



**COUNCIL OF EUROPE**  
**EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

*National Symposium on the implementation  
of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia*

*Interministerial Round-Table:  
Integration of the landscape into policies*

*Tbilisi, Georgia  
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**OPENING SPEECH**

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*Deputy Minister of Culture and Sports for Georgia*

Firstly, I would like to express warm gratitude and deepest appreciation to the Council of Europe, and personally to Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, the Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, for organising this important event dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia. Secondly, I would like to extend thanks to the representative of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, and in particular to Mrs Nino Gventsadze, Head of the Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department for her co-operation.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation, and in particular to Mrs Manana Vardzelashvili, Head of International Relations Unit, as well as to Mrs Rusudan Mirzikashvili, Head of Tbilisi City Municipal Department for Urban Development.

Furthermore, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to all the participants from different State Parties for their willingness to share their experience regarding the implementation of the convention. Last, but not least, I would like to thank to Mr Cristian Urse, Head of the Council of Europe's Office in Tbilisi, for his participation in this event.

I am convinced that the European Landscape Convention is an essential tool for managing the ever-increasing changes in our environment and for creating sustainable landscapes for present and future generations. As the convention embraces all the natural, rural, and urban areas, exceptional as well as everyday or poor quality landscapes, I believe it is of utmost importance to engage different

authorities and specialists to collaborate in fulfilling it. Thus, I hope that this national symposium will be fruitful for enhancing collaboration at the national level.

I look forward to our further co-operation and thank you once again for your support in the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

Thank you for your kind attention.