



October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025

# Civil protection and disaster control in secondary schools

Dr. Ralf Sieg, Head of the President's Office at the Court of Auditors of the State Hesse

# Agenda

- Context of the Parallel Audit with the Accounting Chamber of the Ukraine
- Results and Recommendations
- Outlook

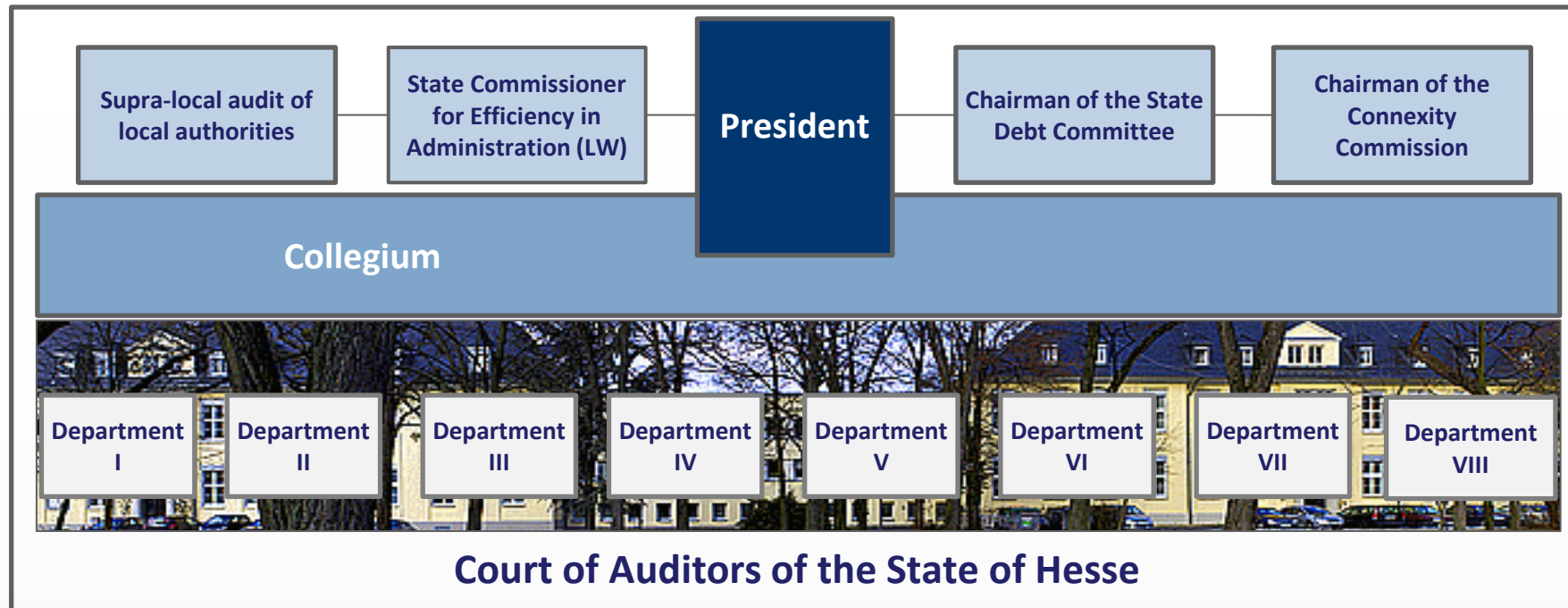


# Goals of cooperation and exchange

- Learning from each other
- Promoting cooperation
- Supporting Ukraine in further developing its financial control



# Organisation of the Court of Auditors



approx. 220 employees at the Court of Auditors in Darmstadt and 40 employees at the Audit Office in Kassel

# Common Position Paper (CPP)

## COMMON POSITION

ON THE CONDUCT OF A PARALLEL AUDIT BY  
THE ACCOUNTING CHAMBER OF UKRAINE  
AND THE COURT OF AUDITORS OF HESSE ON  
THE TOPIC "CIVIL PROTECTION IN COMMUNAL  
INSTITUTIONS OF GENERAL SECONDARY  
EDUCATION"



