COUNCIL OF EUROPE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE CONVENTION EUROPEENNE DU PAYSAGE

21st MEETING OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPE LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

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"Landscape and education" « Paysage et éducation »

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WORKSHOP 2

Statement of Hungary

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National Representative of the European Landscape Convention for Hungary

Ladies and gentlemen, Dear colleagues,

In Hungary, the Act CCIV of 2011 on national public education has regulations that specify the BA and MA courses that can be provided in higher education, higher level vocational courses, teacher training, the operation of doctoral schools, the accreditation of majors in higher education and the training and qualification requirements. The institutes of higher education have autonomy to accept its training programme, organisational and operational rules, and its doctoral regulations.

Szent István University trains and graduates the Landscape Management and Garden Construction Engineering BSc, the Landscape Architect MSc and the Landscape Architecture and Garden Design, MA master. 137 Landscape Architect graduated with MSc in 2017.

Landscape Architects are able to develop and design the requirements of sustainable development and liveability, according to outdoor architectural objects, settlements and areas based on the natural resources, natural and cultural heritage of Hungary and knowledge of their countryside and settlement differentiation.

During training, Landscape Architect students learn the following skills:

nature conservation;

- environment protection;
- landscape protection;
- methods of landscape assessment;
- regional development;
- landscape planning;
- GIS in landscape planning;
- carrying capacity; and
- environmental impact studies.

In many other fields of higher education, a modern approach to landscape is also adopted. The curricula of a significant part of Hungarian higher education contain knowledge that is indispensable for maintaining a lower environmental exposure and safeguarding our natural and cultural heritage (e.g. Environmental Economics Agrarian Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Studies, Forest Engineering, Geography, Land Surveying and Land Management Engineering, Nature Conservation Engineering, Wildlife Management Engineering).

For example, in Sopron University the following courses are incorporated into the curricula of BSc and MCS studies:

- cultural heritage protection;
- environment and landscape management;
- environmental history;
- environmental and landscape policy;
- environmental and natural aesthetics;
- landscape and rural development;
- landscape management;
- landscape protection and planning;
- landscape protection and planning in Europe; and
- landscape rehabilitation.

In Hungary, a PhD programme is available at the doctoral school of landscape architecture and landscape ecology. The programme offers complex scientific research and development knowledge in the field of landscape architecture, urban and environmental design, landscape protection and reclamation, landscape planning and social-economic aspects of climate change.

The doctoral programmes are tailored to the research topic of each student. In Sopron University, the following lectures are incorporated into each PhD programme:

- landscape research;
- landscape protection and planning in Europe; and
- landscape history of the Carpathian Basin.

There are some international co-operations among universities with Hungarian participation which are worth mentioning:

- Landscape Authorship ERASMUS Intensive Programme (2012);
- ERASMUS+ Strategic Partnership Landscape Education for Democracy (in process).

The Hungarian higher education strategy entitled "Changing gear in higher education - a medium term policy strategy, 2016" emphasises the importance of increasing the activity of higher education institutions in handling social challenges. The activities in the research institutions of higher education institutions are a basis for ensuring sustainable development.

The Hungarian National Landscape Strategy (2017-2026) emphasises that passing on landscaperelated knowledge needs not be restricted only to people adept in landscape matters, but it should also be included in engineering courses and any other courses whose graduates will influence the condition and the use of landscapes through their future decisions. Training and education must be reinforced with information about landscape and with an approach that takes landscape into consideration. Therefore, there is a need for auditing and modernising training and education. Basic knowledge required for the implementation of land use based on the landscape configuration and assets – what is the overall strategic objective of the Hungarian National Landscape Strategy – must be integrated into public education and higher education in a generalist (and age-appropriate) way.

According to the strategy, among others, the following action is required to achieve the objective: in higher education, integration of the knowledge of landscape, with a responsible attitude towards landscape, into the professional competences to be learned under the basic studies on sustainable development.

By this action, Hungary promotes university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning – in accordance with the European Landscape Convention.