



Strasbourg, 14 May 2021

CEP-CDCPP (2021) 2E

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

**EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

**11th COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON**

**THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

**General Report of activities on  
the European Landscape Convention  
and status of signatures and ratifications**

Council of Europe  
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg  
26-27 May 2021

*Document of the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe  
Directorate of Democratic Participation*

*Summary*

*1. The Work Programme adopted by the 10th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention (6-7 May 2019) has been implemented.*

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*2. The Committee of Ministers has, in particular, taken note of the Abridged Reports of the meetings of the Steering Committee on Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) held in 2019 and 2020, including the draft decisions concerning the European Landscape Convention.*

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**2019** - CM-Public - [https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result\\_details.aspx?ObjectId=09000016809824b3](https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectId=09000016809824b3)

**MINISTERS' DEPUTIES**

Decisions

**CM/Del/Dec(2019)1357/7.1**

16 October 2019

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## **1357<sup>th</sup> meeting, 16 October 2019**

### **7.1 Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)**

- a. Abridged report of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting (Strasbourg, 12-14 June 2019)
- b. Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)7](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member States contributing to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe: Landscape in rural territories in energy, agriculture and demographic transition
- c. Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)8](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member States contributing to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe: Landscape and democracy: public participation
- d. Attribution of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe – 6<sup>th</sup> session 2018-2019

Reference document

[CM\(2019\)144](#)

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### **Decisions**

The Deputies

- 1. adopted Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)7](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member States contributing to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe: Landscape in rural territories in energy, agriculture and demographic transition;
- 2. adopted Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)8](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member States contributing to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe: Landscape and democracy: public participation;
- 3. concerning the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the 2018-2019 Landscape Award of the Council of Europe,
  - i. acknowledged the 23 achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe (ETS No. 176), considering that they are part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, in accordance with Resolution [CM/Res\(2017\)18](#);
  - ii. conferred the Landscape Award for the following achievement:  
Renaturation of the watercourse of the River Aire

Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland, and the following partners:

– France:

Communauté de communes (federation of municipalities) of Genevois: Archamps, Haute-Savoie, in a spirit of transfrontier co-operation, in accordance with Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention;

– Switzerland:

Municipalities: Bernex, Confignon, Perly-Certoux and Onex;

Environmental Associations: Association for the Protection of the Aire and its tributaries, (transfrontier); ProNatura Geneva, World Wide Fund for Nature-Geneva; Association of inhabitants: “Living in Lully”; Farmers’ association: AgriGenève; Union Vegetable Market of Geneva; Office: “Superposition” Group;

iii. conferred identical special mentions of the Landscape Award for the following achievements:

- Community activities day, “Let’s do it!”, Estonian Fund for Nature (NGO), Estonia;
- Establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park, City of Kotka, Finland;
- Reconquering the quays of the Seine in Rouen through the development of a large river promenade, City and Metropolis of Rouen, Normandy, France;
- Between land and water, “Another way of owning”, Consortium, Men of Massenzatica, Italy;

iv. acknowledged the great value of each project presented as they appear in document [CM\(2019\)144](#), Appendix IV, and the importance of making them well known as sources of inspiration;

4. taking account of decisions 1 to 3 above, took note of the abridged report of the CDCPP, as it appears in document [CM\(2019\)144](#), as a whole.

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**2020** - CM-Public - [https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result\\_details.aspx?ObjectId=0900001680a1d242](https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectId=0900001680a1d242)

MINISTERS’ DEPUTIES

Decisions

CM/Del/Dec(2021)1400/7.1

31 March 2021

## **1400<sup>th</sup> meeting, 31 March 2021**

### **7.1 Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)**

Abridged report of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting (10, 12 and 13 November 2020)

Reference document

[CM\(2021\)18](#)

Decision

The Deputies took note of the abridged report of the 9<sup>th</sup> plenary session of the CDCPP, as it appears in document [CM\(2021\)18](#).

Reference documents

[CM\(2021\)18](#)

Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) - Abridged report of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting (online meeting, 10, 12 and 13 November 2020)

DOCX26/01/2021EnglishCM-Public

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*3. On 1st April 2020, the Council of Europe Treaty Office sent the notification of approval and entry into force of the Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention to the Parties to the Convention.*

**Notification – JJ9205C Tr./219-10 – Portugal – Approval and ...**

*01/04/2021 - Notification – JJ9205C Tr./219-10 – Portugal – Approval and Entry into force of the Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention (CETS No. 219).  
<https://rm.coe.int/0900001680a1f882>*

*The Conference is invited to:*

- take note of the General Report of activities on the European Landscape Convention prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention of the Council of Europe, considering that the work carried out, will be presented in more detail during the Conference;
- take note of the chart of signatures and ratifications of the [European Landscape Convention](#). (Appendix 1 to this Report). As of 27 April 2021, 40 States have ratified the Convention: Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom; one State have signed it: Malta  
[www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/176](http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/176)
- invited member States of the Council of Europe, which so wish, to consider the possibility to sign or ratify the European Landscape Convention;
- welcome the forthcoming entry into force on 1 July 2021 of the Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe Treaty Series - [No. 219](#)), as adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 15 June 2016 (Appendix 2 to this Report).

## General Report of activities

*Established by Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons  
Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention*

*“The landscape ...*

*... has an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields, and constitutes a resource favourable to economic activity and whose protection, management and planning can contribute to job creation;*

*... contributes to the formation of local cultures and ... is a basic component of the ... natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human well-being...;*

*... is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas;*

*... is a key element of individual and social well-being and ... its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone.”*

Preamble of the European Landscape Convention<sup>1</sup>

Adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 19 July 2000, European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe ([ETS No. 176](#))<sup>2</sup> was opened for signature by European States in Florence on 20 October 2000. To date, 40 Council of Europe member States have ratified the Convention: Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. One State have also signed it: Malta.<sup>3</sup>

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1. The references of the documents mentioned hereafter are available at the Council of Europe Landscape Convention website: [www.coe.int/LandscapeConvention](http://www.coe.int/LandscapeConvention). Proceedings of the Workshops and other National Symposiums for the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (Council of Europe’s “European spatial planning and landscape” series): [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications); [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops); [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/national-regional-symposiums](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/national-regional-symposiums). Books edited in the Council of Europe Publishing: [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications). Council of Europe journal *Futuropa*, for a new vision of landscape and territory: [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/futuropa-magazines](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/futuropa-magazines).

2. [www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/176](http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/176). Linguistic versions: [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/text-of-the-european-landscape-convention](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/text-of-the-european-landscape-convention)

3. [Chart of signatures and ratifications of Treaty 176](#). See also the document of the Council of Europe, “Ratification texts of the European Landscape Convention”, [CEP-CDCPP \(2015\) 4](#). On 1st July 2021, after the entry into force of the Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe Treaty Series - [No. 219](#)) adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 15 June 2016, and

As the first international treaty devoted exclusively to all dimensions of the landscape, the Convention addresses the Organisation's major challenges in the field of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, with a view to sustainable development. Its signatory States have declared themselves "concerned to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment", considering the cultural dimension of the landscape. The concept of sustainable development is understood as fully integrating the environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions. The Convention applies to the entire territory and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It includes land, inland water and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that may be considered outstanding as well as everyday and degraded landscapes.

The landscape is the result of many change-producing actions resulting from the activity of various stakeholders in territorial processes in highly varied ways and on differing scales of time and space. Such activities may be the outcome of action by public authorities in establishing a large-scale infrastructure, or of individual action in a restricted space. The legal recognition of landscape implies rights and responsibilities on the part of all institutions and citizens towards their living environment. Although each citizen must contribute to preserving the quality of the landscape, it is the authorities that are responsible for establishing the general framework that enables that quality to be assured. The Convention accordingly lays down the general legal principles that must guide the adoption of national landscape policies and the establishment of international co-operation in this area.

The Convention provides that existing competent Committees of Experts of the Council of Europe, set up under its Statute, are designated by the Committee of Ministers of the Organisation, to monitor its implementation. The Work Programme of the Convention, adopted by the Council of Europe Conferences on the Convention and the Steering Committee in charge of landscape (Steering for Culture, Heritage and Landscape – CDCPP), is implemented by the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe, which transmits reports on the work carried out, and on the operation of the Convention to the Committee of Ministers.

The following reference texts concerning the European Landscape Convention, adopted, by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, show the close link which unites human beings and societies to their landscape.

*Reference texts on the European Landscape Convention,  
adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe*  
[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/reference-texts](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/reference-texts)

*Convention and Protocol*

- European Landscape Convention, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 19 July 2000, and opened for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000 ([Council of Europe - European Treaty Series No 176](#))
- Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 15 June 2016, and opened for ratification, acceptance or approval in Strasbourg on 1st August 2016 ([Council of Europe Treaty Series No 219](#))

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opened for ratification, acceptance or approval in Strasbourg on 1st August 2016, the Convention will be entitled Council of Europe Landscape Convention. [www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/219](http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/219)

*Recommendations*

- Recommendation [No R \(2008\) 3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 6 February 2008 - [Linguistic versions](#)
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2013\)4](#) on the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe and its glossary, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 11 December 2013
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2014\)8](#) on promoting landscape awareness through education, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 17 September 2014
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2015\)7](#) on pedagogical material for landscape education in primary school, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 October 2015
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2015\)8](#) on the implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on Transfrontier Landscapes, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 October 2015
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2017\)7](#) on the contribution of the European Landscape Convention to the exercise of human rights and democracy with a view to sustainable development, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 27 September 2017
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2018\)9](#) contributing to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe: creation of public funds for landscape, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 November 2018
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)7](#) with a view to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe – Landscape integration in policies relating to rural territories in agricultural and forestry, energy and demographic transition, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 October 2019
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)8](#) with a view to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe – Landscape and democracy: public participation, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 October 2019

*Resolutions*

- Resolution [CM/Res\(2008\)3](#) on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008
- Resolution [CM/Res\(2017\)18](#) on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 27 September 2017

The Convention and the reference texts adopted for its implementation help to promote: the definition and legal recognition of the landscape; a consideration of distribution of competences and administrative arrangements; the consideration of the landscape dimension in national and international policies; the development of international co-operation; and the recognition of exemplary projects.

## **1. Definition and legal recognition of the landscape**

The Convention defines landscape as “an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”. It provides that each Party shall undertake “to recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people’s surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity”. The landscape is considered irrespective of whether it is of exceptional beauty since all forms of landscape have a bearing on citizens’ quality of life and should be taken into account in landscape policies.



