, Tempelhof Airport was developed under fascist ideology, was the site of horrific Nazi crimes, and became the starting point for concrete action. central place in the lives of people who fled to Germany as an arrival centre and refugee accommodation. With the development of the Tempelhof airport building, Berlin can show how a truly inclusive and intersectional place can be planned and designed.

What does the future of the airport look To do this, we first need an open discussion about what this place diversity-oriented, needs to become and how diversity, anti-discriminatory and inclusive. intersectionality and inclusion can be used not just as figureheads and declarations of intent, but as a



- 1. In January 2022, a kick-off workshop takes place in the airport building. Experts develop a critical narrative on the symbolic and historical identity of the building and the associated responsibility for its subsequent use. They formulate fields of action and criteria for the composition. structure and call for tenders for a working group "Diversity Orientation and Inclusion at THF".
- 2. The new working group aims to support the planning process and the local actors and projects in inclusive, diversityoriented and discrimination-sensitive programming and orientation and also implements its own formats.
- 3. The independent working group is to be provided with funding for at least two full-time positions (based on TV-L 13) and an appropriate annual budget for fees and material resources for workshops and events from spring 2022, which can be cumulated with other public funding.
- 4. The WG organizes a public and inclusive conference on the THF in autumn/winter 2022/23. The conference will focus in particular on marginalized and previously underrepresented perspectives. In different formats, intersectional and inclusive criteria for the planning process and the allocation of space in the THF will be discussed and developed.
- 5. In summer 2023, the working group will organize an inclusive and diversity-oriented festival in one of the hangars. Possibilities of an experimental use with a focus on intersectionality, diversity and inclusion will be tested and their continuation professionally examined.
- 6. In the next few years, concrete areas are to be made available in the THF that can be developed, designed and used by marginalised communities in a self-determined manner.



Techno-Tempel(-hof) How much club culture can the city's largest brownfield site

of our tolerant, diverse, and cosmopolitan city. But this culture conceivable and wanted at THF. also needs space and is permanently threatened by displacement.

ABOUT: Club culture has shaped With over 4000 rooms, various modern Berlin in a way that hardly halls, corridors and other areas, any other branch of culture has. one would think that the airport It has helped the divided city offers space for everything and grow together, has pushed it up everyone. Organized by Daniel the popularity scale, and has been Plasch and Robin Schellenberg from instrumental in shaping the image the Club Commission, the discussion was about how much club culture is

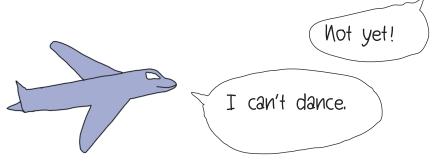
"Office use is possible everywhere – but club culture locations in Berlin are rare!"

