



Strasbourg, 27 April 2021

CEP-CDCPP (2021) 13E

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

11th COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON

THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

Report on the 7th Session (2020-2021)
of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

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

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

Summary

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

On 20 February 2008 the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted Resolution CM/(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The Award is given every two years by the Committee of Ministers, further to proposals from the Committee of Experts of the Council of Europe in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Convention.

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7th Session (2020-2021) of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

The Meeting of the International Jury of the 7th Session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award – 2020-2021 was held on 11-12 March 2021, in order to examine the applications and to propose the award, special mentions and acknowledgments [Report of the meeting in Appendix to this document].

The CDCPP will be invited, at its 10th Meeting (Strasbourg, 18 June 2021), to endorse the proposals of the Jury, with a view to submitting them to the Committee of Ministers for adoption.

The Conference is invited to take note that:

- the meeting of the International Jury of the 7th Session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award – 2020-2021 was held on 11-12 March 2021, in order to examine the applications, and to propose the Award, possible special mentions and acknowledgements [*CEP-CDCPP-LA (2021) 3E*];
- the CDCPP will be invited, at its 10th meeting (Strasbourg, 18 June 2021), to endorse the proposals of the Jury, with a view to submitting them to the Committee of Ministers for adoption.

APPENDIX

**Report of the Meeting of the
International Jury of the Landscape of the Council of Europe,**
7th Session 2020-2021

Palais de l'Europe, Conseil de l'Europe
11-12 March 2021
Online Meeting

[CEP-CDCPP-LA (2021) 3E]



Strasbourg, 16 March 2021

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EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

CEP-CDCPP

LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY

7th Session 2020-2021

Report

Palais de l'Europe, Council of Europe
11-12 March 2021
Online Meeting

*Secretariat document of the Council of Europe
Directorate of Democratic Participation*

I. WELCOME AND OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention welcomed the members of the Jury to the 7th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, listed in Appendix 1 to this report and thanked them for their participation in this important meeting:

– Representative of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape, in accordance with the decision of this Committee (CDCPP(2020)6, Item 4.3): Mrs Isabelle Leroy, Directorate of Cultural Heritage, Urban, Brussels Regional Public Service, Belgium.

– Representative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe: Mrs Barbara Toce, Vice-President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Town Councillor of Pedaso, Italy;

– Representative of the Conference of INGOS of the Council of Europe: M. Thierry Mathieu, Chair of the Committee on Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges of the Conference of INGOS of the Council of Europe, President of the International Association for Hospital Hygiene Research (IAHR), Monaco;

– three eminent Specialists on landscape:

- Ms Teresa Andresen, Landscape Architect and Agricultural Engineer, Doctor of Applied Environmental Sciences from the University of Aveiro, former President of the European Foundation for Landscape Architecture (EFLA);

- Mr Jean Cabanel, Honorary Head of the Mission and then of the Landscape Office of the French Ministries of the Environment and Public Works;

- Mr Peter Howard, Vice-Chair of the Landscape Research Group (LRG), Visiting Professor of Cultural Landscapes at Bournemouth University, United Kingdom.

1. Adoption of the agenda [[CEP-CDCP-LA \(2021\) 1E](#)]

The participants adopted the agenda as it appears in Appendix 1 to this report.

2. General presentation of the work of the meeting

The Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention warmly thanked all the States Parties to the Convention which had contributed to this 7th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. She recalled that the Convention provides in its Article 11 for a Council of Europe Landscape Award. The Committee of Ministers adopted Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe on 20 February 2008 (Appendix 3 to this report).

The Award is in keeping with the work done by the Council of Europe in favour of human rights, democracy and sustainable development and that it promotes the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape features of people's living conditions. The Award was launched in 2008 and six sessions of the Award have been previously organised: 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018-2019.

According to the Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 and in the framework of the organisation of the 7th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, the Parties to the Convention were invited to present through their Permanent Representatives, applications to the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe by 30 January 2021.