- Signed in Darmstadt in January 2024
- Serves as the basis for the parallel audit
- Defines common objectives and procedures (audit period, auditing standards)

# Purpose of the audit (Article 5 of the CPP)

*„The purpose of the parallel audits is to evaluate whether the responsible authorities have implemented projects and measures in 2023 and/or 2024 in a correct, efficient and effective way. Main objective is to enhance civil protection in communal institutions of general secondary education of Ukraine and the State of Hesse.“*



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# Differences in the general framework

- Currently Ukraine has – among others things because of the war – a greater crisis resilience
- High degree of digitalization in Ukraine, not only in the field of education
- Civil protection and disaster control as a national task in Ukraine vs. division of responsibilities between the federal government and the states (including municipalities) in Germany

# Audit process

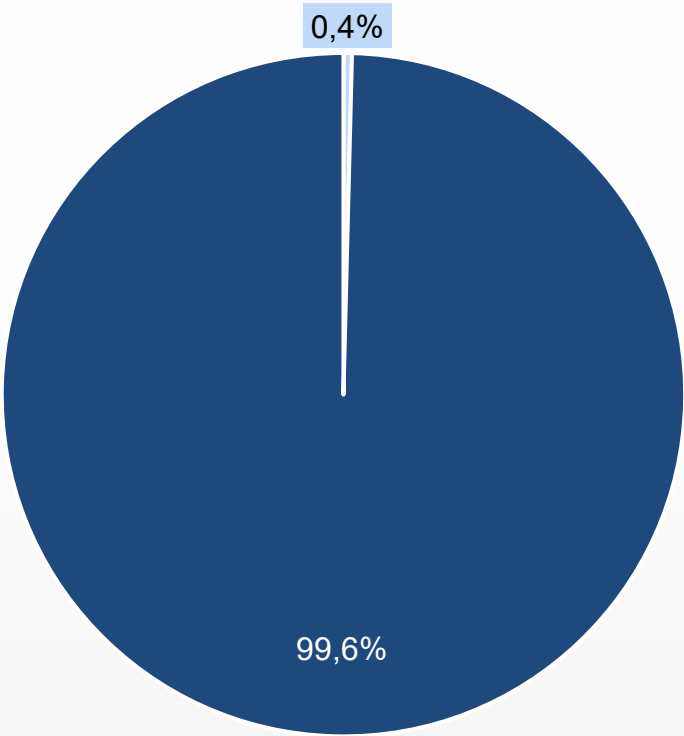


- In Hesse, eight districts were surveyed using a questionnaire regarding their 282 secondary schools as well as interviews by the auditors
- In Ukraine, five regions were surveyed regarding 3.103 secondary schools
- The data was collected, checked for plausibility and compared with each other
- On this basis, differences between Ukraine and Hesse were identified

# Shelters

## Hesse

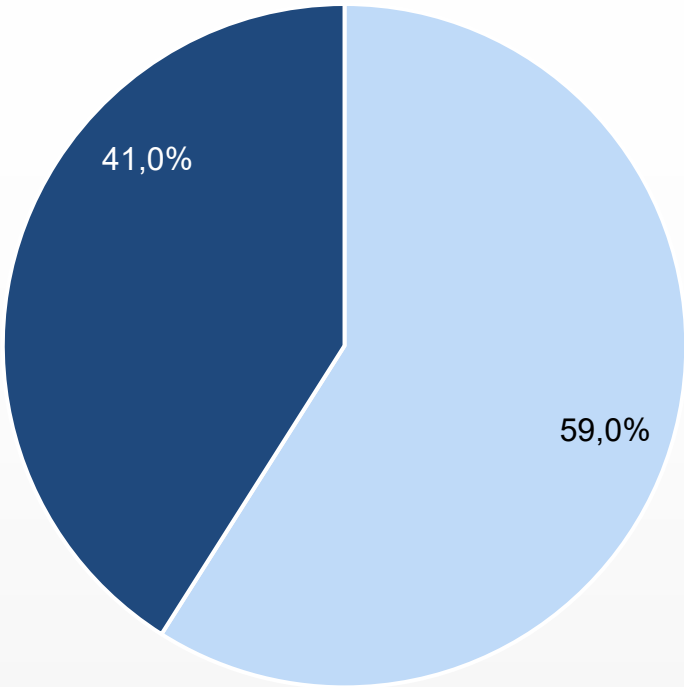
Does your school have shelters?



