# **ECOVAST AUSTRIA**

# European Council of the Village and Small Town



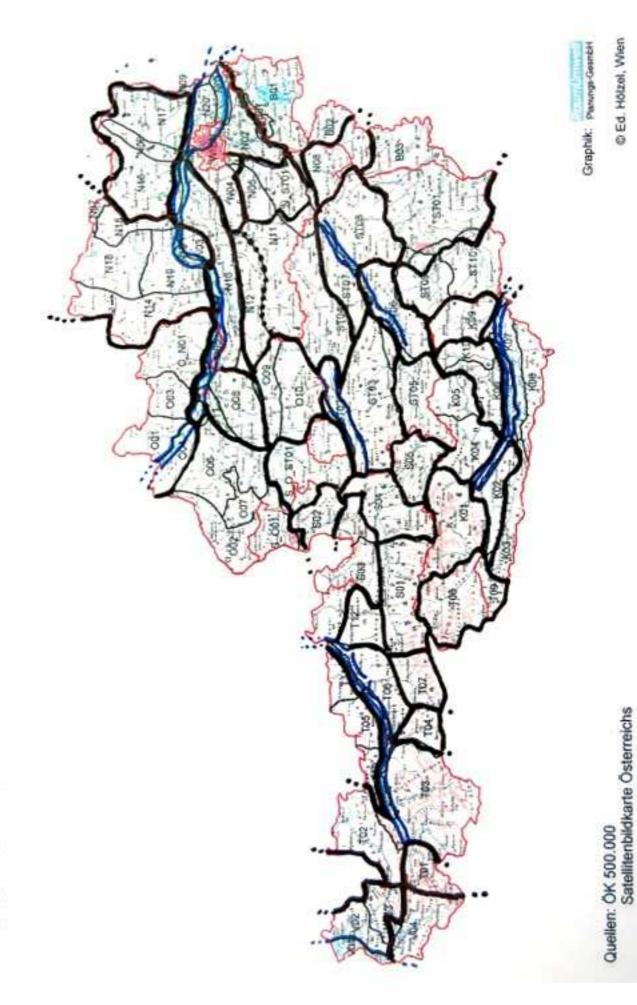
SMALL HISTORIC TOWNS & their Landscapes along the "EUROPEAN GreenBelt" that follows the former (?) Iron Curtain"

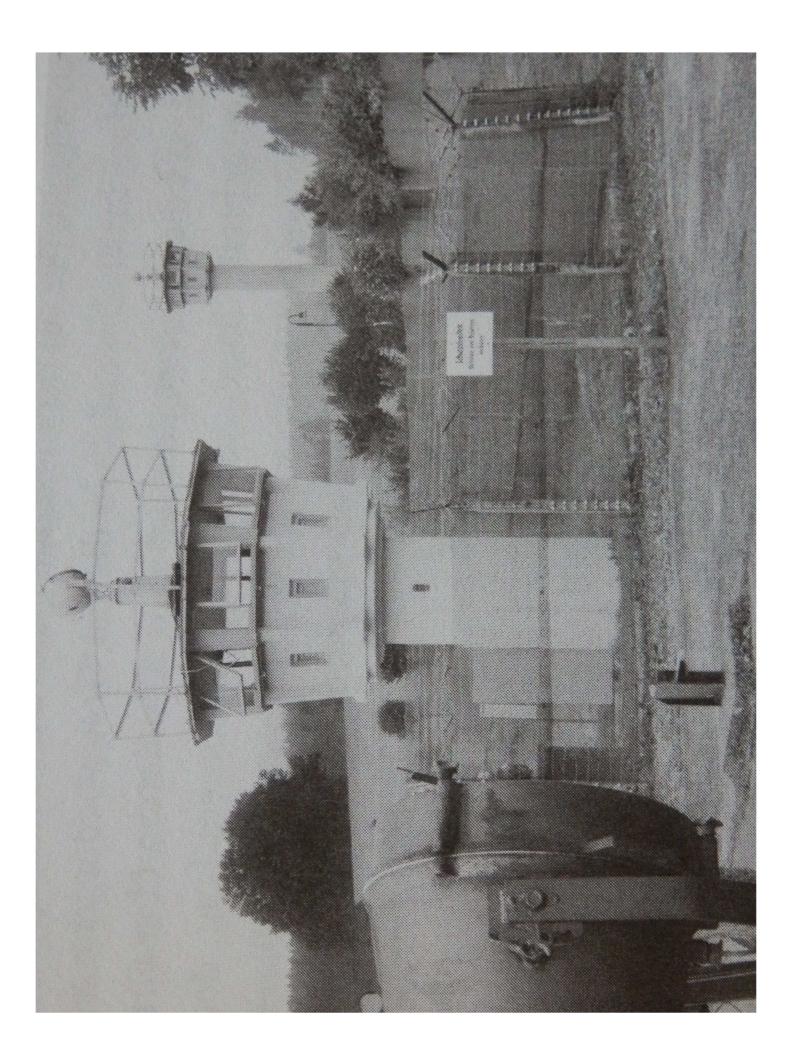
> Focus: Central European Section Andorra La Vella, October 2015