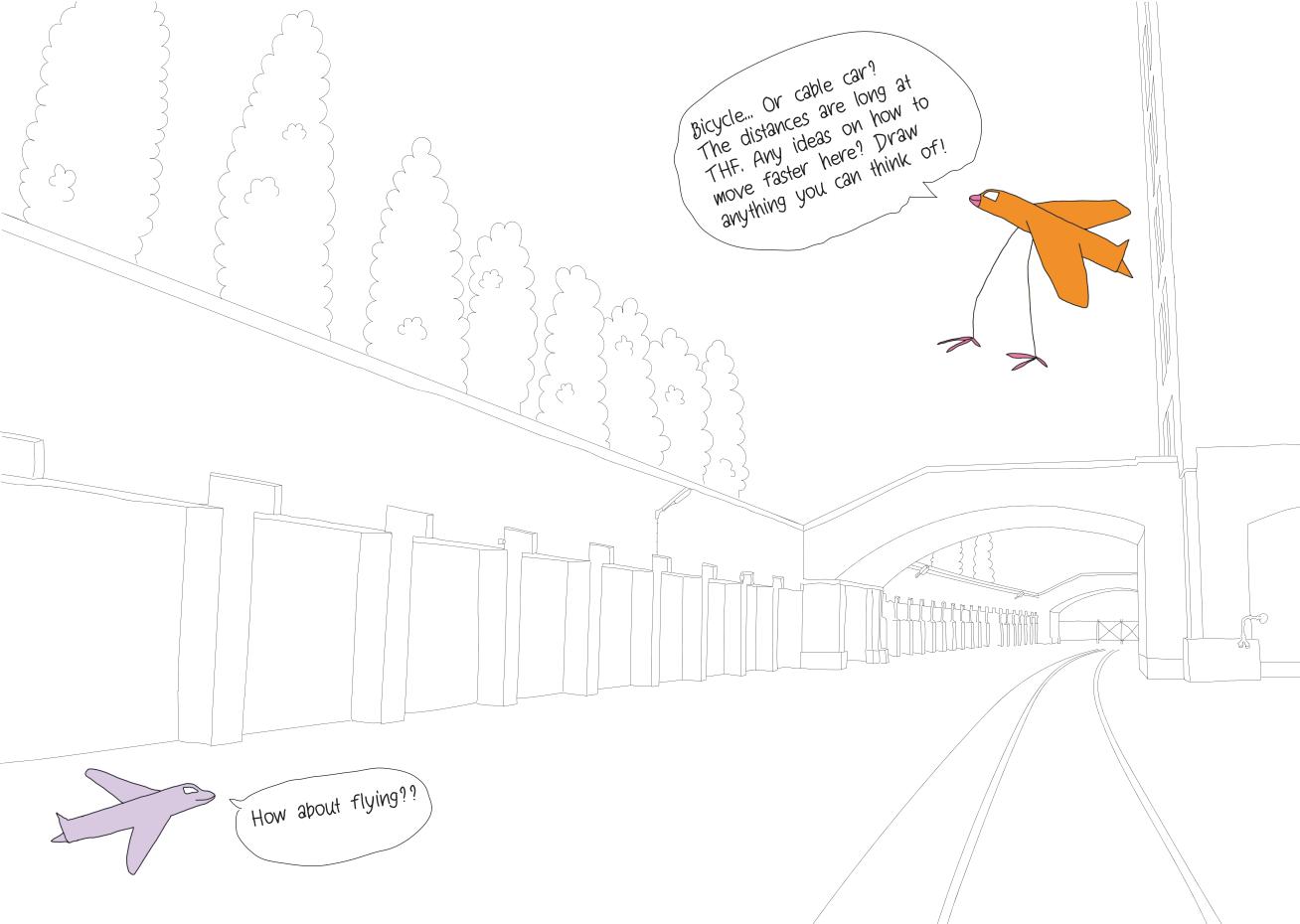
What does the future of the airport look like to us?

After a definitive commitment to the establishment of club culture in the former Tempelhof Airport, a spatially flexible, modern club complex with a capacity of well over 1,000 quests has been created, which ingeniously integrates the special architecture of the location. The club's programme impresses with its quality, diversity, openness and willingness to experiment. The location quickly established its own profile developed international appeal. Thus, it enjoys great popularity in the club culture scene of Berlin and with an international audience.



- 1. Goal-oriented recurring discussion format with Tempelhof Projekt GmbH on the provision of club cultural spaces: Which areas are conceivable? (concrete, regular work meetings, involving planners with local knowledge to discuss the technical suitability of areas).
- 2. Concession to the club culture and selection of an initial pioneer space for first club cultural activities; then further integration into the redevelopment process of the building / the selected spaces, not only after the completion of the redevelopment; aligning the level of information so that we can think and plan together on an equal footing.
- 3. Compatible and realistic long-term rental options (enabling subculture vs. commercial culture, allocation not to the highest bidders, but also according to qualitative aspects).
- 4. Bringing together cultural actors at the location / joining forces to form a cultural voice (bottom-up)





Art & Culture at THF? Tempelhof Airport as a location for the independent art and culture

Coalition of the Free Scene, the used more sustainably. discussion focused on how to secure urgently needed free space for the

ABOUT: Berlin's independent scene is arts in the former airport building severely threatened by displacement and develop it in cooperation with and a shortage of space. A new city other initiatives, what forms of district is being built at the former participation and networking are Tempelhof Airport. Organized by the needed, and how resources can be

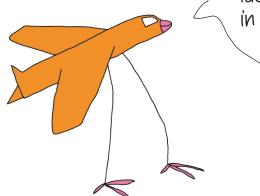
"Tempelhof is like a Noah's Ark."

like to us?

central art and culture location has been created in the Tempelhof airport building as a place of material infrastructure for artists. independent ensembles. but also social projects. There are workshops, temporary multi-purpose