■ Yes   ■ No

## Ukraine

Does your school have shelters?

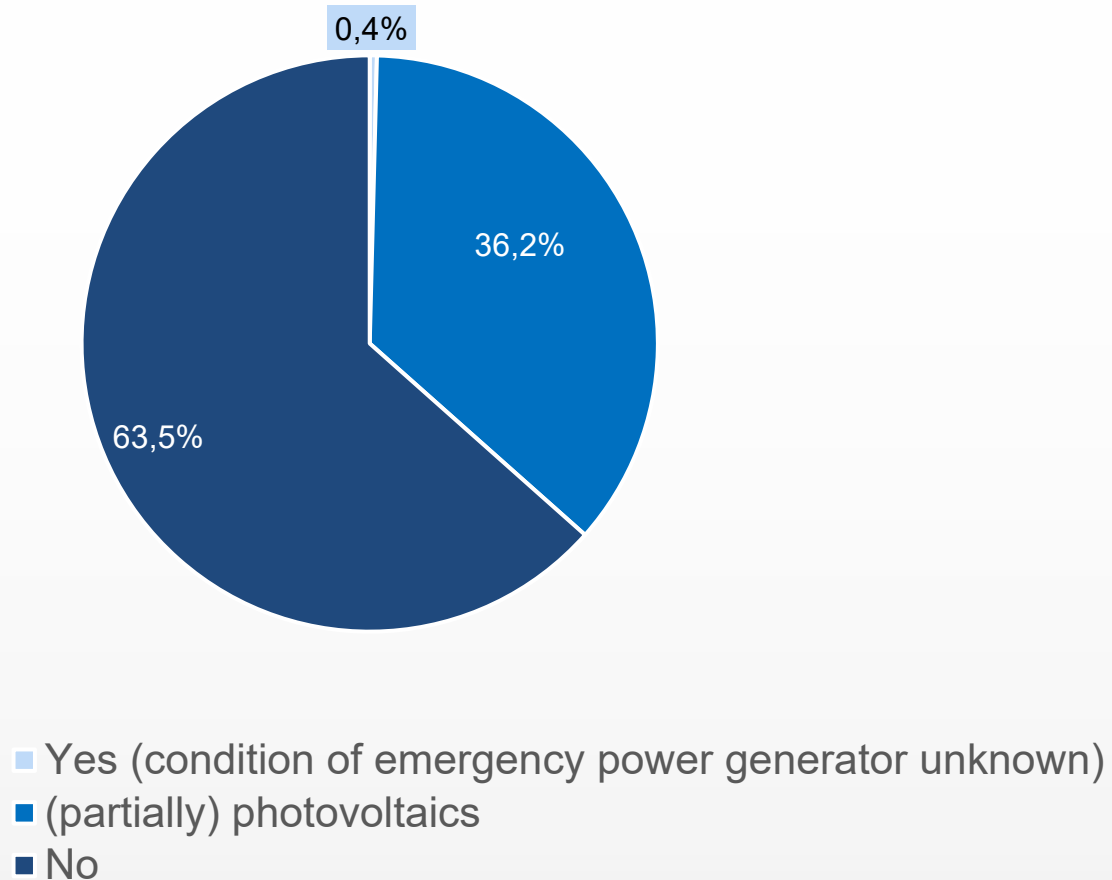


■ Shelters available  
■ No or unsuitable shelters

# Emergency power supply

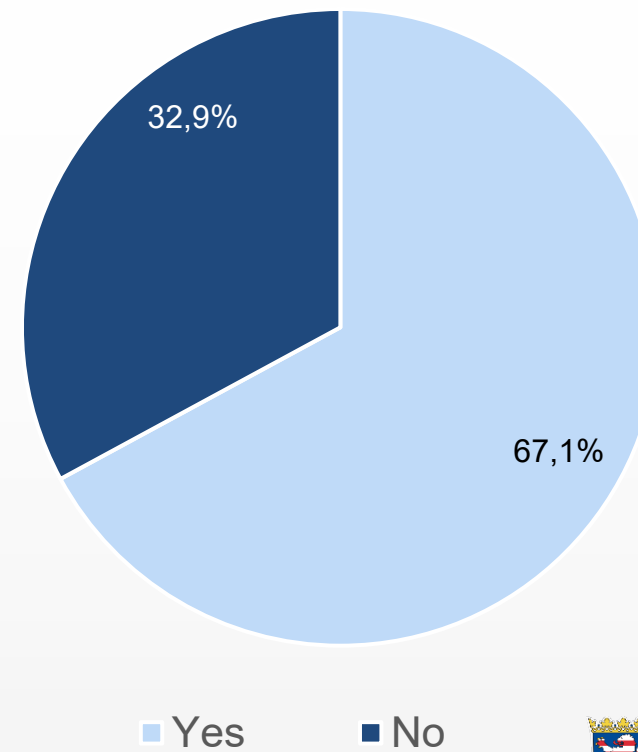
## Hesse

Do your schools have an emergency power supply?