The scope of the Convention is extensive: it applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It includes land, inland water and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes. The landscape forms a whole whose constituent parts are considered simultaneously in their interrelations.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention notes that the legal recognition of landscape implies rights and responsibilities on the part of all institutions and citizens of Europe towards their physical surroundings. The landscape in which they live is the result of many change-producing actions resulting from the activity of various stakeholders in territorial processes in highly varied ways and on differing scales of time and space. Such activities may be the outcome of action by public authorities in establishing a large-scale infrastructure or of individual action in a restricted space.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2017\)7](#) recommends that the governments of States Parties to the Convention “consider the importance that quality and diversity of landscapes has for the minds and bodies of human beings, as well as for societies, in the reflections and work devoted to human rights and democracy, with a view to sustainable development”.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention - [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops) :

- [“Landscape policies: contribution to the well-being of European citizens and to sustainable development \(social, economic, cultural and ecological approaches\)”](#), Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002.
- [“Landscapes and individual and social well-being”](#), Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003
- [“Landscape and society”](#) Ljubljana (Slovenia), 11-12 May 2006
- [“Multifunctional Landscape”](#), Evora (Portugal), 20-21 October 2011
- [“National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities”](#), Yerevan (Armenia), 5-6 October 2016
- [“The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy”](#), Brno (Czech Republic), 5-6 September 2017

Publications - [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications):

- Council of Europe, [“Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
  - [Landscape and social, economic, cultural and ecological approaches](#)
  - [Landscape and individual and social well-being](#)
- Council of Europe, [Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the European Landscape Convention 2000-2010 – New challenges, new opportunities](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape facets: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
  - [Landscape and ethics](#)
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape dimensions: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2017
  - [Wealth and variety of terms, instruments and approaches to landscape in Europe](#)
  - [Landscape and democracy](#)
- Council of Europe, [“Council of Europe Landscape Convention: Contribution to human rights, democracy and sustainable development”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2018
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape mosaics: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
  - [Landscape and responsibility](#)



- [Forms of thinking and spirituality in some places and traditional cultures around the world](#)
- Council of Europe, *Celebration of the 20th anniversary of the European Landscape Convention 2000-2020 – Landscape integration in sectoral policies*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
- Journal - [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/futuropa-magazines](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/futuropa-magazines):
- “[Landscapes: the setting for our future lives](#)”, *Naturopa*, 1998, No 86
- “[European Landscape Convention](#)”, *Naturopa*, 2002, No 98
- “[Landscape through literature](#)”, *Naturopa/Culturoipa*, 2005, No 103
- “[Landscape and public space](#)”, *Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory*, 2012, No 3

## 2. Distribution of competences and administrative arrangements

The Convention states that each Party shall implement the Convention according to its own division of powers, in conformity with its constitutional principles and administrative arrangements, and respecting the principle of subsidiarity. Each Party harmonise the implementation of this Convention with its own policies.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention provides that each administrative level (national, regional and local) should draw up specific and/or sectoral “landscape strategies” within the limits of its competences. These are based on the resources and institutions which, when co-ordinated in terms of space and time, allow policy implementation to be programmed. The various strategies should be linked by landscape quality objectives.

The Recommendation contains a set of theoretical, methodological and practical guidelines intended for Parties to the Convention who wish to draw up and implement landscape policies based on the Convention. These guidelines are put forward with due regard for the freedom, and particularly the creativity, of the authorities of each State to draw up legal, operational, administrative and technical landscape-related instruments and are not legally binding. They avoid narrow or restrictive interpretations of the text of the convention or guidelines that have already been applied but have raised problems. The courses of action chosen by each State for the application of the Convention form a common resource useful to all other States.

The Recommendation sets out a “Suggested text” for use as guidance for public authorities when implementing the Convention. It states that a specific national ministry should be responsible for implementing landscape policy and for inter-ministerial co-ordination in the area; that it should organise consultation with civil society and the assessment of landscape policies by an ad hoc body; that, in collaboration with the other ministries and with public participation, it should regularly develop and review a national landscape strategy, laying down the guiding principles of landscape policy, describing the paths taken and the goals pursued, in order to protect, manage or plan landscapes. The Recommendation provides that this landscape strategy should be made public and that ministries whose activities influence landscapes should liaise with departments responsible for implementing landscape policy in the course of their activities, and regularly report on their landscape policy. It also provides that regional and local authorities should have staff familiar with landscape issues in order to implement landscape policy in their spheres of competence, taking landscapes into account at their respective territorial levels. The text reiterates that landscape policy is a responsibility shared between the national authorities and regional and local authorities, in keeping with the principle of subsidiarity.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2017\)7](#) recommends that the governments of States Parties to the Convention frame landscape policies in the long term, so that they take into account the common surroundings for present and future generations; and develop landscape policies throughout the entire territory, so that people can enjoy their surroundings in dignity and without discrimination.

### **3. Consideration of the landscape dimension in national and international policies**

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake to establish and implement landscape policies on the one hand, and to integrate landscape into its other policies that may have a direct or indirect impact on landscape on the other. They also undertake to co-operate on considering the landscape dimension in international policies and programmes and to recommend, where relevant, that landscape considerations be included in them.

#### **3.1. Landscape policies**

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake to establish and implement landscape policies. It states that “landscape policy” means an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscape.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention specifies that, from the operational viewpoint, the convention presupposes:

- the drawing up of specific landscape policies and concurrently the systematic inclusion of the landscape dimension in all sectoral policies that have a direct or indirect influence on changes to the territory. Landscape is therefore not additional to other themes but is an integral part of them;
- a transition from a policy based only on protecting a territory’s features and parts recognised as outstanding to a policy based on the quality of all living surroundings, whether outstanding, everyday or degraded;
- a definition of and experience with new forms of collaboration between the various bodies and the various levels of administration;
- a new approach to observing and interpreting landscape, which should henceforth: view the territory as a whole (and no longer just identify places to be protected); include and combine several approaches simultaneously, linking ecological, archaeological, historical, cultural, perceptive and economic approaches; incorporate social and economic aspects.

##### **3.1.1. Establishment and implementation of landscape policies**

The Convention gives definitions of actions on landscape: protection, management and planning:

- “Landscape protection” means actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and/or from human activity;
- “Landscape management” means action, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes which are brought about by social, economic and environmental processes;

- “Landscape planning” means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention specifies these concepts:

- Landscape protection includes the idea that landscape is subject to changes which, within certain limits, have to be accepted. Protective measures, which are currently being widely trialled, should not be designed to stop time or to restore natural or human-influenced characteristics that no longer exist; however, they may guide changes in sites in order to pass on their specific, material and immaterial features to future generations. A landscape’s characteristics depend on economic, social, ecological, cultural and historical factors, the origin of which often lies outside the sites concerned. Landscape protection should find the ways and means of acting, at an appropriate level, not only on the characteristics present at sites but also on external factors.
- Landscape management is a continuing action aimed at influencing activities liable to modify landscape. It can be seen as a form of adaptive planning which itself evolves as societies transform their way of life, their development and surroundings. It can also be seen as a territorial project, which takes account of new social aspirations, anticipated changes in biophysical and cultural characteristics and access to natural resources.
- Landscape planning may be regarded in the same way as a territorial project and concerns forms of change that can anticipate new social needs by taking account of ongoing developments. It should also be consistent with sustainable development and allow for the ecological and economic processes that may occur in the medium and long terms. Planning also covers the rehabilitation of degraded land (mines, quarries, landfills, wasteland, etc.) so that they meet the stipulated landscape quality objectives.

The Recommendation considers that “landscape action” is a combination of protection, management and planning conducted over one and the same territory: certain parts and features can be protected, others, particularly processes, should be managed and still others should be intentionally adapted. The fundamental stages in the process leading to landscape action are:

- knowledge of the landscapes: identification, description and assessment;
- definition of landscape quality objectives;
- attainment of these objectives by protection, management and planning over a period of time (exceptional actions and measures and ordinary actions and measures);
- monitoring of changes, evaluation of the effects of policies, possible redefinition of choices.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

[International Landscape Observatory of the Council of Europe](#)

– [Information System of the European Landscape Convention: National/Regional Landscape policies](#)

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

– [“National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and](#)

[opportunities](#)”, Yerevan (Armenia), 5-6 October 2016

- [“The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy”](#), Brno (Czech Republic), 5-6 September 2017

### 3.1.2. *Procedures for the participation*

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake to establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies. It accordingly demands a responsible, forward-looking attitude on the part of all stakeholder whose decisions influence landscape quality, and therefore have consequences in many policy and action areas, both public and private.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention states that all action taken to define, implement and monitor landscape policies should be preceded and accompanied by procedures for participation by members of the public and other relevant stakeholders, with the aim of enabling them to play an active role in formulating, implementing and monitoring landscape quality objectives. Public involvement in decisions to take action and in the implementation and management of such decisions over time is regarded not as a formal act but as an integral part of management, protection and planning procedures.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2017\)7](#) on the contribution of the European Landscape Convention to the exercise of human rights and democracy with a view to sustainable development, recommends that the governments of States Parties to the Convention guarantee the right to participation by the general public, local and regional authorities, and other relevant parties including non-governmental organisations, with an interest in the definition, implementation and monitoring of landscape policies.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)8](#) on landscape and democracy: public participation, recommends that the governments of the States Parties to the Convention consider forms of participation of the public with an interest in the definition and implementation of landscape policies, as they appear in its appendix. These relate to information, consultation, dialogue, influence of decision making, and decision-making.

#### *Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

- [“Innovative tools for the protection, management and planning of landscape”](#), Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
- [“Landscape and society”](#) Ljubljana (Slovenia), 11-12 May 2006
- [“Visions for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning”](#), Thessaloniki (Greece), 1-2 October 2012
- [“Landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy”](#), Cetinje (Montenegro), 2-3 October 2013

Publications:

- Council of Europe, [“Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
- [Landscape and innovative instruments](#)
- [Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives](#)

- [Landscape and public participation](#)
- Council of Europe, “[Council of Europe Landscape Convention: Contribution to human rights, democracy and sustainable development](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2018

### **3.1.3. Awareness-raising, training, education, landscape identification and assessment, setting landscape quality objectives and implementing landscape policies**

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake to establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection, management and planning through the adoption of specific measures, such as awareness-raising, training and education.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2017\)7](#) recommends that the governments of States Parties to the Convention take into account the landscape issue in the actions taken to promote good governance and democratic citizenship, notably through awareness-raising, training and education.

#### ***Awareness-raising***

Each Party to the Convention undertakes to increase awareness among the civil society, private organisations, and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) notes that active public involvement means that specialised knowledge should be accessible to all, that is, it should be easily available, structured and presented in a way understandable even by non-specialists.

#### *Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

- “[Awareness-raising, training and education](#)”, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002

Publications:

- Council of Europe, “[Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
- [Landscape and awareness-raising, training and education](#)
- Council of Europe, “[Council of Europe Landscape Convention: Contribution to human rights, democracy and sustainable development](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2018

#### ***Training***

Each Party to the Convention undertakes to promote: training for specialists in landscape appraisal; and operations; multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors and for associations concerned.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) notes that the training of specialists in knowledge and intervention in landscapes, which exist in many States, should be encouraged and developed. Courses should be geared to a view of landscape linked to sustainable development, that is, they should train people in the relationship between landscape and economic development, between landscape and the renewal of natural resources and between landscape and social justice. Courses of this nature are aimed at training

designers, managers, engineers and technicians specialising in landscape protection, management and planning. They cover both the commissioning and management of projects. They lead to a State-recognised diploma and are now part of a European educational programme under which university exchanges between States are possible.