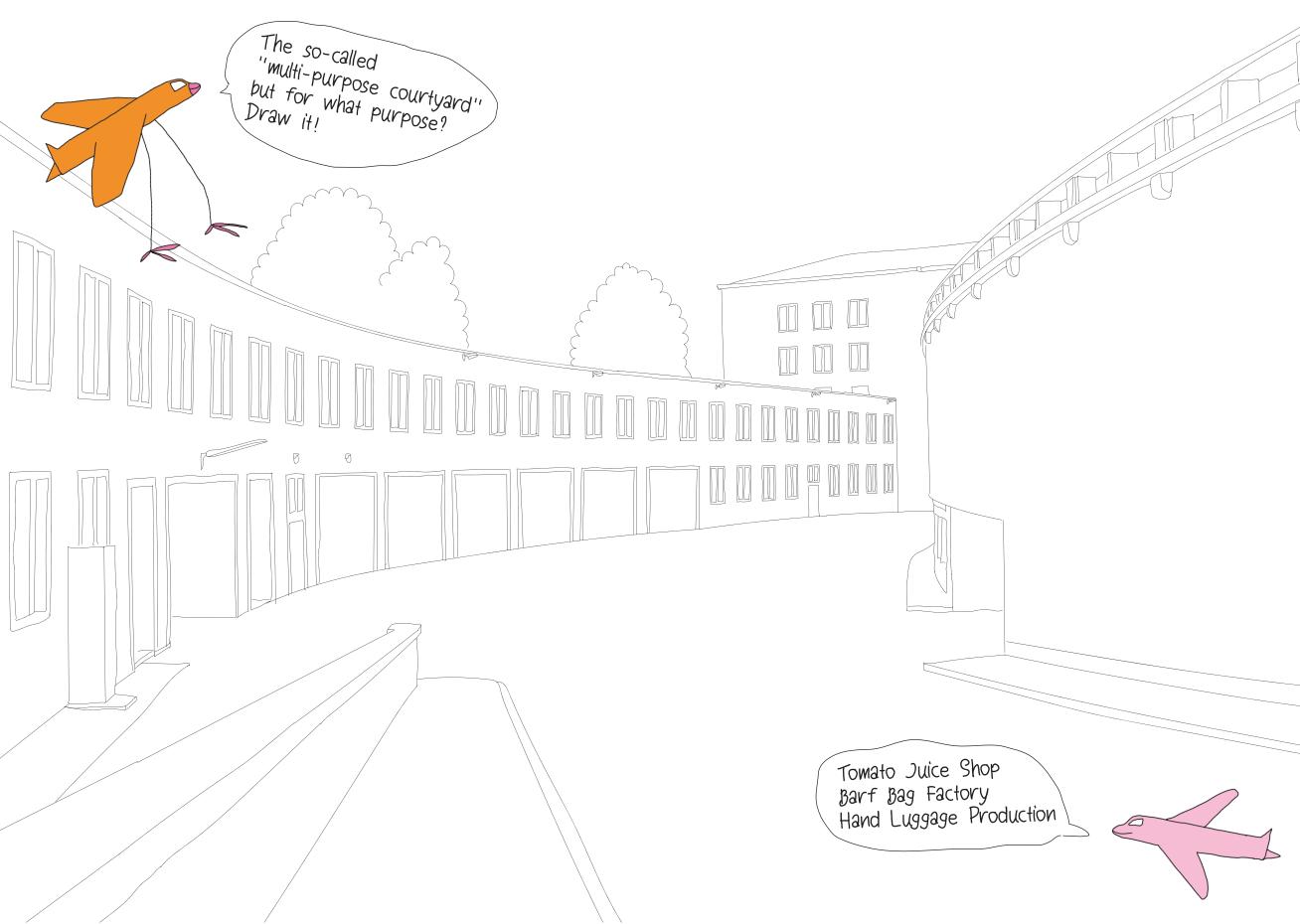
What does the future of the airport look rooms as well as permanently used spaces for production (e.g. studios, Together with the cultural scene, a rehearsal rooms) and presentation (e.g. performance venues, project spaces). Materials for art production

> Do you already have ideas for artistic actions in the building?