## Ukraine

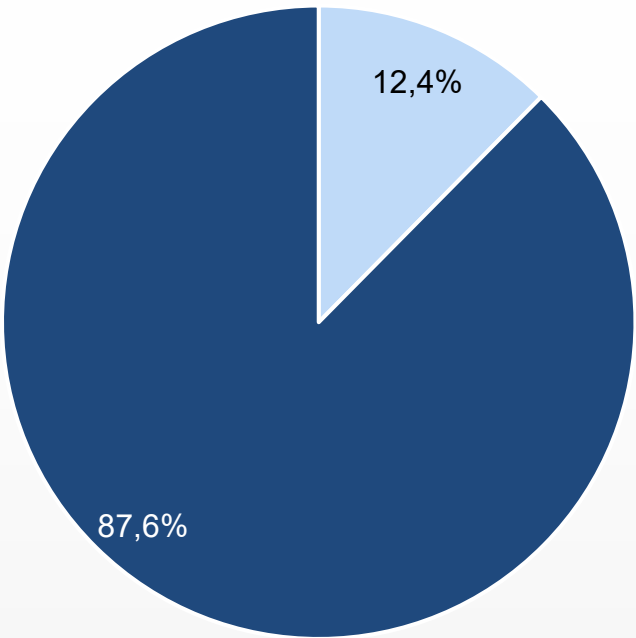
Do your schools have an emergency power supply?



# Alarm systems

## Hesse

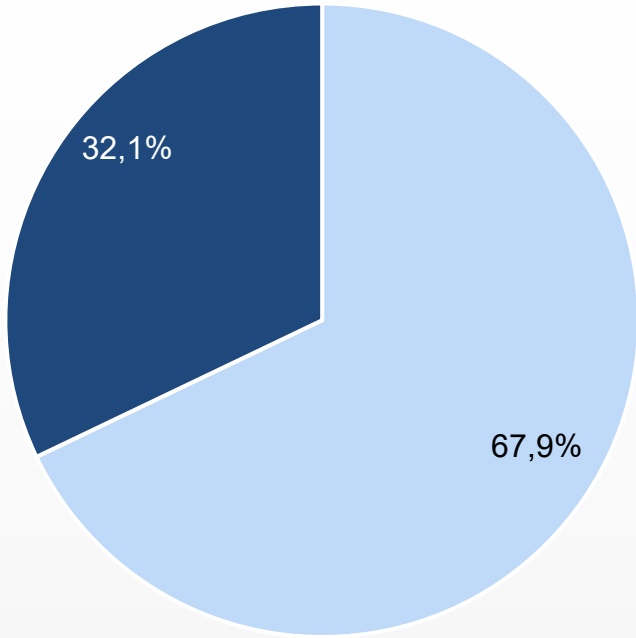
Do your schools have alarm systems for emergencies?