The [Statement of the Conference of the member States of the Council of Europe to the European Landscape Convention on the professional recognition of landscape architects](#), adopted by the 10th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention on 7 May 2019, encourages the State Parties to the Convention: to formally recognise the profession of landscape architects at national and international level; to support a multidisciplinary approach to landscape, through co-operation of all relevant professions in all phases of the planning process; and to increase the diversity of disciplines in the training of landscape professionals, particularly regarding science, management and planning.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Publications:

- Council of Europe, “[Landscape facets: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
  - [Landscape and training of landscape architects](#)
- Council of Europe, “[Landscape mosaics: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
  - [Professional recognition of landscape architects](#)

Rapport:

- Council of Europe, Report) presented to the 8th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention “[Landscape and training of civil engineers](#)” (Document [CEP-CDCPP \(2015\) 15](#))

## ***Education***

Each Party to the Convention undertakes to promote school and university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) notes that while schools in certain States already offer landscape training, such training should be strengthened so as to develop children’s sensitivity to questions which they are likely to experience when looking at the quality of their surroundings. Furthermore, this is a way of reaching a population through the family. This can come about through education in several disciplines, whether geography, history, the natural sciences, economics, literature, arts, architecture or engineering disciplines, or civics education.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2014\)8](#) on promoting landscape awareness through education considers that one of the aims of education is to train young people and equip them with a set of skills necessary for citizenship and democracy. It asserts that educational activities in the landscape field are an excellent way of giving meaning to the future, and recommends that the governments of member States Parties to the European Landscape Convention adopt legislative, regulatory, administrative, financial and other appropriate measures to initiate or to develop landscape education activities and to



promote landscape awareness among the young in accordance with the principles set out in the appendix to the recommendation.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2015\)7](#) on pedagogical material for landscape education at primary level asserts that educational activities in the landscape field are an excellent way of giving meaning to the future. An Pedagogical Booklet “[Landscape education activities for primary schools](#)”, was published by the Council of Europe Publishing in 2021. It aims to arouse curiosity and interest of pupils in landscape by inviting them to think about what they mean by “landscape”, and to consider it with its environmental, social, cultural and economic dimensions, both in space and time. The activities can be carried out within the framework of formal and non-formal education.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

- “[Awareness-raising, training and education](#)”, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
- “[Landscape and Education](#)”, Tropea, Calabria (Italy), 3-5 October 2018

Publications:

- Council of Europe, “[Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
- [Landscape and awareness-raising, training and education](#)
- Council of Europe, “[Landscape facets: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
- [Landscape and children’s education](#)
- Council of Europe, “[Landscape dimensions: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2017
- [Landscape and primary and secondary education](#)
- Council of Europe, [Landscape education activities for primary schools: Educational booklet](#), Council of Europe Landscape Convention, Council of Europe, European Spatial Planning and Landscape Series, 2021, No 121

Other languages: [French](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Armenian](#) | [Bulgarian](#) | [Estonian](#) | [Finnish](#) | [Greek](#) | [Hungarian](#) | [Italian](#) | [Norwegian](#) | [Polish](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Romanian](#) | [Russian](#) | [Serbian](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Swedish](#) | [Turkish](#) |

### **3.1.4. Landscape identification and assessment**

Knowledge of the landscape is the first fundamental step in a process that should lead to the formulation of quality objectives that can guide interventions.

With the active participation of the interested parties, and with a view to improving knowledge of its landscapes, each Party to the Convention undertakes: to identify its own landscapes throughout its territory; to analyse their characteristics and the forces and pressures transforming them; to take note of changes; and to assess the landscapes thus identified, taking into account the particular values assigned to them by the interested parties and the population concerned. These identification and assessment procedures are guided by the exchanges of experience and methodology, organised between the Parties at international level.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention states that the identification, description and assessment of landscapes



constitute the preliminary phase of any landscape policy. This involves an analysis of morphological, archaeological, historical, cultural and natural characteristics and their interrelations, as well as an analysis of changes. The perception of landscape by the public should also be analysed from the viewpoint of both its historical development and its recent significance. The sensory (visual, auditory, olfactory, tactile, taste) and emotional perception which a population has of its environment and recognition of the latter's diversity and special historical and cultural features are essential for the respect and safeguarding of the identity of the population itself and for individual enrichment and that of society as a whole. It implies recognition of the rights and responsibilities of populations to play an active role in the processes of acquiring knowledge, taking decisions and managing the quality of the places where they live.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

- [“Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives, using cultural and natural resources; Awareness-raising, training and education”](#), Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
- [“Landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy”](#), Cetinje (Montenegro), 2-3 October 2013

Publications:

- Council of Europe, [“Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
  - [Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives](#)
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape facets: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
  - [European local landscape circle studies](#)
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape dimensions: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2017
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape mosaics: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
  - [Towards a grammar for European landscapes](#)
  - [A review of integrated approaches for landscape monitoring](#)

### **3.1.5. Defining landscape quality objectives**

The aim is to define landscape quality objectives for the landscapes identified and assessed, after public consultation. The term “landscape quality objective” means, for a specific landscape, the formulation by the competent public authorities of the aspirations of the public with regard to the landscape features of their surroundings.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention notes that every planning action or project should comply with landscape quality objectives. It should in particular improve landscape quality, or at least not bring about a decline. The effects of projects, whatever their scale, on landscape should therefore be evaluated and rules and instruments corresponding to those effects defined. Each planning action or project should not only match, but also be appropriate to the features of the places.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

- [“Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives, using cultural and natural resources”](#), Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
- [“Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice”](#), Girona (Spain), 28-29 September 2006

Publication:

- Council of Europe, [“Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
- [Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives](#)
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape mosaics: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
- [Towards a grammar for European landscapes](#)
- [A review of integrated approaches for landscape monitoring](#)

**3.1.6. Implementation of landscape policies**

To put landscape policies into effect, each Party to the Convention undertakes to introduce instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) notes that the means of implementing landscape policies or introducing the landscape dimension into sectoral policies may be either regulatory or voluntary. Regulatory implementation depends on the legislation that exists and the type of objective; that is, it depends on the desired outcome in terms of protection, management or planning. Measures may be included in spatial-planning documents or provide for specific instruments. Voluntary implementation is based on agreements, charters, quality labels or contracts between the authorities and relevant stakeholders.

The Recommendation specifies that in order to implement landscape policies, a general planning and development process should be introduced. This should use specific instruments and provide for the landscape dimension to be included in sectoral instruments. It notes that instruments are already being employed in several countries and each can be a model for either creating new instruments or improving existing ones. The main categories are: landscape planning (landscape study plans included in spatial planning); the inclusion of the landscape in sectoral policies and instruments; shared charters, contracts and strategic plans; impact and landscape studies; evaluations of the effects of operations on landscape not subject to an impact study; protected sites and landscape; relationship between landscape and regulations concerning the cultural and historic heritage; resources and financing; landscape awards; landscape observatories, centres and institutes; reports on the state of the landscape and landscape policies; and the management of transfrontier landscapes.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2018\)9](#) on the creation of public funds for landscape recommends that the States Parties to the Convention: consider the creation or reinforcement, as appropriate, of legally regulated funds – whether national or regional – assigning them public law status; encourage support from, and participation of, different ministries or departments in the creation and supervision of the use of these funds; and finance these funds through public or private funding or any other source (taxes on tourism or other activities, levies linked to public works, etc.).

[Memento on integrated approaches for landscape monitoring](#), adopted by the 10th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention on 7 May 2019, presents a set of criteria to promote integrated monitoring programmes that overcome the dichotomy between physical and perceived landscapes.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

- 1st Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Innovative tools for the protection, management and planning of landscape*”, Strasbourg, France, 23-24 May 2002  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 74](#)
- 7th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management*”, Piestany, Slovakia, 24-25 April 2008  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 89](#)
- 18th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities*”, Yerevan, Armenia, 5-6 October 2016  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 109](#)
- 19th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy*”, Brno, Czech Republic, 5-6 September 2017  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 110](#)

Publication:

- Council of Europe, “[Landscape mosaics: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
- [Experiences of public landscape funds](#)

Reports:

- Documents of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention: “[Report on public landscape funding](#)”; “[Selected funding opportunities to support the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#)”

### 3.2. Integrating landscape to other policies that may have a direct or indirect impact on it

According to the Convention, developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques and in regional planning, town planning, transport, infrastructure, tourism and recreation and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases led to the degradation, standardisation or transformation of landscapes. It points out that many rural and peri-urban areas in particular have undergone and are continuing to undergo far-reaching changes and deserve great attention both on the part of the authorities and the public.

The Convention therefore provides that each Party shall undertake to integrate landscape to its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) considers that the landscape dimension should be included in the preparation of all spatial management policies, both general and sectoral, in order to lead to higher-

quality protection, management or planning proposals. It notes also that landscape should be fully taken into account via appropriate procedures allowing systematic inclusion of the landscape dimension in all policies that influence the quality of a territory. Integration concerns both the various administrative bodies and departments on the same level (horizontal integration) and the various administrative bodies belonging to different levels (vertical integration).

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)7](#) on landscape integration in policies relating to rural territories in agricultural and forestry, energy and demographic transition recommends that the governments of the States Parties to the convention call on national, regional or local authorities to adopt, at the national, regional and local level, strategic guidelines to provide a reference framework for public policies designed to implement the Convention in rural territories.

[Memento on dry stone in the landscape, ancestral and innovative, for sustainable territories](#), adopted by the 10th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention on 7 May 2019, aimed to promote the consideration of the value of dry stone in the landscape.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

- [“Spatial planning and landscape”](#), Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003
- [“Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas”](#), Cork (Ireland), 16-17 June 2005
- [“Landscape and rural heritage”](#), Sibiu (Romania), 20-21 September 2007
- [“Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management”](#), Piešťany (Slovakia), 24-25 April 2008
- [“Landscape and driving forces” \(climate change and the new energy paradigm, the ‘Globalscape’, landscape and social transformations, production systems and consumption patterns\)](#), Malmö/Alnarp (Sweden), 8-9 October 2009
- [“Landscape, infrastructures for society”](#), Córdoba (Spain), 15-16 April 2010
- [“Multifunctional landscape”](#), Évora (Portugal), 20-21 October 2011
- [“Visions for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning”](#), Thessaloniki (Greece), 1-2 October 2012
- [“Sustainable landscapes and economy: on the inestimable natural and human value of the landscape”](#), Urgup, (Turkey), 30 September, 1-2 October 2014
- [“Water, landscape and citizenship in the face of global change”](#), Seville, Spain, 14-15 March 2019

Publications:

- Council of Europe, [“Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
  - [Landscape and spatial planning](#)
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape facets: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
  - [Landscape, towns and peri-urban and suburban areas](#)
  - [Landscape and transport infrastructure: roads](#)
  - [Road infrastructures: tree avenues in the landscape](#)
- Council of Europe, [“Landscape dimensions: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2017
  - [Landscape and wind turbines](#)
  - [Landscape and leisure](#)
  - [Landscape and economy](#)
  - [Landscape and advertising](#)

- Council of Europe, “[\*Landscape mosaics: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention\*](#)”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
- [Drawing agricultural landscapes for sustainable and harmonious development of territories](#)
- [The landscape in rural territories in energy, agricultural and demographic transition](#)
- [Experiences of rural landscapes](#)
- [Dry stone in the landscape, ancestral and innovative, for sustainable territories](#)
- [Walking the landscape](#)
- Landscape and responsibility of stakeholders for sustainable and harmonious development
- Urbanisation, town planning and landscape
- Urban landscapes and climate change: the contribution of Landscape Architects to improve the quality of life

Journal:

- “[Landscape through literature](#)”, *Naturopa/Culturopa*, 2005, No 103
- “[Vernacular rural habitat, a heritage in our landscape](#)”, *Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory*, 2008, No 1

#### **4. The development of international co-operation**

The Parties to the Convention undertake to co-operate in catering for the landscape dimension in international policies and programmes, and to recommend as appropriate the inclusion of landscape considerations in these policies and programmes. They accordingly undertake to co-operate in respect of technical and scientific assistance and exchange of landscape specialists for training and information, and to exchange information on all matters covered by the Convention.

