



Chairmanship of the Czech Republic
Council of Europe
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Présidence de la République tchèque
Conseil de l'Europe
Mai – Novembre 2017



**COUNCIL OF EUROPE
EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

***NINETEENTH COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEETING
OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION***

*Organised under the auspices of the Czech Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers
of the Council of Europe*

“The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy”

**Brno, Czech Republic,
5-6 September 2017
*Study visit, 7 September 2017***

WELCOME SPEECH

Mr Bohumil ŠIMEK

Governor of the South Moravian Region, Czech Republic

Dear Ladies and gentlemen,

Allow me to warmly welcome you, the participants of the 19th Workshop of the Council of Europe for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention. This meeting takes place within the framework of the Czech Presidency in the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and is a unique opportunity for our State to participate in European policy making and to prove the maturity and reliability of our country as a full member of the European Union. I am very pleased that we could meet in the South Moravian Region which ranks among the leaders with significant economic potential in the Czech Republic.

This two-day workshop opens up opportunities for further exploration of new solutions and approaches to the implementation of landscape policies – above all, to ensure the protection and care of individual types of European landscapes. For our home, it is important the surrounding landscape enthral us and we live well and beautifully in it, because it is a common heritage and needs to be maintained.

On this occasion, I would like to thank all politicians, scientists and other experts not only for the support of this Meeting, but also for their long-term contribution to sustainable landscape management that they make at international level.

Ladies and gentlemen, allow me to wish this Meeting an inspirational atmosphere and to all of you a pleasant stay in Brno and the South Moravian Region.