■ Yes   ■ No

## Ukraine

Does your school have a panic button (connected to the central monitoring station)?

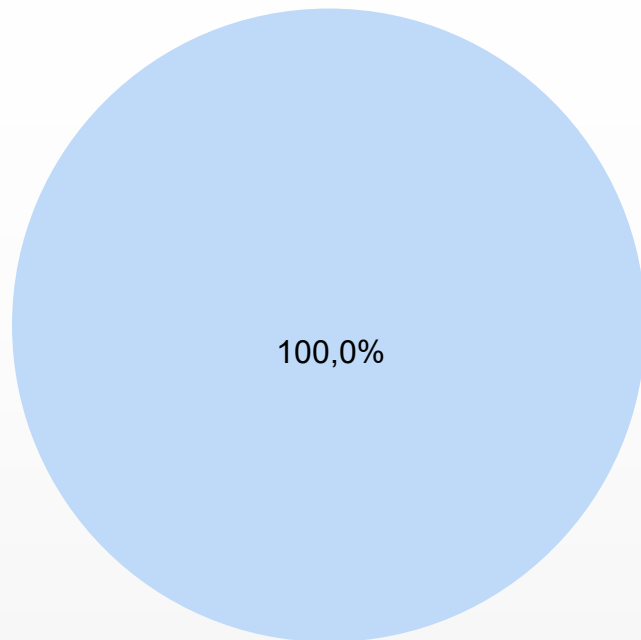


■ Yes   ■ No

# Brandschutzmaßnahmen

## Hesse

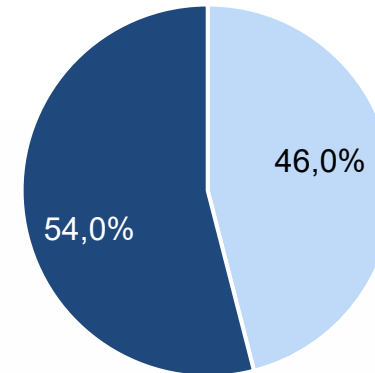
Are suitable fire alarm systems and primary fire extinguishing equipment available?



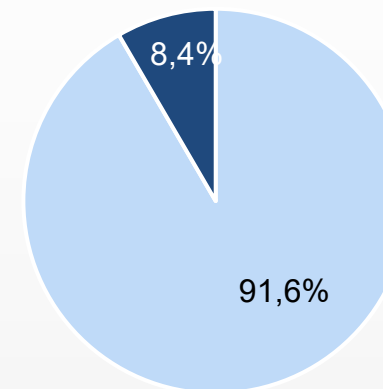
■ Yes ■ No

## Ukraine

Does your school have a fire alarm system and a fire warning system?



Are your schools properly equipped with primary fire extinguishers?



■ Yes ■ No

# Conclusion

- The parallel audit instrument has proven its worth for international exchange: Important recommendations for action can be derived from the parallel audit for both partners. Both partners have achieved good results with international audit standards.
- In Hesse in particular, there are significant shortcomings in civil protection and disaster control in schools.
- The key here is not to panic and rush across the country with a watering can, but rather to plan strategically, prioritize and create the necessary facilities effectively and economically—and relatively quickly, too.