- 1. Enable interim artistic uses already during the renovation, so that an experimental field is created. Here, cross-connections and synergies with other uses can be tested (see also the project "Haus der Statistik").
- 2. Possibilities to participate in the rehabilitation process; careful, cost- and energyefficient and needs-based rehabilitation that takes into account the special character of the site. Use the expertise of cultural workers.
- 3. At least 50% of the building space for the independent scene (i.e. freelance artists, ensembles, spaces for production, organisation and presentation).
- 4. A central art venue open to urban society, with international appeal. The history and present of this special place are critically reflected here and perspectives and visions for the future are developed.
- 5. A central location of the material infrastructure for the independent scene (rental, recycling, storage, workshops for wood, metal, plastics, props, fundus, technical equipment, multi-purpose rooms) for sustainable and costefficient art production; <u>low-threshold access also</u> for educational purposes and social initiatives; synergies with crafts.







THF Talks: Tempelhof as a place of history

The THF-Talks compile knowledge about the Tempelhof airport building in exciting video clips. We interview experts and knowledge bearers on a wide variety of topics, e.g. the condition of the building, renovation, climate protection, monument protection or history.

The premiere of the THF Talks took place as part of the conference: We spoke with Kathrin Misterek — she is an archaeologist researching forced labour at the Tempelhof Airfield in Berlin. Because Tempelhof Airport was not only the site of the airlift and the gateway to the free world, it was also the place of suffering for thousands of forced labourers from all over Europe. This history must not be forgotten!

What did forced labour look like? How many forced labourers were there and how were they housed? Which companies profited from the forced labour at the airport? What happened to the forced labourers after the end of the war? Why was the topic of "forced labour" so quickly forgotten afterwards and how should history be dealt with? Kathrin Misterek answers these and other questions in our talk.

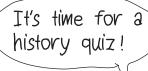
You can find it on Youtube; the QR code takes you directly to the talk. Other THF Talks will also be available there. If you have questions about the Tempelhof airport building that might be of interest to other Berliners as well, please contact us by email at hallo@thf.vision (keyword: THF Talk). We will collect everything and try to include as many of your questions as possible in the interviews!



with this code you'll get directly to the THF-Talk

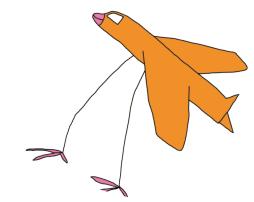
When was construction for the building started?

- a. 1923
- b. 1936
- c. 1960
- d. 1934



How long are the drinking water pipes installed in the building?

- a. 26km
- b. 53km
- c. 8km
- d. 32km



What's under the main hall?

- a. A canteen for the airport employees.
- b. A tunnel also used to build airplanes during the Second World War.
- c. An archive.
- d. A storage depot for spare parts.

What did the Americans do with the giant eagle on the airport roof in 1945?

- a. They melted it down.
- b. hey left it in place until, in the 1950s, it was sawed off by unknown persons and fell down.
- c. They left it in place and painted it like a parrot.
- d. hey brought it to the United States and painted its head white so he looked like the American heraldic animal "bald eagle".



CONCLUSION: How can the airport become a true place of the future?

We need a commitment from politicians that the Tempelhof airport building is to become a place of real relevance. A place that faces up to its difficult history and that has all the more charisma for that very reason, as a beacon for common good orientation as well as for Berlin's great transformative process towards a good life within planetary boundaries.

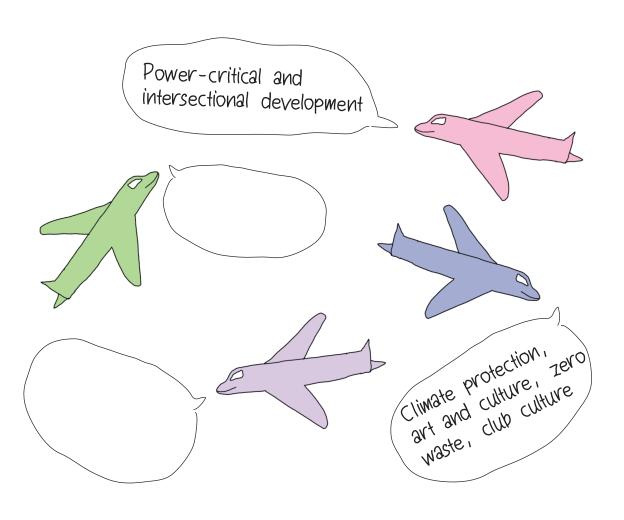
It needs this commitment that this place, as large as an entire city district, must first and foremost contribute to the transformative processes, e.g. the food system, energy and mobility transitions, that we achieve climate goals, become a zero-waste capital, etc. Art, culture, music are the shaping and connecting elements. Who needs how much space and for what (administration, offices, etc.) can only be the second priority after this fundamental decision.