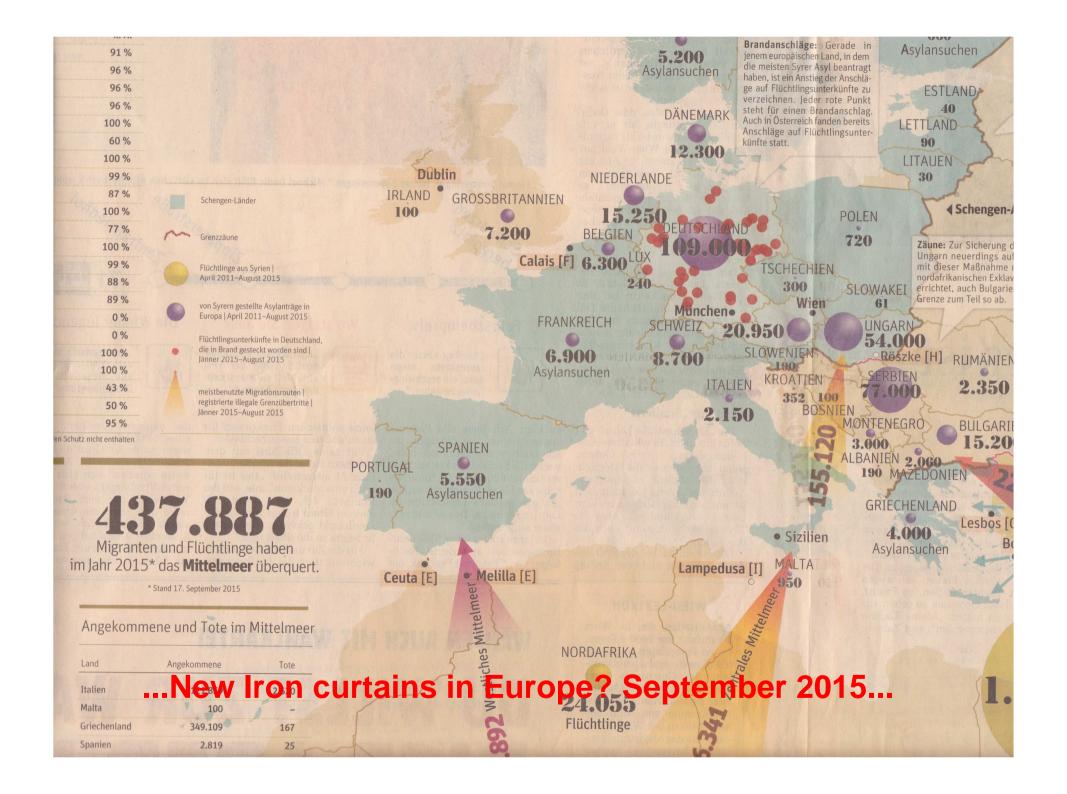


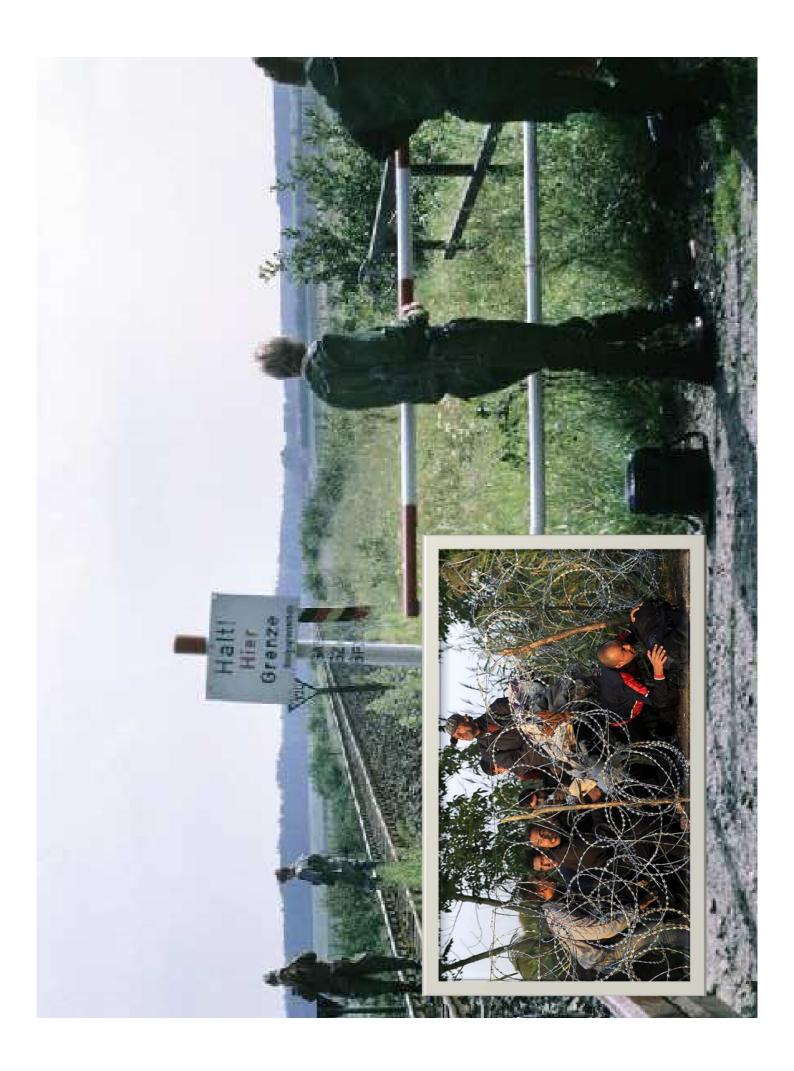


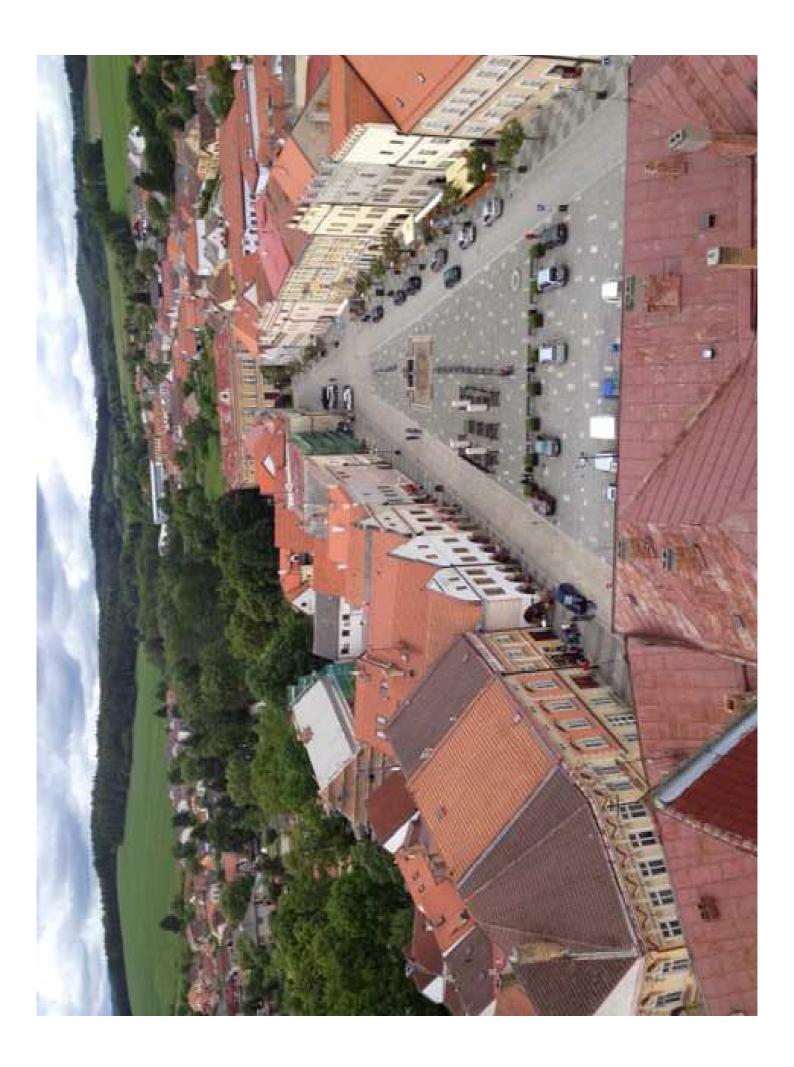
# ARBEITSKARTE RÄUME CHARAKTERISTISCHER LANDSCHAFTSBEZOGENER ERLEBBARKEIT Fachgruppe "Alpine Naturparke" CIPRA Österreich