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention considers that information exchange, the circulation of theoretical, methodological and empirical ideas between landscape specialists and learning from these experiences are of fundamental importance in ensuring the social and territorial relevance of the European Landscape Convention and in achieving its objectives.

##### **4.1. Council of Europe Meetings for the implementation of the Convention**

###### **4.1.1. Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention**

Organised by the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe at the Palais de l’Europe in Strasbourg, the Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention aim to present the progress made in the implementation of the Convention, and to deal with the practical questions relating to its implementation, in accordance with its Article 10. The conclusions of the Conference are brought to the attention of the Committee of Experts mentioned in this article – the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP), according to the decision of the Committee of Ministers –, which then reports to the Committee of Ministers. Representatives of the Parties to the Convention and signatory States participate in them, as do representatives of the main Council of Europe bodies: the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the Conference of non-governmental organisations with participatory status at the Council of Europe. Also present with observer status are representatives of Council of Europe member States that are not yet Parties or signatories, observer States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organisations with an interest in the subject.

The results of the work of the Council of Europe meetings for the implementation of the Convention, the working groups responsible for drafting recommendations, the thematic reports produced by Council of Europe experts and formulating proposals for action, as well as the proposals of the International juries for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, are presented to these Conferences, with the aim of preparing draft decisions submitted to the Steering Committee in charge of the Convention.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/conferences](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/conferences)

– First Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 22-22 November 2001)

[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Second Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 28-29 November 2002)

[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Third Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 17 June 2004)

[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)

and Joint meeting of the cultural heritage steering committee (CDPAT) and the committee for the activities of the Council of Europe in the field of biological and landscape diversity (CO-DBP) (Strasbourg, 18 June 2004)

[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Fourth Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 22-23 March 2007)

[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Fifth Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 30-31 March 2009)

[Report](#) | Interventions [by Parties and Observer States](#) - [by non-governmental organisations](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Sixth Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 3-4 May 2011)

[Report](#) | Interventions [by Parties and Observer States](#) - [by non-governmental organisations](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Seventh Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 26-27 March 2013)

[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Eighth Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 19-20 March 2015)

[Report](#) | Contributions: [States-Add. 1](#) - [NGOs-Add. 2](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Ninth Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 23-24 March 2017)

[Report](#) | Contributions: [States-Add. 1](#) - [NGOs-Add. 2](#) | [Draft agenda](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Tenth Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 6-7 May 2019)

[Report](#) | Contributions: [States-Add. 1](#) - [NGOs-Add. 2](#) | [Draft agenda](#) | [Working documents](#)

– Eleventh Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 26-27 May 2021)

[Report](#) | Contributions: [States-Add. 1](#) - [NGOs-Add. 2](#) | [Draft agenda](#) | [Working documents](#)



#### 4.1.2. Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

Organised periodically by the Council of Europe, the Meetings of the Workshop for the implementation of the Convention, these Meetings aim to present new concepts and achievements. They represent a real forum for exchanging practices and ideas. Special emphasis is given to the experiences of the State hosting the meeting.

Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:

[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops)

- 1st Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape policies: contribution to the well-being of European citizens and to sustainable development (social, economic, cultural and ecological approaches); Landscape identification, evaluation and quality objectives, using cultural and natural resources; Awareness-raising, training and education; Innovative tools for the protection, management and planning of landscape*”, Strasbourg, France, 23-24 May 2002  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 74](#)
- 2nd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Integration of landscapes in international policies and programmes and transfrontier landscapes; Landscapes and individual and social well-being; Spatial planning and landscape*”, Strasbourg, France, 27-28 November 2003  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 72](#)
- 3rd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas*”, Cork, Ireland, 16-17 June 2005  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 82](#)
- 4th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape and society*”, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 11-12 May 2006  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 83](#)
- 5th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice*”, Gerona, Spain, 28-29 September 2006  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 84](#)
- 6th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape and rural heritage*”, Sibiu, Romania, 20-21 September 2007  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 88](#)
- 7th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management*”, Piestany, Slovakia, 24-25 April 2008  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 89](#)
- 8th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape and driving forces*”, Malmö, Sweden, 8-9 October 2009  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 93](#)
- 9th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Landscape and infrastructures for the society*”, Cordoba, Spain, 15-16 April 2010  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 95](#)
- 10th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Multifunctional landscape*”, Evora, Portugal, 20-21 October 2011  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 97](#)
- 11th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections](#) –



- [Sessions 2008-2009 and 2010-2011](#)”, Carbonia, Italy 4-5 June 2012  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 98](#)
- 12th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (and 16th International CEMAT Symposium) on “[Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: Landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning](#)”, Thessalonica, Greece, 2-3 October 2012  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 99](#)
  - 13th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[Territories of the future: landscape identification and assessment, an exercise in democracy](#)”, Cetinje, Montenegro, 2-3 October 2013  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 100](#)
  - 14th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[Council of Europe Landscape Award European Landscape Convention - Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 3rd Session 2012-2013](#)”, Wroclaw, Poland, 11-12 June 2014  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 101](#)
  - 15th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[Sustainable Landscapes and Economy: on the inestimable natural and human value of the landscape](#)”, Urgup, Turkey, 1-2 October 2014  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 104](#)
  - 16th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[Landscapes and transfrontier co-operation: Landscape knows no border](#)”, Andorra la Vella, Andorra, 1-2 October 2015  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 107](#)
  - 17th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 4th Session 2014-2015](#)”, Budapest, Hungary, 9-10 June 2016  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 108](#)
  - 18th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities](#)”, Yerevan, Armenia, 5-6 October 2016  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 109](#)
  - 19th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy](#)”, Brno, Czech Republic, 5-6 September 2017  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 110](#)
  - 20th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention “[Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 5th Session 2016-2017](#)”, Daugavpils, Latvia on 19-21 June 2018  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 113](#)
  - 21st Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention “[Landscape and Education](#)”, Tropea, Italy, 3-4 October 2018  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 114](#)
  - 22nd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “[Water, landscape and citizenship in the face of global change](#)”, Seville, Spain, 14-15 March 2019  
 Proceedings: [Council of Europe Series, European spatial planning and landscape, No 116](#)
  - 23rd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and Celebration at High Level of the Twentieth Anniversary of the European Landscape Convention “[Landscape integration in sectoral policies](#)”, [Lausanne, Switzerland, 19-20 October 2020]  
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 118](#)
  - 24th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention “[Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 5th Session 2018-2019](#)”, [Geneva, Switzerland, 21-22 October 2020]

- Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 119](#)
- 25th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention “*Landscape Strategies, Action plans and Policy documents for landscape quality*”, Majorca, Spain, 6-8 October 2021
- Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, European spatial planning and landscape, No 121

#### **4.1.3. Council of Europe National and Regional Seminars and Symposiums on the implementation of the Convention**

National or regional seminars and symposiums are organised by the Council of Europe in co-operation with the host State to foster debate on landscape and the adoption of policies for the implementation of the Convention. They provide a forum for debate on landscape and landscape policies, with the participation of government representatives, professionals, representatives of the population and the private sector.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/national-regional-symposiums](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/national-regional-symposiums)

Proceedings of the Council of Europe national and regional Symposiums on the implementation of the Convention:

- Seminar “*Spatial planning and landscape in Armenia*”, Yerevan, Armenia, 23-24 October 2003  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 75](#)
- Seminar “*Spatial planning and landscape*”, Moscow, Russia, 26-27 April 2004  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 77](#)
- Seminar “*Spatial planning and landscape*”, Romania, 6-8 May 2004  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 78](#)
- Seminar “*The contribution of Albania to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*”, Tirana, Albania, 15-16 December 2005  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 81](#)
- National Seminar “*Landscape of Andorra*”, Andorra La Vella, Andorra, 4-5 June 2007  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 85](#)
- National Symposium “[The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Drawing landscape policies for the future](#)”, Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 25-26 January 2018  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 111](#)
- National Symposium “[The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia: Interministerial Round-Table: Integration of the landscape into policies](#)”, Tbilisi, Georgia, 9-10 March 2018  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 112](#)
- National Conference “[Integrated approach to landscape protection, planning and management in Croatia](#)”, Zagreb, Croatia, 19-20 October 2018  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 115](#)
- National Days “[The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in France: Landscapes from here and elsewhere, diverse perspectives on some landscape approaches at different scales, on both sides of borders](#)”, Strasbourg, France, 26-27 November 2019  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, [European spatial planning and landscape, No 117](#)
- National Symposium “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Hungary*”, Budapest, Hungary, 20 October 2021  
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, European spatial planning and landscape, No 122
- National Symposium “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Greece*”, Larissa, Greece, 2022

Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, European spatial planning and landscape, No 123

#### 4.1.4. *International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe*

The International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe is celebrated on 20 October, the day of the opening of the Convention for signature. On this occasion, political declarations are adopted, and events organised.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/international-landscape-day](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/international-landscape-day)

- [First International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe](#) (2017):  
*Message from Brno: “Taking into account the landscape at the local level”*
- [Second International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe](#) (2018):  
*Message from Tropea: “Promoting landscape education”*
- [Third International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe](#) (2019):  
*Message from Seville: “Water and landscape”*
- [Fourth International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe](#) (2020):  
*Message from Lausanne: “Landscape integration in sectoral policies”*
- Fifth International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe (2021):  
*Message from Majorca: “Strategies and action plans for landscape quality”*

#### 4.2. **Mutual assistance and exchange of information**

To ensure exchanges of information and monitoring of the implementation of the Convention in the various member States Parties, a document setting out the landscape policies pursued in the member States has been produced on a regular basis and presented on the occasion of the Council of Europe Conferences on the Convention (Documents of the European Landscape Convention, Council of Europe: [CEP-CDPATEP \(2009\) 3](#); [CEP-CDPATEP \(2011\) 7](#); [CEP-CDCPP \(2013\) 5](#); [CEP-CDCPP \(2015\) 5](#)).

The use of the [Information System](#) of the European Landscape Convention, set up pursuant to Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2013\)4](#) of the Committee of Ministers, now provides on-line access to information concerning national policies. Addressed to authorities, organisations or citizens seeking useful information on landscape policies, a [Glossary](#) of key terms mentioned in the Convention has been produced to clarify them.

The Parties to the Convention are invited to make use of this Information System in the context of their co-operation, to work together on developing it further and to continue to exchange information on the matters covered by the provisions of the Convention, in order to promote an awareness of landscapes and the policies relating to them.