This complex development cannot continue to be the sole responsibility of Tempelhof Projekt GmbH. Rather, the coordination of this process should be placed with the Senate. The relevant urban community networks with their experience and knowledge must be involved into the development process from the very beginning to ensure that the respective transformative processes are seriously considered. Diverse groups — including for example migrant, self-organized or queer groups, people with disabilities, etc. — must consistently be involved from the very beginning.

What themes and transformative processes are you missing for a true place for the future? Write them

One way to do this: The urban community and the administration (Senate, Tempelhof Projekt GmbH) develop Tempelhof cooperatively in a committee. There must not be any development concepts without including the urban community. This also means that existing concepts must be questioned!

A development together with the urban society means, among other things, that the networks can also bring in their possibilities to raise funds. This is an important point, because Tempelhof costs and will cost a lot of money. At the same time, the initiatives can circulate information in their own networks, hence the desire for transparency and information could be fulfilled more easily, while the possibilities for participation and the acceptance by citizens increase.



What do politicians say?

At the end of the conference, we discussed with political decision-makers how to proceed with the airport after the elections. Which ambitious, concrete steps can be taken together in the next legislative period to (further) develop the huge THF building for and with the city's residents? Participants: Susanna Kahlefeld (Bündnis 90/Die GRÜNEN), Katalin Gennburg (Die LINKE), Christian Zander (CDU) and Jutta Heim-Wenzler (Managing Director of Tempelhof Projekt GmbH). Unfortunately, the invited FDP representative had to cancel at short notice and the SPD did not follow our invitation.

"We need a clear profile of where Tempelhof is going and the involvement of initiatives and society in order to achieve broad-based development."

"In my opinion, you cannot separate building and field. You will always have to think and develop both together for further development."

- Jutta Heim-Wenzler (Managing Director Tempelhof Projekt GmbH)

"We need faster decision-making processes, but civil society must be involved, otherwise we end up with frustration and no optimal solution."

"Putting administration in the airport building makes no sense at all in my view. Current locations are being abandoned because they are not effective administrative buildings, and we would then be choosing a building that is anything but optimal to house an administration there."

"We now have the opportunity to build this from the bottom up and to discuss everything openly and bias-free. Of course, not all of the proposals can be implemented, but there are very interesting proposals, certainly including proposals that politicians would not have come up with on their own."

"I think the demands of the working groups are all very good. We have to see how you can combine everything together, how much we can accommodate there."

- Christian Zander (CDU)

"The Floating University won the Golden Lion at the Biennale of Architecture. Two other cooperatively developed buildings in Berlin have won urban planning awards (the House of Statistics and the large project at the flower wholesale market). The time is ripe to plan cities together with the people and not just from the top down."

"We support the call for a sustainable transformation centre on the former airport site. Together with the initiatives already active there, we would like to further develop the airport building as a model project for the circular economy, for the food system change and the socio-ecological transformation in such a way that the airfield and the house become a coherent experimental site for a social and ecological future quarter."

"Tempelhof is a highly controversial place. It is clearly a matter of power politics and it is a great pity that this is at the expense of the initiatives that have very concrete ideas."

"We want to take participation in this city to a new level. It's not about explaining to people what they can't do and letting them participate at the end, but about involving people with their qualities from the very beginning."

- Katalin Gennburg (Die LINKE)

"We are dependent on politics agreeing and setting a course. The agreement on what happens in the building and on the field also determines whether participation can take place properly or not. If the political conditions are not clarified, then no really good participation can take place."

"We share the demand that the place must contribute to the achievement of the sustainability goals. We would engage in a process of doing exactly what has been put forward here. This is at such a good level of reflection. There are so many people there who can also acquire funds, who have experience with planning processes — much more than most politicians in the House of Representatives."

"Our understanding of politics is that we can only develop the city, the society, if we work together with the professionals in the city who really understand sustainability and inclusion."