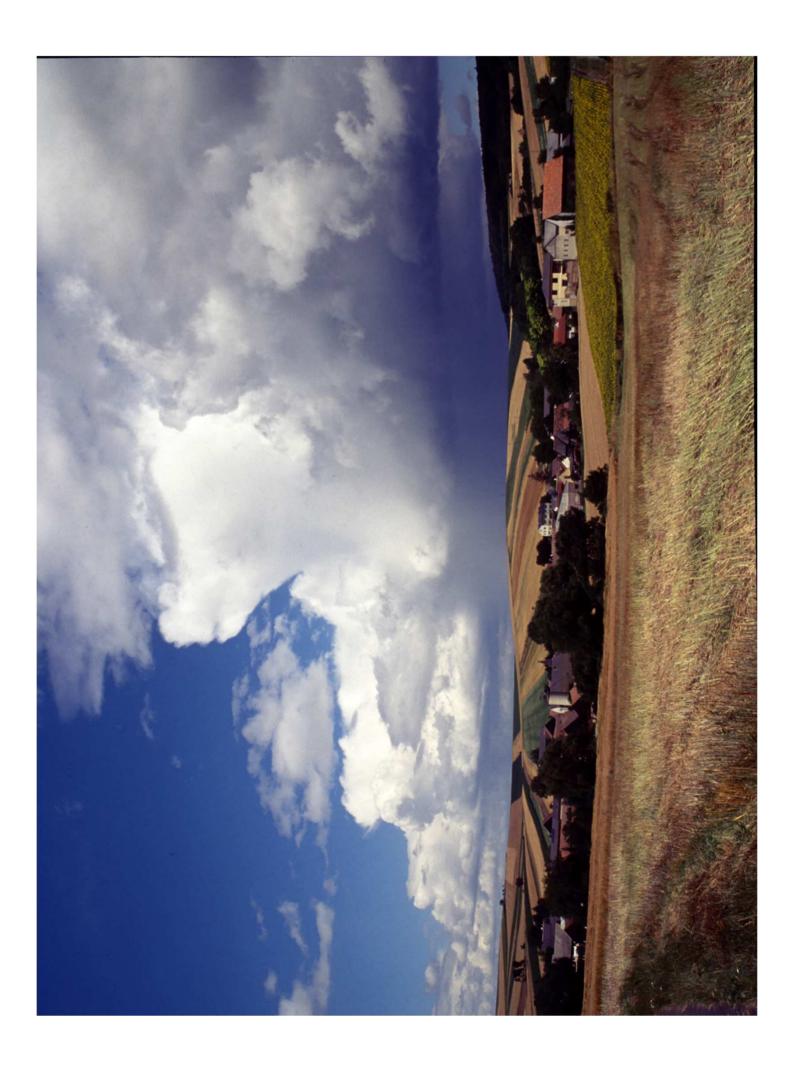


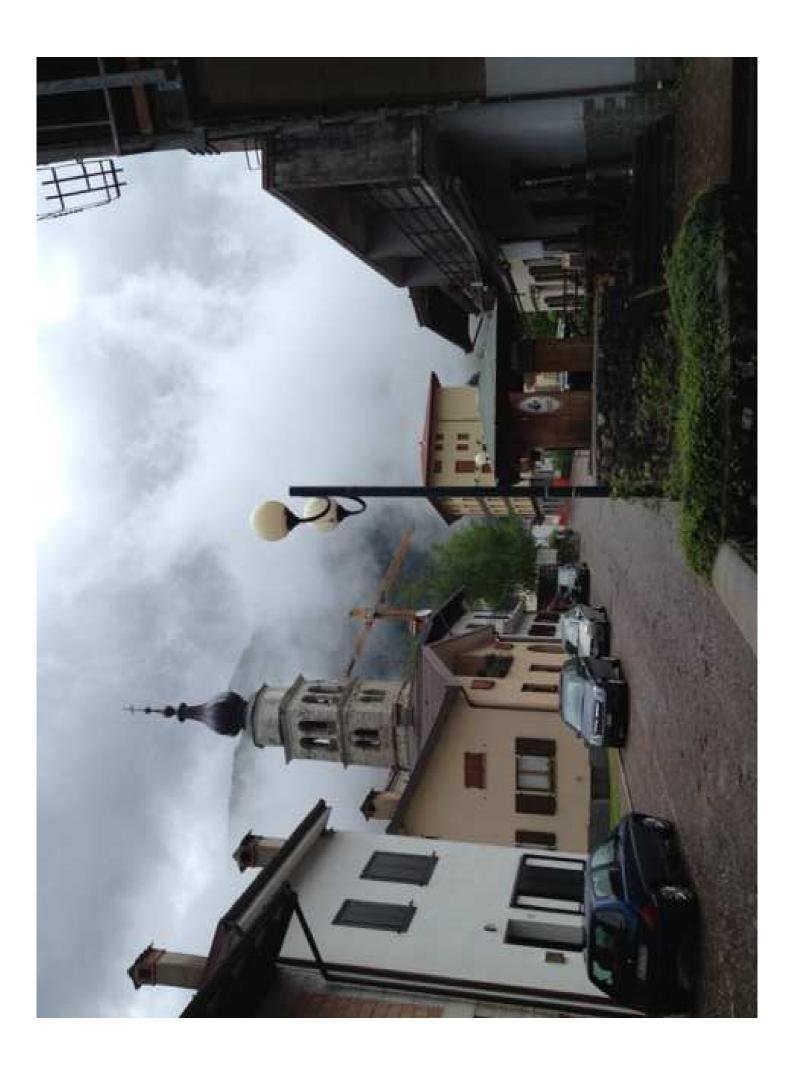














# Thanks a lot for your interest – Gracias ;-)

# ECOVAST AUSTRIA & INTERNATIONAL www.ecovast.org

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# Matrix for landscape identification