The [Information Platform](#) of the European Landscape Convention is intended to present: the main themes of the Convention; summary reports on national and regional policies for the implementation of the Convention; the work carried out for its implementation.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

International Landscape Observatory of the Council of Europe  
[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-observatory](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-observatory)

- [Information System of the European Landscape Convention: National and Regional Landscape policies](#)
- [Information Platform of the European Landscape Convention](#)

Publications:

- [Glossary of the Information System of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention](#), Spatial planning and Landscape Series, 2018, No.106
- Linguistic versions: [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/glossary-l6-linguistic-versions](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/glossary-l6-linguistic-versions)

#### **4.3. Transfrontier co-operation**

Transfrontier landscapes are the subject of a specific provision in the European Landscape Convention: “The Parties shall encourage transfrontier co-operation on local and regional level and, wherever necessary, prepare and implement joint landscape programmes”. Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention also pays particular attention to the management of transfrontier landscapes.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has adopted the Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2015\)8](#) on the implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on Transfrontier Landscapes. The text reflects the importance of appropriate consideration to be given to landscape and its environmental, cultural, social and economic values as a development factor for local societies. It recommends that the States Parties to the Convention promote co-operation focusing on transfrontier landscapes by encouraging local and regional authorities to work together to draw up, where appropriate, joint landscape-enhancement programmes for implementation of the Convention on transfrontier landscapes. It also calls on the Parties concerned to inform the other Parties to the Convention, in the framework of the Council of Europe Information System on the Convention, of the co-operation programmes drawn up and put in place, in order to foster an exchange of experiences.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention:

- [“Integration of landscapes in international policies and programmes and transfrontier landscapes”](#), Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003
- [“Landscape and transfrontier co-operation: the landscape knows no boundary”](#), Andorra la Vella (Andorra), 1-2 October 2015

Publications:

- Council of Europe, [“Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
- Landscape and policies, international programmes and transfrontier landscapes

Reports:

- [“Regional approaches to sustainable landscapes and green economic growth”](#), covering activities of Regional Environmental Center (REC) Caucasus for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Journal:

- “[Landscape and transfrontier co-operation](#)”, *Futuropana*, for a new vision of landscape and territory, 2010, no. 2

## 5. Recognition of exemplary projects

The European Landscape Convention provides for a Council of Europe Landscape Award which recognises policies or measures adopted by local or regional authorities or non-governmental organisations to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape which have proved lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities.

### 5.1. Sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

The Council of Europe’s Committee of Ministers adopted Resolution [CM/Res\(2008\)3](#) on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The award and special mentions are conferred every two years based on a Committee of Ministers’ decision following a proposal by a jury and the Council of Europe steering committee tasked with monitoring the implementation of the Convention. Four criteria have been established for the conferment of the Award: sustainable territorial development, exemplary value, public participation and awareness-raising.

In accordance with the Rules, they are presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his representative at a public ceremony.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

Sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/sessions-of-the-landscape-award](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/sessions-of-the-landscape-award)

- 1st Session 2008-2009: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 2nd Session 2010-2011: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 3rd Session 2012-2013: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 4th Session 2014-2015: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 5th Session 2016-2017: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 6th Session 2018-2019: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 7th Session 2020-2021: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 8th Session 2022-2023: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)

### 5.2. Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections

Biennially organised by the Council of Europe in co-operation with a hosting State, the Council of Europe Landscape Award Forums aim to highlight the selections made at national level within the framework of the Landscape Award, as sources of inspiration.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/forum-of-national-selections](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/forum-of-national-selections)

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the



Convention:

- “[\*Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 1st-Session 2008-2009 and 2nd Session 2010-2011\*](#)”, Carbonia (Italy), 4-5 June 2012
- “[\*Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 3rd Session 2012-2013\*](#)”, Wroclaw (Poland), 11-12 June 2014
- “[\*Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 4th Session 2014-2015\*](#)”, Budapest (Hungary), 9-10 June 2016
- “[\*Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 5th Session 2016-2017\*](#)”, Daugavpils (Latvia), 19-20 June 2018
- “[\*Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 6th Session 2018-2019\*](#)”, [Geneva (Switzerland), 21-22 October 2020]
- “*Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 7th Session 2020-2021*”, 2022

### 5.3. The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe

The Committee of Ministers adopted the Resolution [CM/Res\(2017\)18](#) on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe. This Alliance gathers the exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention in the framework of the Council of Europe Landscape Award sessions.

These achievements show that it is possible to promote the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the landscape features of people’s surroundings. Depending on the case, they promote:

- landscape protection through measures to preserve the significant and characteristic features of the landscape;
- landscape management through action from a sustainable development perspective to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape in order to guide and harmonise change; or
- landscape planning through forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes.

They foster: landscapes for living, in urban and peri-urban areas; landscapes to discover, through the provision of roads or country paths; landscapes both historical and alive, between nature and culture; or landscapes that enable people to get to know the countryside and take action to support it, by establishing methodologies and other landscape promotion tools.

*Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:*

The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe

[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-award-alliance](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-award-alliance)

- Exhibition “[The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe 2008-2021](#)”
- Posters on “[The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe 2008-2021](#)”
- Publication “[Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, Volume 1, 2008-2017](#)”, Territory and Landscape Series, 2018, No.105
- Publication “[Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, Volume 2, 2018-2021](#)”,

## Conclusion

Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2008\)3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention considers that the concept of landscape is undergoing a period of rapid and profound change accompanied by significant advances. It notes that the Convention, and the documents relating to its implementation, have led to developments in numerous States, not only in their national and regional legislation but also at various administrative levels, and in methodological documents and experiments with active participatory landscape policies. This situation has come about both in States which have long been active in this area and which have tried and tested landscape policies and instruments, and in States which are not yet at that stage. The Convention is also used as a benchmark by some countries to initiate a process of profound change in their landscape policies; for others it constitutes an opportunity to define their policy.

Since the adoption of the European Landscape Convention, major progress has indeed been made towards the establishment of landscape policies at national, regional and local level. Drawing on shared objectives, these policies foster the quality of a common living environment. The notion of landscape has been progressively introduced into the political agenda of governments and landscape actors: an important international network of cooperation for the implementation of the Convention has developed: the concept of landscape as defined the Convention is increasingly recognised by the public authorities and by the population; new forms of co-operation emerged between different levels of authority – national, regional and local –; and between ministries or departments of a State or region; specific laws and regulations referring to the landscape were adopted and institutional structures have been put in place; States or regions co-operate across borders for transfrontier landscapes; landscape prizes referring to the Council of Europe Landscape Award are organised; university programmes referring to the Convention are adopted, summer universities on landscape are organised, biennials, landscape festivals and exhibitions referring to the principles of the Convention are being set up, and people feel more and more concerned and active.

The landscape represents a mosaic of the four dimensions of sustainable development: environmental, cultural, social and economic. Governments committed to implementing the principles of good governance must take into consideration the invaluable value of the landscape for the human being, and include the landscape dimension in their national, regional and local policies. It is also up to everyone to respect the landscape and to take care of it, in its appearance as well as in its substance, for present and future generations. The opening of the European Landscape Convention to non-European States will be an opportunity to reaffirm the universality of the landscape dimension of human rights and democracy. This represents a contribution by the Council of Europe to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular with regard to Goals 3 (Good health and well-being), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 15 (Life on land), in particular.



## **The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe**

*Exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention  
in the framework of the Sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe*

### **1st Session 2008-2009**

On 23 September 2009, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe decided to:

1. *confer the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe on:*

*The Park de la Deûle, Lille Métropole, France*

2. *confer a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe to the following achievements:*

*The Cristina Enea Park, San Sebastián City Council, Spain*

3. *congratulate warmly the organisers of the following achievements:*

*The marking system of the tourist trails, Czech Tourist Club, Czech Republic*

*Landscape Management of Hämeenkyrö National Landscape Area, City of Hämeenkyrö, Finland*

*Implementation of the Complex Nature Conservation and Landscape, Management Programme in the Zámoly Basin, Public Foundation for Nature, Conservation Pro Vértes, Hungary*

*The Val di Cornia Park System, Val di Cornia, Italy*

*Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management Project, Association for the Conservation of Nature, Turkey*

4. *recognise the exemplariness of the following achievement:*

*Regional Distribution of Landscape Types in Slovenia, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Landscape Architecture, Slovenia*

### **2nd Session 2010-2011**

On 12 October 2011, the Committee of Ministers decided to:

1. *confer the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention on:*

*Carbonia: the landscape machine, Joint Committee of the Municipality of Carbonia, Italy*

2. *confer identical special mentions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe to the following achievements:*

*The grant programmes for local communities to shape their surroundings into a place where they are happy to live, Ekopolis Foundation, Slovakia*

*The project of education and awareness-raising: city, territory, landscape, Generalitat of*

Catalonia and Landscape Observatory of Catalonia, Spain

*The Durham Heritage Coast*, Durham Heritage Coast Partnership, United Kingdom

3. *acknowledge the great value of each of the following achievements and make them well known to the general public as a source of inspiration:*

*The Landscape Route of the Escaut Plains Natural Park*, Escaut Plains Natural Park, Belgium

*The hazel orchards in the village of Polystypos*, Polystypos Community Council, Cyprus

*The Čehovice Landscape*, Prostějov district in Moravia, Regional Land Office Prostějov, Czech Republic

*The management of endangered traditional biotopes and the preservation of the traditional rural landscape*, Finnish Association for Nature Conservation, Finland

*The Port aux Cerises Outdoor Leisure Centre*, Joint Committee for investigation, planning and management of the Port aux Cerises Outdoor Leisure Centre, France

*The traditional stone culture of the Bükkalja landscape*, Beehive Rock Nature Conservation and Cultural Association, Hungary

*The Dutch Landscape Manifesto*, Foundation Landscape Manifesto, the Netherlands

*The Herand Landscape Park*, County Government of Hordaland, Norway

*The landscape of Backi Monostor village*, Podunav Backi Monostor, Serbia

*We are making our landscape*, Slovenian Association of Landscape Architects, Slovenia

### 3rd Session 2012-2013

On 12 December 2013, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe decided to:

1. *confer the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention on:*

*Preserving ecological value in the landscape of the Szprotawa River Valley*, Lower Silesian Association of Landscape Parks, Poland

2. *confer identical special mentions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe to the following achievements:*

*The rebirth of the Alto Belice Corleonese region through the recovery of lands confiscated from the mafia organisations*, LIBERA, Associations, names and numbers against mafias, Italy – Special Mention for “Strengthening democracy”

*U-parks, U-turns we love*, Utena district Municipality, Lithuania – Special Mention for “Giving attention to the urban landscape as a common good”

*The Gate of Gornje Podunavlje*, NGO Podunav, Backi Monostor, Serbia – Special Mention for “Contributing to European ideals”

3. *acknowledge the great value of each of the following achievements and make them well known to the general public as a source of inspiration:*

*Hoge Kempen National Park, Regionaal Landschap Kempen en Maasland vzw, Belgium*

*Environmental education in the town of Strakonice year by year or “Pilgrimage through the Contemplative Landscape”, Municipality of Strakonice, Czech Republic*

*The Landscape Projects of Hyypä Valley, City of Kauhajoki, Hyypä Village Association, Finnish Forestry Centre/Public Services, Unit of South and Central Ostrobothnia, Finland*

*Grand Pré Park, City of Langueux, France*

*Complex Landscape Rehabilitation and Development Programme in the Gerecse Mountains and the Által Creek Valley, Association for the Restoration and Development of the Által Creek Valley (Tata), Hungary*