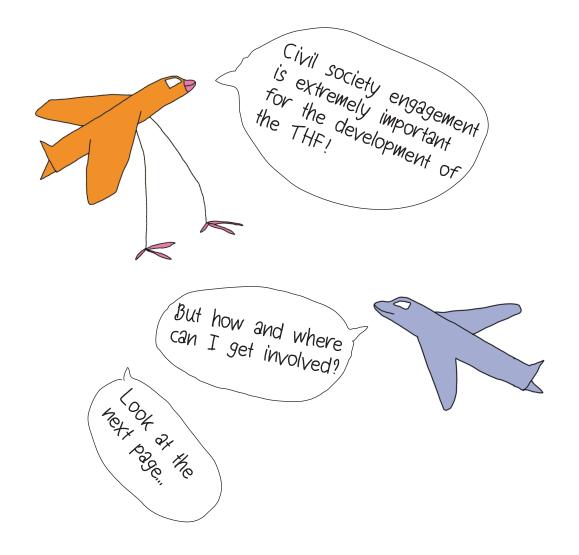
"We believe that the scenarios described by the initiatives are absolutely realistic. These are not crackpot ideas at all."

"This building will never refinance itself anyway through any commercial uses and rentals. Hence, it is reasonable to set it up from the outset as a building that is used for the common good."

"The nonsensical demand for offices is a political calculation that blocks further development. As long as the political discourse is conducted in a non-technical and power-strategic manner, there will be no development. We can discuss objectively only after a decision has been taken."

"Civil society must continue to exert pressure and demand participation — because politics get better with this permanent pressure."

Susanna Kahlefeld (BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN)

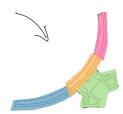


"Participation is a part of representative democracy, and we expect the House of Representatives to talk about the participation procedures and their results and to decide how to proceed with them. Under no circumstances should the results end up in a drawer — but we don't want to take the decisions out of your [the MPs'] hands. On the contrary, we want to provoke a decision from you!"

- Heike Aghte (THF.VISION)

Join in and help shape the future of the airport!

Testing and exploring how this can be achieved:
A good life for all residents of Berlin, without it
being at the expense of others or the environment.
THF.VISION is committed to making Tempelhof Airport
a place of experimentation, research and education
for the global sustainability goals, in which many
people participate.(www.thfvision.de)



thf.vision



The <u>Torhaus</u> is a self-organized and self-managed community space in the $55m^2$ gatehouse of Tempelhof Airport. Here people come together who are committed to a solidary, emancipatory and communal city for all and want to learn how it works. (torhausberlin.de)

The <u>Hangar X working group</u> is committed to developing inclusive and solidarity-based formats that engage with the Tempelhof airport building. Using artistic, planning and playful methods, they make voices, stories and perspectives visible and audible..



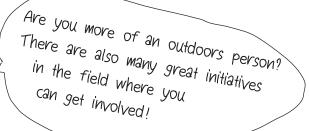
The community radio station THF Radio emerged from the Torhausfestival (gatehouse festival) in summer 2019 and has since served as an open space for many young people to try things out and come together. Here you can not only learn how to record podcasts or music shows. Above all, THF Radio is also committed to making individual and collective problems and issues audible. (thfradio.de)

In the Torhaus Cooking Collective, young activists campaign for a climate-friendly food system change. They organise workshops and cooking events with a food bike and promote a LebensMittelPunkt (food hub) with KüFa (Küche für alle/kitchen for all – a people's kitchen), a CSA pick-up station and a barrier-free kitchen in the Torhaus. (ig/fb: torhauskochkollektiv)





Mehrwertvoll brings people, initiatives and networks together to find solutions for current and future challenges. The appreciative exchange of different perspectives is important and necessary in order to be able to join paths. Furthermore, Mehrwertvoll tries to jazz social engagement up through art and culture and to touch, inspire and connect people again. (mehrwervoll.de)





Present at the conference were, for example: The Democratic Initiative 100% Tempelhofer Feld, which campaigns for the 100% preservation of the unique diversity of the Tempelhof airfield and for the reappraisal of its history.



Feld Food Forest, who want to create a selfsustaining, edible forest garden on the Tempelhof airfield that promotes a healthy community, healthy people, and a healthy environment.



You have great ideas for the airport? Get involved in the initiatives! Or contact your constituency representatives so that politics set the right framework.



LET' S TALK THF! - the conference on the Tempelhof airport building was organised by THF.Vision, Berlin 21, Torhaus Berlin & Mehrwertvoll.

We would like to thank all the initiatives involved.





































The conference covers only a few important topics and aims to stimulate dialogue and reflection on this urban development project.