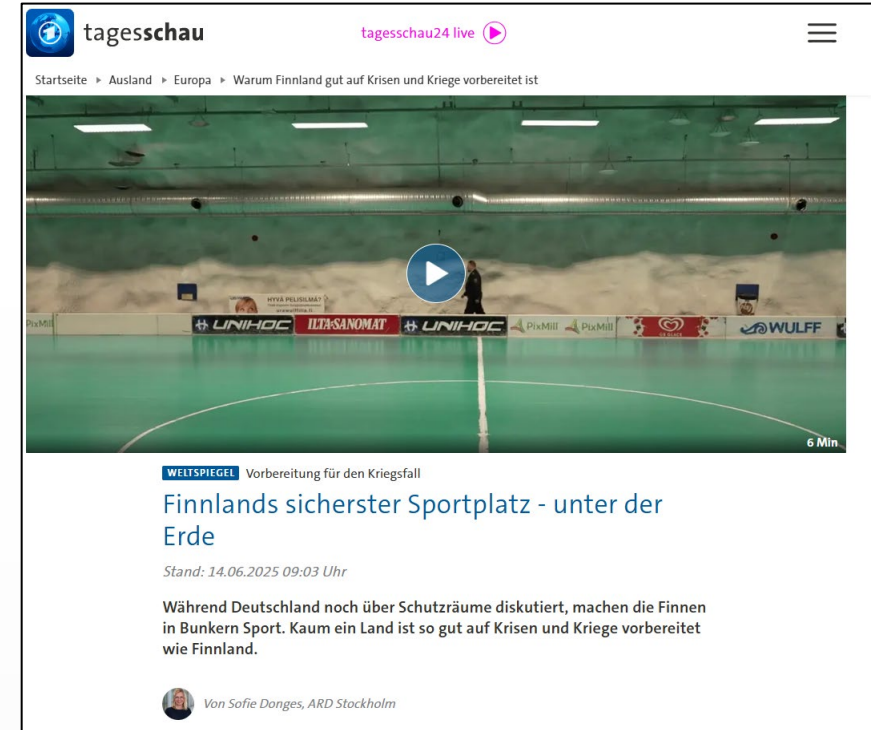
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# Excursus: International differences and benchmarks

- In **Germany**, significantly less than 1% of the population could be accommodated in public shelters
- Many **other Western European** countries also lack a nationwide, fully operational shelter network
- The **Nordic countries** have a large network of protected areas, but there are differences in terms of coverage and strategy  
(for example <https://www.reservistenverband.de/magazin-loyal/zivile-verteidigung-schweden-finnland/>)
- **Switzerland** has around 370.000 (public and private) shelters with room for around 9 million people, which means that a 100 percent coverage of the population seems to be achieved  
(<https://www.babs.admin.ch/de/schutzraeume>)



<https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/europa/finnland-schutzbunker-ukraine-krieg-100.html>

# Financial planning and policy outlook in Germany

- The German government plans to invest **10 billion €** in civil protection and disaster control **by 2029** (<https://www.reuters.com/en/germany-invest-10-bln-euros-civil-protection-by-2029-minister-tells-bild-2025-09-07/>)
- The goal is to create **1 million shelter places**, with around 520.000 of them being new (<https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/pressekonferenzen/regierungspressekonferenz-vom-6-juni-2025-2353366>)
- Over the **next decade**, at least **30 billion €** will be needed for expansion and modernization (<https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/bundesamt-will-eine-million-plaetze-in-schutzraeumen-schaffen-a-5bf80d78-b31e-421a-9f82-b995fb5a3293>)
- The **German Association of Towns and Municipalities** is calling for protective facilities to also benefit from the planned special infrastructure fund and for the federal government to provide one billion euros annually for this purpose over a period of 10 years (<https://www.n-tv.de/politik/Gemeindebund-fordert-eine-Milliarde-Euro-fuer-Schutz-der-Buerger-article25616404.html>)