# List of determining character elements

- 10 Feelings and associations
- 9 Historic features (e.g. castles, monasteries, archaeological sites)
- 8 Other man-made features (e.g. industry, tourism, infrastructure)
- 7 Characteristic features of houses and settlements
- 6 Characteristic features and patterns of agriculture and forestry
- 5 Land cover (vegetation, wildlife, habitats)
- 4 Soil
- 3 Land form (geomorphology)
- 2 Climate (hydrology, rivers, lakes, glaciers)
- 1 Rocks (surface geology)



A guide to good practice

March 2009



EUROPEAN COUNCIL for the VILLAGE AND SMALL TOWN

### Matrix for landscape identification

### PR - GREENNET - GRABFELD (DE) "The Two Sentinels"

### List of determinant character elements

(Number in brackets indicate the sum of the red points given by the participants. dominating=80-100%; strong 50-80%; moderate: 20-50%; low <20% of the highest sum of points collected in a line)

- 10 Feeling and associations (9 points)
- 9 Historic features (e.g. castles, monasteries, archaeological sites) (7 points)
- 8 Other man-made features (e.g. industry, tourism, infrastructure) (7 points)
- 7 Characteristic features of houses and settlements (15 points)
- 6 Characteristic features and patterns of agriculture and forestry (10 points)
- 5 Land cover (vegetation, wildlife, habitats) (14 points) 4 Soil (4 points)
- 4 Soil (4 points)
  3 Land form (geomorphology) (11 points)
  2 Climate (hydrology, rivers, lakes, glaciers) (1 point)
  1 Rocks (surface geology) (3 points)

### Name of the Landscape unit: Grabfeld (DE)

### Elevation from approximately 300m up to 679 m (Gleichberg)

The area consists of two distinct zones: There are the eastern parts of the Rhön mountains and the Bavarian portion of Grabfeld

Relative strength of the features (graduation 1-4)

	dominating 15 points (100%)	strong	moderate	low 3 points			
10		Smooth, harmonic hill land					
9		Historic border area					
8	Lineare land countryside structures/Green Belt						
7	Compact settlements, traditional house features						
6	Wide, open fields and green land, "Talauen"						
5	Forests on hilltops, lineare shrubs extending into fields, various orchards						
4	Various soils depending on geology						
3	The two higher "Gleichberge" and lower extending hill land						
2				Moderate climate of the region			
1				Geology is visuable indirectly (vegetation)			

Short description: Wide, smooth, low, open landscape, with the "Two Guardians", the "Gleichberge". (basalt cores). They are distinctly higher than the surrounding lines of hills, carrying wood at their top. This low, open green land is called "Talaue", using an old German. almost poetical term (like Goethe and others). From the woods on top of the hills, lines of trees and bushes often are extendin g into the farmland. The Green Belt itself is a clear, distinct landscape structure.

The geology is indirectly visible through the differentiation of the vegetation and the different landform ( Keuper, Buntsandstein, Basalt,

The villages are built in a very compact way (very rare single houses in the countryside). The house forms show traditional fea tures like wooden framework and/or facades covered with shingle plates that carry ornaments.

Additional comments: In this open and smooth – not totally flat – landscape, longer stretches of the "Green Belt" very often are still remarkable clear visible, causing a linear structure. This specific situation is preserved through measures of "agricultural land care".



View over the wide, open fields, in the regional German terminology called "Auen", surrounded by ridges of low hills. The latter carrying forests mostly at their top. Some "solitaires", a few orchards (not visible in this picture) and rare linear landscape elements.









