The new Lent-Tabor footway and bicycle bridge cannot compete with Maribor's Stari Most, the city's Old Bridge. It must bow to its formidable presence. We propose a structure that in a way is a complement to the Old Bridge.
The bridge's deck is calculated to the limit in order to make it as slender as possible. The structure is clad in wood endowing the new footbridge with both an archaic and contemporary character at the same time.
Its visual iconographic strength lies in the concealment of structure, which renders it equally abstract and expressive. It becomes one more piece of the Stari Most structure.
Visually it is as transparent as possible. Without intricate or ostentatious structural feats, it is natural and simple: two supports and maximum slenderness.
Economically it is rational: it possesses a simple but elegant structure, calculated to the limit and without requiring sophisticated construction techniques; at the same time portraying a memorable image, singular and easily identifiable.

international architectural ideas competition
new footway and bicycle bridge *lent-tabor*
drava river area city of maribor

ZIMETNA CRNINA

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PURE ENERGY!

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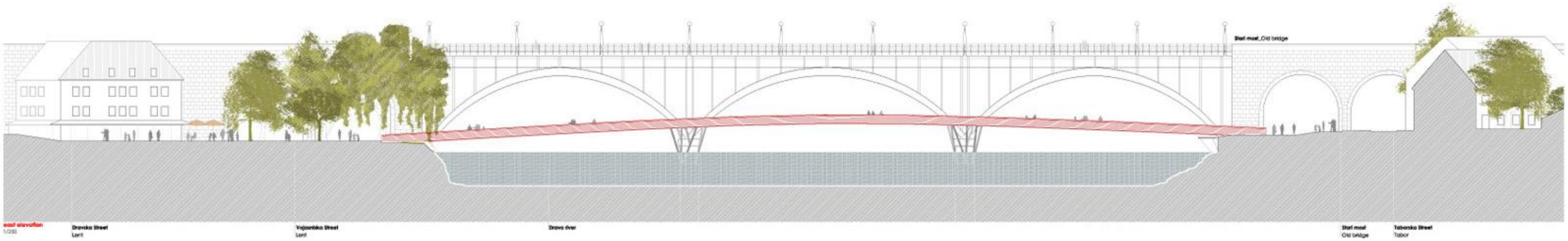

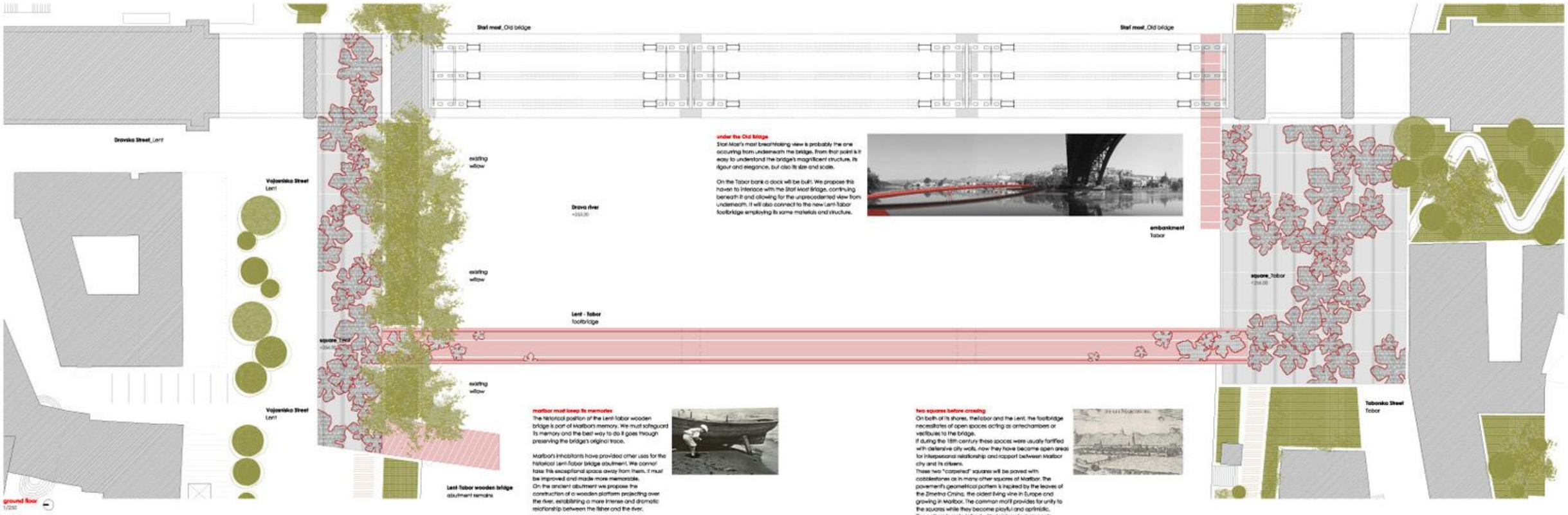

under the Old Bridge
Stari Most's most breathtaking view is probably the one occurring from underneath the bridge. From that point is it easy to understand the bridge's magnificent structure, its rigour and elegance, but also its size and scale.

On the Tabor bank a dock will be built. We propose this haven to interface with the Stari Most Bridge, continuing beneath it and allowing for the unprecedented view from underneath. It will also connect to the new Lent-Tabor footbridge employing its same materials and structure.

Maribor must keep its memories
The historical position of the Lent-Tabor wooden bridge is part of Maribor's memory. We must safeguard its memory and the best way to do it goes through preserving the bridge's original trace.

Maribor's inhabitants have provided other uses for the historical Lent-Tabor bridge abutment. We cannot take this exceptional space away from them. It must be improved and made more memorable.
On the ancient abutment we propose the construction of a wooden platform projecting over the river, establishing a more intense and dramatic relationship between the litter and the river.

two squares before crossing
On both of its shores, the Tabor and the Lent, the footbridge necessitates of open spaces acting as antechambers or vestibules to the bridge.
If during the 18th century these spaces were usually fortified with defensive city walls, now they have become open areas for interpersonal relationship and rapport between Maribor city and its citizens.
These two "carpeted" squares will be paved with cobblestones as in many other squares of Maribor. The pavement's geometrical pattern is inspired by the leaves of the Zimetna Crnina, the oldest living vine in Europe and growing in Maribor. The common motif provides for unity to the squares while they become playful and optimistic.
The pattern is materialised with stainless steel elements embedded into the stone paving.