# Thank you for your attention.

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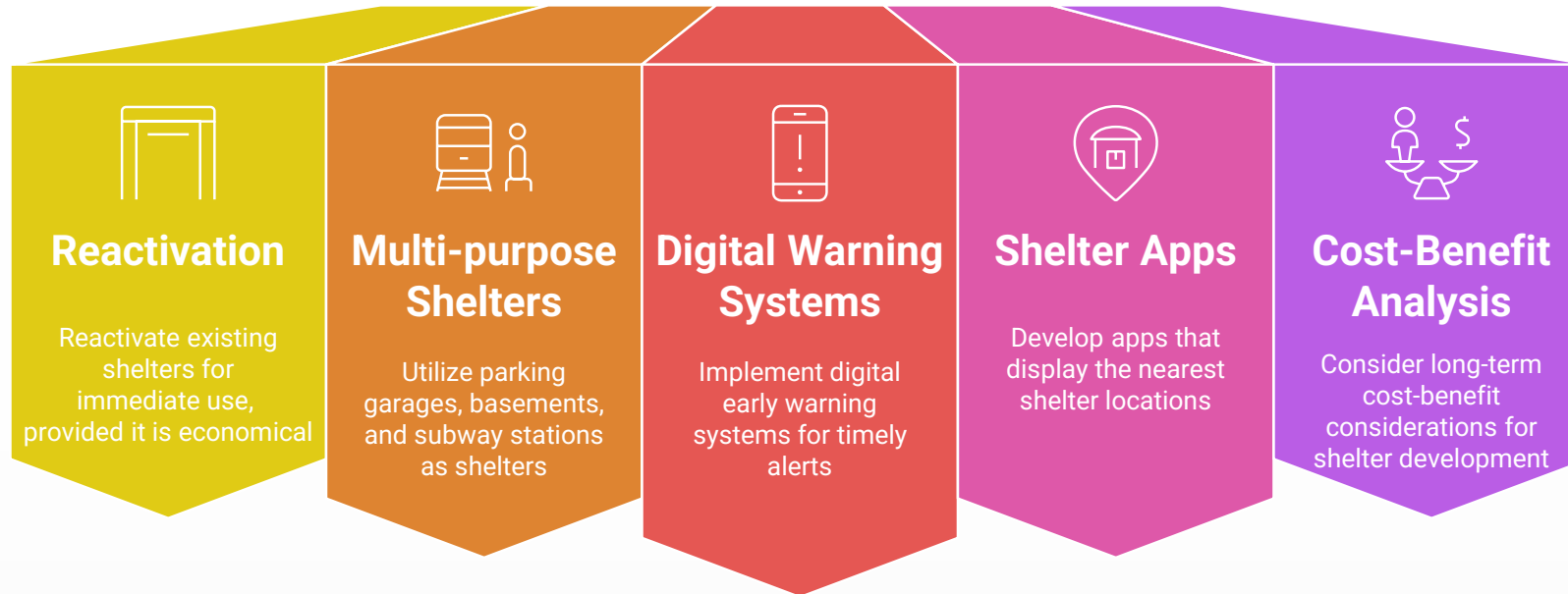


# Forecast for 2025 and 2026

- Parallel audit “Digital School”
- Coordinated audit (Ukrainian pupils)
- Follow-up project intended (not yet determined)
- Further rotations to the HRH

Continuation of digital exchange

# Forward-looking scenarios & strategic options



Source: own considerations – image created with napkin.ai

A strategic, long-term plan with clear goals and thorough calculations of economic efficiency, including follow-up costs, is necessary to ensure our resilience.

As public audit institutions, we are uniquely qualified to advise and support this important process!

# Notice: Current state of shelter infrastructure in Germany

- Since German reunification, nearly 1,500 public shelters have been dismantled, leaving around 579 shelters with room for approximately 477,500 people remaining (<https://www.bbk.bund.de/DE/Themen/Risikomanagement/Baulicher-Bevoelkerungsschutz/Schutzba>)
- Technical systems in shelters, such as ventilation, filters, and doors, are mostly outdated
- The cost of modernization is high, so cost-effectiveness must be considered
- There are also regional disparities in shelter availability

Differences within Germany: In the new federal states (eastern Germany), there are no longer any official public shelters, as these were not incorporated into the federal German shelter concept after reunification and were instead often dismantled or left to decay (<https://dserver.bundestag.de/btd/20/146/2014631.pdf>)



Image generated by ai