*Bere Island Conservation Plan, The Heritage Council and the Bere Island Project Group, Ireland*

*Dzintari Forest Park, Jurmala City Council, Latvia*

*Planning policy for conservation and sustainable development of 20 national landscapes in the Netherlands, Stichting Nationale Landschappen (NGO), the Netherlands*

*Furnas Landscape Laboratory (Furnas LandLab), Azores Regional Directorate of the Environment, Portugal*

*Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection in Transylvania, ADEPT Foundation, NGO, Romania*

*Salvage, revival and operation of the forest railway in the landscape of Cierny Balog, Ciernohronska železnica NGO, Slovak Republic*

*Landscape and water-management restoration of Škocjanski Zatok Nature Reserve, DOPPS, BirdLife Slovenia, Slovenia*

*The sustainable revitalisation of the protected landscape of Geria, Consortium for the defence and promotion of the landscape of Geria, Spain*

*South Pennines Watershed Landscape Project, Pennine Prospects, United Kingdom*

#### **4th Session 2014-2015**

On 14 October 2015, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe decided to:

1. *confer the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention on:*

*The borderless co-operation of local communities for the landscape heritage of the “Fabulous” Hetés, the Villages of Bödeháza, Gáborjánháza, Szigártóháza and Zalasombatfa (Hungary), the Villages of Genterovci, Kamovci, Radmožanci, Žitkovci, Mostje, Banuta (Slovenia), Greenways Methodology Association and the Iron Curtain Trail Association. Project presented by Hungary*

2. *confer identical special mentions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe to the following achievements:*

*The service tree, the tree of the Slovácko Region*, Municipality of Tvarožná Lhota and NGO International Exchanges (INEX) – Voluntary Service of the White Carpathians, Czech Republic

*Liptovská Teplička: protection of unique types of historical landscape*, Village of Liptovská Teplička, Slovak Republic

*The Sénia Territory Millennium Olive Tree Landscape*, Taula del Sénia Mancomunidad, Spain

3. *acknowledge the great value of each of the following achievements and make them well known to the general public as a source of inspiration:*

*The enhancement of the natural site and landscape of Hof ter Musschen*, Commission on the Environment of Brussels and its environs ASBL, Belgium

*The Ecomuseum Blaca Hermitage*, Cultural Centre of Brač, Croatia

*Development of the historical centre of Agios Athanasios*, Municipality of Agios Athanasios, Cyprus

*The “Bull by the horns”: grazing in nature and landscape management*, Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Central Finland, Finland

*The Agricultural Park of Paduli*, Open Urban Laboratory, Italy

*The Town of Kuldīga in the Venta Valley: preserving a unique landscape for future generations*, Kuldīga Municipality, Latvia

*The New Dutch Waterline*, Board of the New Dutch Waterline, the Netherlands

*Biodiversity and natural resources management in the Camili Basin*, Camili Environmental Protection and Development Association, Turkey

## 5th Session 2016-2017

On 27 September 2017, the Committee of Ministers decided to:

1. *confer the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention on:*

*Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress to Preserve Cultural and Historical Objects*, Daugavpils City Council, Latvia - Award conferred for regeneration of a degraded symbolic landscape

2. *confer identical special mentions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, on the following achievements:*

*The Hillside of the Citadel in Liège: 1999-2010. From an Enclosure to a Network*, City of Liège, Belgium - Special mention for “Public participation”

*Regeneration of the Landscape and Archaeological Park of the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento*, Department of Cultural Heritage and Identity of Sicily, Italy - Special mention for “Sustainable development and social reintegration”

*Alna Environmental Park: a Blue-Green Corridor of Biodiversity, Recreational Opportunities and Sustainable Urban Water Management*, Municipality of Oslo, Agency for Urban Environment, Norway - Special mention for “Social cohesion and respect for the environment”

*Hriňovské lazy: Landscape of Values*, Town of Hriňová, Slovak Republic - Special mention for “Preservation of a unique landscape under threat”

3. *acknowledge the great value of each project presented for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention and the importance to make them well known to the general public as sources of inspiration:*

*Management of the Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley, inscribed on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Cultural Landscape Category*, Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley management plan steering committee, Andorra

*Education of Children in Heavily Industrialised Landscapes*, Elementary School in the city of Most, Czech Republic

*The “Shepherding Weeks”*, Metsähallitus Parks and Wildlife Finland, Finland

*Landscape as a Link*, Saint-Paul, La Réunion, France

*Developing “Water Codes” in Larissa City Centre: the “Sculpted River” of Larissa*, Municipality of Larissa, Greece

*Landscape Development and Community Sample Programme for a Pleasant Village*, Local Government of Mátraderecske, Roma Minority Local Government of Mátraderecske, Hungary

*Protection and Management of Zasavica Special Nature Reserve: as a Tool for Sustainable Development*, Nature Conservation Movement of Sremska Mitrovica, Serbia

*Landscape Inventory of Galicia: Public Participation for Landscape Characterisation and Planning*, Institute of Land Studies, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of the Government of Galicia, Spain

## 6th Session 2018-2019

On 16 October 2019, the Committee of Ministers decided to:

1. *confer the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention on:*

*Renaturation of the watercourse of the River Aire*, Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland, and the following partners:

*Switzerland:*

Municipalities: Bernex, Confignon, Perly-Certoux and Onex;

Environmental Associations: Association for the Protection of the Aire and its tributaries, (transfrontier); ProNatura Geneva, World Wide Fund for Nature-Geneva; Association of inhabitants: “Living in Lully”; Farmers’ association: AgriGenève; Union Vegetable Market of Geneva; Office: “Superposition” Group

*France:*

Communauté de communes (federation of municipalities) of Genevois: Archamps, Haute-Savoie, in a spirit of transfrontier co-operation, in accordance with Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention

2. *confer identical special mentions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe to the following achievements:*

*Community activities day, “Let’s do it!”*, Estonian Fund for Nature (NGO), Estonia

*Establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park, City of Kotka, Finland*

*Reconquering the quays of the Seine in Rouen through the development of a large river promenade, City and Metropolis of Rouen, Normandy, France*

*Between land and water, “Another way of owning”, Consortium, Men of Massenzatica, Italy*

3. *acknowledge the great value of each project presented for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention and the importance to make them well known to the general public as sources of inspiration:*

*Wortel and Merksplas Colonies: a cultural landscape revalued, Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium*

*Dragodid: preserving the dry stone masonry techniques of the Eastern Adriatic, 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia*

*Multifunctional seaside park in Limassol, Limassol Municipality, Cyprus*

*Landscape Futures, University of Copenhagen, Denmark*

*Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development, Martvili Municipality, Georgia*

*Recreation of Lake Karla, Region of Thessaly, Greece*

*Landscape revitalisation initiative in the spirit of the Pogányvár Landscape Charter, Local governments of: Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracsa, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabar, Zalavár, Hungary*

*The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions: Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian singing festival, Kocēni Municipality, Latvia*

*Formation and consolidation of the natural urbanised territory of Telšiai city, Administration of Telšiai Municipality, Lithuania*

*Another landscape for Vianden, Union for the Development and Management of the Our Nature Park, Luxembourg*

*Lista, a unique landscape and partnership, Municipality of Farsund, Vest-Agder County Council, Norway*

*Landscape of the Pico Island vineyard culture, Regional Government of Azores, Regional Directorate of the Environment, Portugal*

*The spatial plan for a special-purpose area: the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci, Urban and Spatial Planning Institute of Vojvodina, Provincial Secretary for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Serbia*

*Safeguarding and restoration of the baroque landscape of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary, Calvary Fund Civic Association, Slovak Republic*

*Meadow orchards and landscape, Municipality of Kozje, Slovenia*

*The landscape of Bolonia Cove: research, planning and intervention*, Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute of the Department of Culture of the Local Government of Andalusia, Spain

*Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas*, Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Forestry, Duzce University, Turkey

*The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre*, Bardon Mill, Northumberland, Northumberland National Park Authority, United Kingdom

## **7th Session 2020-2021**

The achievements will be presented to the Committee of Ministers in 2021.

*The Salt of Life*, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation, Bulgaria

*Bothnian Bay Coastal Meadows Management*, Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, North Ostrobothnia, Finland

*Biodiversity in the city: Bergamo and the Astino Valley*, Fondazione della Misericordia Maggiore di Bergamo, Italy

*Landscapes are speaking*, Latvian Fund for Nature, Latvia

*Living Landscape: the Fjord Coast Regional- and Geopark*, Municipalities of Solund, Fjaler, Askvoll and Hyllestad, Norway

*Protection of the valuable non-forest habitats and landscapes characteristic for the area of Orle Gniazda Landscape Park*, Complex of Landscape Parks of the Silesian Voivodeship, Poland

*Herdade da Contenda, a tale of resilience for nature*, Municipality of Moura, Alentejo, Portugal

*The Gardens Park*, Timișoara City, Timiș County, Romania

*The Land of Bees*, kRAJ Civic Association, Slovak Republic

*Brda tourist destination development*, Municipality of Brda, Institute for Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sport Brda, Slovenia

*Val Bregaglia, a landscape culture to meet the challenges of the future*, Municipality of Bregaglia, Switzerland

*Dokuma Park, a culture, nature and art park for society*, Antalya Kepez Municipality, Turkey



## Appendix 1

### European Landscape Convention Chart of signatures and ratifications of Treaty 176

Status as of 27/04/2021

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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HomeAboutFull listSignatures and RatificationsSearchesPartial AgreementsTranslationsTemplatesNotificationsContact

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Chart of signatures and ratifications of Treaty 176

European Landscape Convention

Status as of 27/04/2021

Title	European Landscape Convention
Reference	ETS No.176
Opening of the treaty	Florence, 20/10/2000 - Treaty open for signature by the member States of the Council of Europe and for accession by the European Union and the European non-member States
Entry into Force	01/03/2004 - 10 Ratifications.