Our conference may be understood as a starting point for further actions.

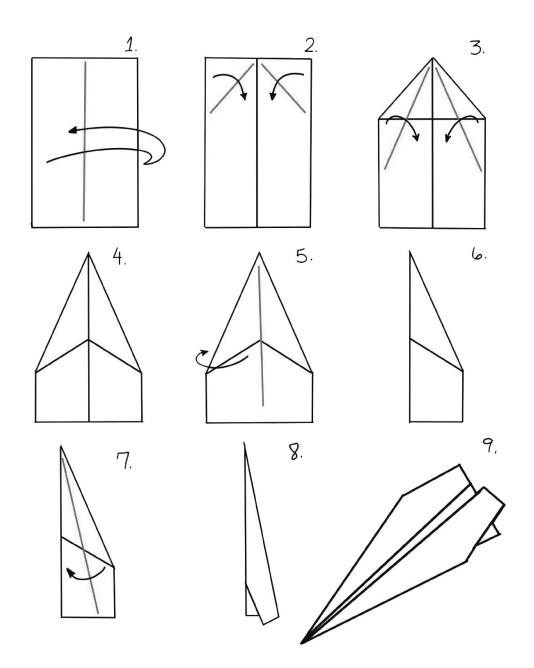
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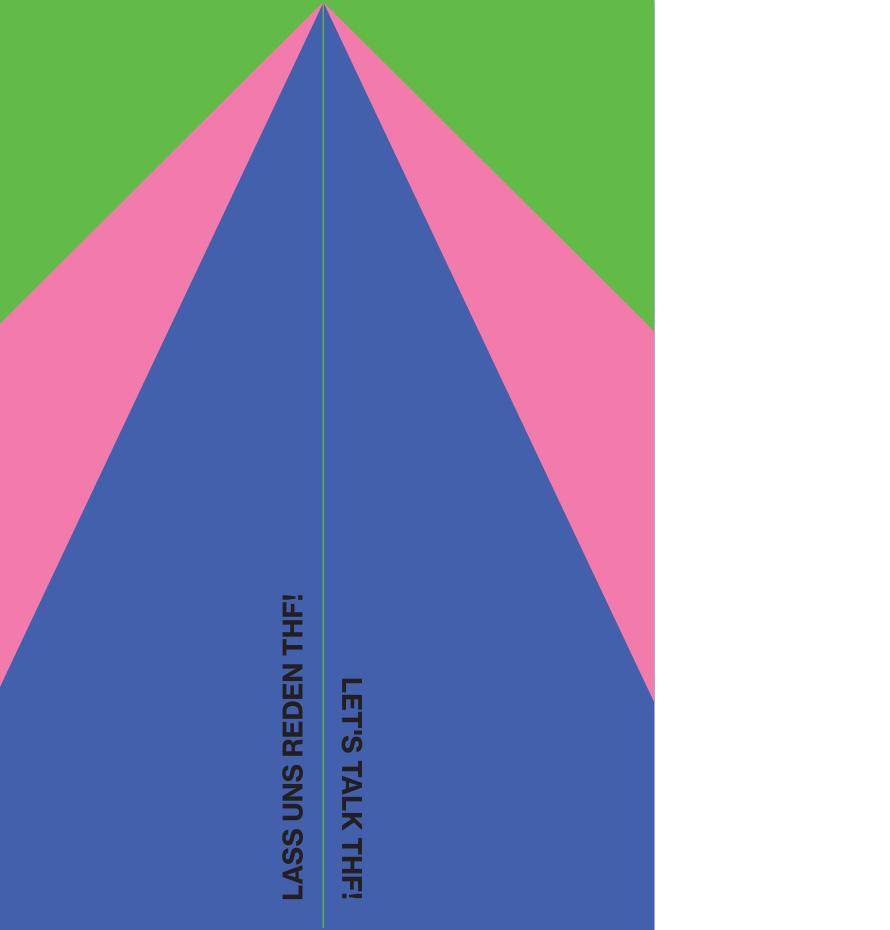
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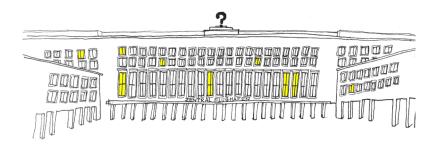
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Take off into the future

Build your paper plane and launch it into the future!







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