☒ State who signed ☒ State who ratified ☒ State who neither signed nor ratified ☒ State who suspended ☒ State who denounced

	Signature	Ratification	Entry into Force	Notes	R.	D.	A.	T.	C.	D.
Members of Council of Europe										
Albania										
Andorra	23/03/2011	07/03/2012	01/07/2012							
Armenia	14/05/2003	23/03/2004	01/07/2004							
Austria										
Azerbaijan	22/10/2003	30/08/2011	01/12/2011							
Belgium	20/10/2000	28/10/2004	01/02/2005							
Bosnia and Herzegovina	09/04/2010	31/01/2012	01/05/2012							
Bulgaria	20/10/2000	24/11/2004	01/03/2005							
Croatia	20/10/2000	15/01/2003	01/03/2004							
Cyprus	21/11/2001	21/06/2006	01/10/2006							
Czech Republic	28/11/2002	03/06/2004	01/10/2004							
Denmark	20/10/2000	20/03/2003	01/03/2004					<a href="#">T.</a>		
Estonia	20/12/2017	08/02/2018	01/06/2018							
Finland	20/10/2000	16/12/2005	01/04/2006							
France	20/10/2000	17/03/2006	01/07/2006							
Georgia	11/05/2010	15/09/2010	01/01/2011							
Germany										
Greece	13/12/2000	17/05/2010	01/09/2010							
Hungary	28/09/2005	26/10/2007	01/02/2008							
Iceland	29/06/2012	11/12/2019	01/04/2020							
Ireland	22/03/2002	22/03/2002	01/03/2004							

Italy	20/10/2000	04/05/2006	01/09/2006								
Latvia	29/11/2006	05/06/2007	01/10/2007								
Liechtenstein											
Lithuania	20/10/2000	13/11/2002	01/03/2004								
Luxembourg	20/10/2000	20/09/2006	01/01/2007								
Malta	20/10/2000										
Monaco											
Montenegro	08/12/2008	22/01/2009	01/05/2009								
Netherlands	27/07/2005	27/07/2005	01/11/2005								
North Macedonia	15/01/2003	18/11/2003	01/03/2004								
Norway	20/10/2000	23/10/2001	01/03/2004								
Poland	21/12/2001	27/09/2004	01/01/2005								
Portugal	20/10/2000	29/03/2005	01/07/2005								
Republic of Moldova	20/10/2000	14/03/2002	01/03/2004								
Romania	20/10/2000	07/11/2002	01/03/2004								
Russian Federation											
San Marino	20/10/2000	26/11/2003	01/03/2004								
Serbia	21/09/2007	28/06/2011	01/10/2011								
Slovak Republic	30/05/2005	09/08/2005	01/12/2005								
Slovenia	07/03/2001	25/09/2003	01/03/2004								
Spain	20/10/2000	26/11/2007	01/03/2008								
Sweden	22/02/2001	05/01/2011	01/05/2011								
Switzerland	20/10/2000	22/02/2013	01/06/2013								
Turkey	20/10/2000	13/10/2003	01/03/2004								
Ukraine	17/06/2004	10/03/2006	01/07/2006								
United Kingdom	21/02/2006	21/11/2006	01/03/2007								

Total number of signatures not followed by ratifications	1
Total number of ratifications/accessions	40

a: Accession s: Signature without reservation as to ratification su: Succession r: Signature "ad referendum".  
R.: Reservations D.: Declarations, Denunciations, Derogations A.: Authorities T.: Territorial Application C.: Communication O.: Objection.  
Source : Treaty Office on <http://conventions.coe.int> - \* Disclaimer.



## Appendix 2

**Notification of approval and entry into force of the Protocol amending the  
the European Landscape Convention**

<https://rm.coe.int/0900001680a1f882>

**DIRECTORATE OF LEGAL ADVICE  
AND PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW**

PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW  
AND TREATY OFFICE DIVISION



Strasbourg, 1 April 2021

Ref.: JJ9205C  
Tr./219-10

**NOTIFICATION OF APPROVAL  
AND OF ENTRY INTO FORCE**

State: Portugal.

Represented by: Mr Gilberto JERÓNIMO, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the Council of Europe.

Instrument: Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention, opened to ratification, acceptance or approval by the Parties to the Convention ETS No.176, in Strasbourg, on 1 August 2016 (CETS No. 219).

Date of entry into force of the instrument: 1 July 2021.

Date of approval: 25 March 2021.

Date of entry into force in respect of Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom: 1 July 2021.

Reservations: /

Declarations: /

Notification made in accordance with Article 9 of the Protocol.

Copy to all member States.

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F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex

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[www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)

### Appendix 3

#### **COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS**

##### **Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 9 November 2011  
at the 1125th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers,

Having regard to Resolution Res(2005)47 on committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods;

Having regard to the decision taken by the Ministers' Deputies at their 1112th meeting (19 April 2011, item 1.6) on intergovernmental structures;

Having regard to Resolution CM/Res(2011)7 on Council of Europe conferences of specialised ministers;

Having regard to the Statutory Resolution CM/Res(2011)2 relating to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and the revised Charter appended thereto;

Having regard to Resolution Res(2003)8 on the participatory status for international non-governmental organisations with the Council of Europe;

Having regard to Statutory Resolution Res(93)26 on Observer Status;

Having regard to Resolution Res(2001)6 on access to Council of Europe documents;

Having regard to Recommendation Rec(81)6 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the participation of women and men in an equitable proportion in committees and other bodies of the Council of Europe and to the Committee of Ministers' Declaration on Making gender equality a reality, adopted at the 119th Session of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (Madrid, 12 May 2009);

In pursuance of Articles 16 and 17 of the Council of Europe Statute,

Resolves as follows:

#### **I. Scope of this resolution**

1. This resolution shall apply to all intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies set up by the Committee of Ministers, by virtue of Article 17 of the Council of Europe Statute.

2. If not provided otherwise, the rules set out in this resolution shall also apply *mutatis mutandis* to any committee created by the Committee of Ministers outside the scope of Article 17.

3. All references to the Secretary General in this resolution shall be subject to the relevant provisions of the Statute of the Council of Europe, the Staff Regulations and the rules on delegation of authority.

## **II. Categories of committees<sup>4</sup>**

4. There shall be two categories of committees set up by the Committee of Ministers:

- a. *committees directly answerable to the Committee of Ministers*: steering committees with planning and steering functions and ad hoc committees with a more focused task; and
- b. *subordinate bodies* of steering or ad hoc committees, with specific and limited tasks.

## **III. Composition**

### **A. Members**

5. *Committees answerable to the Committee of Ministers*: they are composed of one representative of the highest possible rank in the relevant field designated by the government of each member state.<sup>5</sup>

6. *Subordinate bodies* answerable to steering or ad hoc committees: they are composed of representatives of all or of a limited number of member states of the highest possible rank in the relevant field designated by the governments of member states and/or of independent experts with established expertise in the relevant field. Where subordinate bodies are composed of a limited number of member states, due regard shall be given to geographical representation and periodic rotation of member states. Furthermore, they are open to the participation of representatives from other member states, at their own expense.

### **B. Participants**

7. Participants shall take part in the meetings of committees with no right to vote nor defrayal of expenses unless otherwise indicated. They are:

- a. representatives of committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as well as the Parliamentary Assembly, the European Court of Human Rights, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights and the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe;
- b. representatives designated by states which have observer status with the Council of Europe, the European Union, intergovernmental organisations and any other entity, including social partners, authorised to participate in the meetings of steering and ad hoc committees by virtue of a resolution or decision of the Committee of Ministers.

### **C. Observers**

8. Observers from states or organisations other than those referred to in paragraph 7.b above. They shall be admitted to steering committees, ad hoc committees and any subordinate body answerable to them in the following manner:

---

<sup>4</sup> Unless specified otherwise, the term “committee” refers to steering and ad hoc committees and their subordinate bodies.

<sup>5</sup> Where necessary, a member state is entitled to designate more than one representative.

a. as a general rule, upon their request to the Secretary General, observers are admitted, to steering and ad hoc committees or any subordinate body answerable to them, on the basis of a unanimous decision by that steering or ad hoc committee; in the event where unanimity is not reached, the matter may be referred to the Committee of Ministers at the request of two-thirds of the members of the committee concerned. The Committee of Ministers shall decide on the matter by a two-thirds majority of all the representatives entitled to sit on it;

b. concerning special cases, such as the admission of non-member states without observer status to the Council of Europe, and any other case which may necessitate a political decision, the Secretary General shall refer the matter to the Committee of Ministers. This decision shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of all the representatives entitled to sit on it.

9. Observers shall have no right to vote nor defrayal of expenses.

#### **IV. Terms of reference**

10. By “terms of reference” shall be understood all directives relating to the activities of a committee subject to the present resolution.

11. All committees and subordinate bodies shall have terms of reference.

12. Terms of reference of committees answerable to the Committee of Ministers shall be presented by the Secretary General and approved by the Committee of Ministers.

13. Terms of reference of subordinate bodies shall be presented by the Secretary General upon proposal by the parent committee, and approved by the Committee of Ministers.

14. All terms of reference shall be limited to a maximum period of two years in line with the biennial Programme and Budget of the Organisation, unless otherwise decided by the Committee of Ministers.

15. Terms of reference shall include:

- a. name of committee;
- b. category: steering committee, ad hoc committee or subordinate body;
- c. reference to the relevant programme line/s of the Council of Europe Programme and Budget, including concrete and measurable expected results for which the committee is responsible;
- d. where appropriate, its planning and advisory function;
- e. where appropriate, terms of reference derived from a convention;
- f. tasks and completion date;
- g. specific qualifications of members;
- h. composition of the committee: members, participants and observers and information concerning repayment of members’ travelling and subsistence expenses by the Council of Europe, as set out in Appendix 2 to this resolution; and
- i. working methods, including hearings and, if necessary and justified, proposals for consultants.



16. Terms of reference shall be accompanied by full information on their financial implications, detailing in particular, per committee, the operational budget and number of staff allocated.

## **V. Planning, monitoring and evaluation function of committees**

17. Steering and ad hoc committees advise the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General on the priorities and other matters with regard to their sectors, in particular on the relevance of activities in line with the priorities and criteria adopted by the Committee of Ministers.

18. The Secretariat shall inform members of committees and subordinate bodies of:

- a. the institutional and regulatory framework of the Organisation, as set out in the Statute of the Council of Europe and other relevant texts including the present resolution;
- b. programme line(s) under their responsibility and budgetary appropriations in the Programme and Budget of the Organisation;
- c. results of monitoring mechanisms and procedures that may have an impact on their work while respecting applicable confidentiality rules;
- d. the progress review report of the Programme and Budget so that they can examine and discuss it and report back on their respective parts;
- e. relevant co-operation activities and activities in the field; and
- f. relevant activities of other international organisations with a view to avoiding duplication and achieving synergies.

## **VI. Working methods**

19. The functioning and operation of committees and subordinate bodies shall be governed by the Rules of Procedure set out in Appendix 1 to this resolution. Committees' work shall include relevant transversal perspectives in all areas of their work.

## **VII. Documents and meeting reports**

20. The Secretary General shall be responsible for preparing and distributing documents to be discussed by the committees, as well as drafting the reports of their meetings, unless otherwise expressly provided for by the Committee of Ministers.

21. Committees shall prepare reports of their meetings. These reports shall include an evaluation of completed activities and a presentation of ongoing and planned work, together with the identification of its source and deadlines, as well as proposals for future activities and identification of activities that might be discontinued. These reports shall be made available, in both official languages, no later than one month after the last meeting day of the committee. Committees shall also adopt abridged meeting reports before the end of their meetings. Documents shall, where appropriate, contain an executive summary, action to be taken and resource implications.

### **VIII. Compendium of terms of reference**

22. The Secretariat shall compile and keep up to date a “Compendium of terms of reference” containing:
- a. the present resolution and any subsequent amendments to it;
  - b. Resolution Res(2004)25 on service contracts of consultants;
  - c. the terms of reference of all intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies;
  - d. the terms of reference derived from conventions, or special statutes given to intergovernmental committees set up under them; and
  - e. any other decision or message of the Committee of Ministers or the Secretary General relating to terms of reference;
  - f. the information foreseen in paragraph 16.

### **IX. Convening of meetings**

23. All meetings of committees and subordinate bodies shall be convened by the authority of the Secretary General by a single procedure in accordance with the authorisation given by the Committee of Ministers and with the general practices of good management. The Secretary General shall ensure that meetings are planned, convened and serviced as efficiently and economically as possible.
24. Convocations and preliminary draft agendas of meetings shall be circulated at least six weeks before the proposed date, except in cases of urgency, which shall be duly explained. Convocations shall specify the name of the committee, the place, date, opening time of the meeting, its duration, the subjects to be dealt with and the list of participants at the previous meeting. When appropriate, it shall contain an invitation to nominate a member, taking into account the relevant texts on participation of women and men in an equitable proportion in committees and other bodies of the Council of Europe and indicating the qualifications he or she should preferably possess.
25. For committees answerable to the Committee of Ministers, convocations shall be sent to nominees specified by the Permanent Representations with the Permanent Representations in copy. Nominations made by governments through Permanent Representations will remain valid until any change is notified or confirmed by them.
26. For subordinate bodies, convocations shall be sent as appropriate to nominees specified by Permanent Representations or by the parent committee or, in the absence of such a known nominee, to the Permanent Representations or to the Chair of the committee concerned respectively. Permanent Representations shall receive copies of convocations sent to designated members. Nominations made by governments through Permanent Representations will remain valid until any change is notified.
27. The Secretariat shall send the draft agenda, a provisional list of working documents and the documents themselves to the nominees, or in the absence of such a nomination, to the Permanent Representation concerned, at least 20 days before the meeting date. This documentation shall be made available to the Permanent Representations. Use should be made of information technology whenever possible.
28. The same arrangements shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to participants and observers.

**X. Co-ordination**

29. The Secretary General shall ensure that committees and subordinate bodies are informed about activities which may have implications for the execution of their respective terms of reference.

30. In order to ensure co-ordination between the Ministers' Deputies and committees answerable to the Committee of Ministers:

a. the Chairs of committees may be invited, whenever necessary, to take part in meetings of the Deputies' relevant Rapporteur Groups, Working Parties and Thematic Co-ordinators to discuss the evaluation of activities, present ongoing work and prospects for future activities, in line with the priorities of the Organisation;

b. the Chairs of the Deputies' relevant Rapporteur Groups, Working Parties and Thematic Co-ordinators may attend meetings of committees when it is deemed that this is of importance to the respective sector activity.

31. The Secretary General shall promptly inform committees of general guidelines issued by the Ministers' Deputies as regards the content, modalities of implementation and evaluation of the intergovernmental work.

**XI. Review of the intergovernmental structure**

32. A progress review on the intergovernmental structure will be carried out on a regular basis bearing in mind the reports referred to in paragraph 20 and the progress review report on the implementation of the Programme and Budget provided for by the Financial Regulations.

**XII. Entry into force of this resolution**

33. This resolution shall enter into force on 1 January 2012 and shall repeal and replace Resolution Res(2005)47.

\*

*Appendix 1 to Resolution CM/Res(2011)24***Rules of procedure for Council of Europe intergovernmental committees***Article 1 – Agenda*

a. The Secretary General, in close consultation with the Chair, shall draw up the draft agenda which should be concrete, operational and result-oriented.

b. The agenda shall be adopted by the committee at the beginning of its meeting.

*Article 2 – Documentation*

Documents requiring a decision, whether originating from the Secretariat or from a member, shall be sent, in the official languages (cf. Article 6 below), to members at least three weeks before the start of the meeting at which the decision is to be taken. In exceptional cases, however, the committee may, if no member objects, consider a document submitted later. Maximum use should be made of information technology, including gathering together amendments and proposals, finalising texts and publishing decisions, provided in the latter cases that all the members of the committee have been properly informed in good time.

*Article 3 – Privacy of meetings*

Meetings shall not be held in public.

*Article 4 – Hearings*

Committees and subordinate bodies may organise hearings with international organisations, NGOs, research and academic institutions, experts, specialists, specialist organisations and professional organisations, in a position to contribute to their work, within the limits of available budgetary appropriations.

*Article 5 – Quorum*

There shall be a quorum if two-thirds of the members of the committee are present.

*Article 6 – Official languages*

- a. The official languages of the committee shall be those of the Council of Europe.
- b. In exceptional circumstances, the Secretary General may decide, in particular, in the case of steering and ad hoc committees, to provide for interpretation into one additional language other than the official languages, within the limits of available budgetary appropriations.
- c. A committee member may speak in a language other than the official languages, in which case he or she must herself/himself provide for interpretation into one of the official languages.
- d. Any document drafted in a language other than the official languages shall be translated into one of the official languages, the member from whom it originates being responsible for making the necessary arrangements.

*Article 7 – Proposals*

- a. Any proposal must be submitted in writing in one official language if a committee member so requests. In that case, it shall not be discussed until it has been circulated.
- b. Proposals made by participants and observers may be put to the vote if sponsored by a committee member.

*Article 8 – Order of voting on proposals or amendments*

- a. Where a number of proposals relate to the same subject, they shall be put to the vote in the order in which they were submitted. In case of doubt, the Chair shall decide.
- b. Where a proposal is the subject of an amendment, the amendment shall be put to the vote first. Where two or more amendments to the same proposal are presented, the committee shall vote first on whichever departs furthest in substance from the original proposal. It shall then vote on the next furthest removed from the original proposal, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. However, where the acceptance of one amendment necessarily entails rejection of another, the latter shall not be put to the vote. The final vote shall then be taken on the proposal as amended or not amended. In case of doubt as to the order of priority, the Chair shall decide.
- c. Parts of a proposal or amendment may be put to the vote separately.
- d. In the case of proposals with financial implications, the most costly shall be put to the vote first.

*Article 9 – Order of procedural motions*

Procedural motions shall take precedence over all other proposals or motions except points of order. They shall be put to the vote in the following order:

- a. suspension of the sitting;
- b. adjournment of discussion on the item in hand; and
- c. postponement of a decision on the substance of a proposal until a specified date.

*Article 10 – Reconsideration of a question*

When a decision has been taken it is only re-examined if a member of the committee so requests, and if this request receives a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

*Article 11 – Voting*

- a. Each member of the committee shall have one vote; however, where a government designates more than one member, only one of them is entitled to take part in the voting,
- b. Subject to any contrary provisions in these Rules, voting requires the quorum. The decisions of the steering committees are taken by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.
- c. Except on procedural matters, other committees shall not take decisions by voting. They shall state their conclusions in the form of unanimous recommendations, or, if this proves impossible, they shall make a majority recommendation and indicate the dissenting opinions.
- d. Procedural matters shall be settled by a majority of the votes cast.
- e. Where the question arises as to whether or not a matter is procedural in nature, it may not be regarded as such unless the committee decides to that effect by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast;
- f. For the purposes of these Rules, “votes cast” shall mean the votes of members cast for or against. Members abstaining shall be regarded as not having cast a vote.

*Article 12 – Chair*

- a. Every committee shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair. However, the Chair of a subordinate body may be appointed by the steering or ad hoc committee to which it is answerable.
- b. The Chair shall conduct proceedings and sum up the conclusions whenever he or she thinks necessary. He or she may call to order a speaker who departs from the subject under discussion or from the committee’s terms of reference. The Chair shall retain the right to speak and to vote in her/his capacity as a member of the committee, except in cases where an additional expert from the same country has been appointed to sit on that committee.
- c. The Vice-Chair shall replace the Chair if the latter is absent or otherwise unable to preside the meeting. If the Vice-Chair is absent, the Chair shall be replaced by another member of the Bureau, appointed by the latter or, where there is no Bureau, by a member of the committee appointed by the committee.

d. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair shall require a two-thirds majority at the first ballot and a simple majority at the second ballot. In steering committees, the election shall be held by secret ballot, in other committees by a show of hands, unless a member of the committee requests a secret ballot.

e. The term of office of the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be one year. It may be renewed once.

*Article 13 – Bureau*

a. Every steering and ad hoc committee may appoint a bureau consisting of the Chair, the Vice-Chair and a limited number of other members of the committee. The number of other members shall be specified in the committee's terms of reference. Any other committee may, if need be, appoint a bureau composed, normally, of not more than three members in addition to the Chair and Vice-Chair. The functions of the Bureau are:

- to assist the Chair in conducting the committee's business;
- to supervise the preparation of meetings at the committee's request;
- to ensure continuity between meetings as necessary;
- to execute other additional specific tasks delegated by its Committee.

b. No decision on substantive issues shall be taken by the Bureau on behalf of the committee. In exceptional cases and due to time constraint, the Bureau may have recourse to the tacit approval of all the members of the committee through electronic communication, in order to expedite procedure on decisions requested by the Committee of Ministers.

c. Other members of the Bureau shall be appointed in the same manner as the Chair and Vice-Chair. They shall be appointed immediately after the Chair and Vice-Chair in accordance with an equitable distribution of posts, taking into account in particular geographical distribution, gender balance and, where relevant, legal systems.

d. The term of office of such members shall correspond to the duration of the mandate of the committee and may be renewed once. However, a member may, on expiry of her/his second term, be appointed Chair or Vice-Chair. In order to ensure partial replacement of the Bureau each year, the first term of at least one such member shall be limited to one year.

e. A member elected to replace another whose term of office has not expired shall complete her/his predecessor's term. The same shall apply to the offices of Chair and Vice-Chair.

*Article 14 – Working methods*

a. Committees may appoint a rapporteur, a drafting committee or both.

b. Where necessary, in order to expedite the progress of their work, committees may entrust a rapporteur or a limited number of committee members with a specific task to be fulfilled by their next meeting, using primarily information technologies.

c. In exceptional cases, for specialised tasks that cannot be performed by a member of the committee or the Secretariat, committees may request the Secretary General to have recourse to consultants subject to the provisions of the relevant resolution and within the limits of budgetary appropriations.

d. Time- and cost-efficiency shall be a guiding principle for committee work, including best possible use of interactive technologies for networks and meetings.

e. Agenda items for information only shall be communicated to members in advance by electronic means allowing the committee to focus during its meeting on agenda items for decision.



*Article 15 – Secretariat*

- a. The Secretary General shall provide the committee with the necessary staff, including the committee secretary, as well as with the administrative and other services it may require.
- b. The Secretary General or her/his representative may at any time make an oral or written statement on any subject under discussion.
- c. Committees may ask the Secretary General to prepare a report on any question relevant to their work.

*Article 16 – Venue of meetings*

- a. Committees shall normally be convened at the premises of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.
- b. Exceptionally, the Secretary General may authorise, if there is no objection from the government of the state on whose territory it is intended to hold the meeting and if suitable technical facilities are available on-the-spot, to convene a committee elsewhere, in particular, in other Council of Europe premises, in accordance with the principles of sound management and within the resources available.

*Article 17 – Revision*

Any committee directly answerable to the Committee of Ministers may propose to the Committee of Ministers to amend these Rules or, in exceptional circumstances, to waive them in part.

\*

*Appendix 2 to Resolution CM/Res(2011)24***Payment of travelling and subsistence expenses**

The travelling and subsistence expenses of one representative per member state participating in a steering and ad hoc committees shall be borne by the Council of Europe unless otherwise indicated in the respective terms of reference,<sup>6</sup> within the limits of budgetary appropriations.

The travelling and subsistence expenses of either all or only a limited number of members of subordinate bodies, as indicated in their respective terms of reference shall be borne by the Council of Europe, within the limits of budgetary appropriations.

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6. For example, where the terms of reference provide for reimbursement of the expenses of an additional member for the country whose representative has been elected Chair and in special cases set out in the terms of reference.