The Secretary received the following 12 application files:

1. Bulgaria/Bulgarie

The Salt of Life,

Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation, Bulgaria

Le Sel de la vie,

Fondation bulgare pour la biodiversité, Bulgarie

2. Finland / Finlande

Bothnian Bay Coastal Meadows Management,

Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment,

North Ostrobothnia, Finland

La gestion des prairies côtières de la baie de Botnie,

Centre pour le développement économique, les transports et l'environnement,

Ostrobothnie du Nord, Finlande

3. Italy / Italie

Biodiversity in the city: Bergamo and the Astino Valley,

Fondazione della Misericordia Maggiore of Bergamo, Italy

La biodiversité dans la ville : Bergame et la vallée d'Astino,

Fondazione della Misericordia Maggiore de Bergame, Italie

4. Latvia / Lettonie

Landscapes are speaking,

Latvian Fund for Nature, Latvia

Les paysages parlent,

Fonds letton pour la nature, Lettonie

5. Norway / Norvège

Living Landscape: the Fjord Coast Regional- and Geopark,

Municipalities of Solund, Fjaler, Askvoll and Hyllestad, Norway

Un paysage vivant : la Région de la côte des fjords- et Géoparc,

Municipalités de Solund, Fjaler, Askvoll et d'Hyllestad, Norvège

6. Poland / Pologne

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

La protection des précieux habitats non forestiers et des caractéristiques paysagères de la région du Parc paysager de l'Orle Gniazda,

Complexe de Parcs paysagers de la voïvodie de Silésie, Pologne

7. Portugal / Portugal

Herdade da Contenda, a tale of resilience for nature,

Municipality of Moura, Alentejo, Portugal

Herdade da Contenda, un conte de résilience pour la nature,

Municipalité de Moura, Alentejo, Portugal

8. Romania / Roumanie

The Gardens Park,
Timișoara City, Timiș County, Romania
Le Parc des jardins,
Ville de Timișoara, Comté de Timiș, Roumanie

9. Slovak Republic / République slovaque

The Land of Bees,
kRAJ Civic Association, Slovak Republic
Le Pays des abeilles,
Association civique kRAJ, République slovaque

10. Slovenia / Slovénie

Brda tourist destination development,
Municipality of Brda, Institute for Tourism, Culture,
Youth and Sport Brda, Slovenia
Le développement de la destination touristique de Brda,
Commune de Brda, Institut pour le tourisme, la culture,
la jeunesse et le sport Brda, Slovénie

11. Switzerland / Suisse

Val Bregaglia, a landscape culture to meet the challenges of the future,
Municipality of Bregaglia, Switzerland
Val Bregaglia, une culture du paysage pour répondre aux enjeux du futur,
Commune de Bregaglia, Suisse

12. Turkey / Turquie

Dokuma Park, a culture, nature and art park for society,
Antalya Kepez Municipality, Turkey
Le Parc Dokuma, un parc de la culture, de la nature et de l'art pour la société,
Municipalité d'Antalya Kepez, Turquie

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A presentation of the [Applications](https://www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape) appears on the Council of Europe Website of the European Landscape Convention: <https://www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape> / “Landscape Award” / “Sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe” Part: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/sessions-of-the-landscape-award>

The International Jury, set up as a subordinate body of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP), in accordance with Article 10 of the European Landscape Convention, thus meets in order to examine the applications and propose the Award, possible special mentions and acknowledgements.

The CDCPP will be invited, at its 10th meeting (Strasbourg, 2021), to endorse the proposals of the Jury, with a view to submitting them to the Committee of Ministers for adoption.

In the light of these proposals, the Committee of Ministers shall grant the Award, as well as special mentions and acknowledgments. According to the Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, they will be presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, with the participation of the Chair of the CDCPP and the Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, or their representatives, at a public ceremony.

All the achievements will be also presented at the 26th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “*Forum of the national selections for the Council of Europe Landscape Award – 7th Session 2020-2021*”, to be held in 2022.

II. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR

The members of the Jury nominated Mrs Teresa Andresen as Chair of the Jury of the 7th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe.

III. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECTS

[\[CEP-CDCP-LA \(2021\) 2E\]](#)

The Jury examined the complete files submitted to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe:
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/7th-award-candidates>

The Salt of Life

Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation, Bulgaria

The “Salt of Life” project was implemented in the area of Lake Atanasovsko, one of the main biodiversity hotspots in the Black Sea biogeographical region. The lake is part of the Burgas wetland complex, one of the three most important wetland complexes for waterbirds along the Bulgarian Black Sea coast. The beautiful and colourful Lake Atanasovsko, as it is known today, is largely the result of the symbiosis between man and nature: a major modification for the purpose of salt production has made the site rich and significant. At a time when the coast is undergoing increasing urbanisation, the lagoon is of strategic importance for the conservation of biological diversity on the Black Sea coast.

The actions carried out have made it possible to halt the long-term trend that was leading to the degradation of these lagoons, priority habitats for many species. Work was developed to raise public awareness of the high value of the salt marshes (Natura 2000 network sites), hence the project’s motto, “Salt of Life”. The project has involved a wide range of people who are now aware of the richness of the region and the benefits that result from protecting the area. The understanding and respect for the processes taking place in the lake, the biodiversity, the Bulgarian sea salt and the fascination for the process of salt extraction have improved. Most valuable of all, an emotional connection between the people and the lake has been nurtured.

Bothnian Bay Coastal Meadows Management

Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, North Ostrobothnia, Finland

The exceptionally extensive coastal meadows of the Bay of Bothnia have been restored to preserve their landscape and habitats. These were the result of the traditional agriculture that was practised there, but the evolution of agricultural practices had led to their degradation. Thanks to the project, more than 4,000 hectares have been restored.

An operating model for the management of the coastal areas was first developed involving identification of valuable coastal meadow sites, identifying suitable measures for restoring them to the target state, and finding a local farmer to implement these measures with funding via agri-environmental support. The use of this operating model, based on the experience gained in pilot sites, has been successfully extended to a large territory.

The success of the project means that the vast traditional coastal meadows of the Bay of Bothnia have been restored to their former lustre through extensive and long-term co-operation. Similar measures and methods can also be applied elsewhere in Finland and in other States.

Biodiversity in the city: Bergamo and the Astino Valley

Fondazione della Misericordia Maggiore of Bergamo, Italy

The project consisted of reclaiming and planning, through public-private partnerships, the landscape of the Astino Valley, a precious 60-hectares area located just outside the city of Bergamo. Rich in history and biodiversity, the area had fallen into a state of disrepair and neglect in recent decades, despite the introduction of development restrictions.

In 2007, responding to the desire of the local community to safeguard and enhance this area, the *Fondazione della Misericordia Maggiore* (MIA) of Bergamo acquired the Astino monastery and the adjacent land, in order to restore the complex and sustainably regenerate its landscape. An intense dialogue with a wide collaboration resulted in 2017 in the underwriting of a plan agreement.

The project foresaw: the restoration of the monastery and farms, the castle and the surrounding paths; the creation of educational itineraries in the Wood of Joy (*Bosco dell'Allegrezza*); the reintroduction of traditional crops based on organic farming methods and irrigation network; and the creation of a local branch of the Bergamo botanical garden. A series of cultural, educational and training events were organised. Specific measures were taken to integrate disadvantaged people. By restoring the strong identity and social significance of these sites, the project has fully restored the Astino Valley for the benefit of all the inhabitants of Bergamo.

Landscapes are speaking

Latvian Fund for Nature, Latvia

The project, dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Latvian State, is based on a vision of the future landscape of Latvia, defined by experts from the Latvian Fund for Nature. It is forward-looking, respecting the past. It envisages a landscape where people live and work sustainably, preserving the natural and cultural heritage. The future landscape of Latvia – the one that children will see and live in – is created and decided now. Therefore, the main objective was to create ways for the vision to become reality by raising awareness in society about the impacts that today's actions have on the landscapes of the future.

The project consisted of the following elements: a communication campaign where elements of the landscape “speak” through voice-overs of famous Latvian actors and musicians (www.ainavasruna.lv); practical tips “What I can do to help”, which included simple actions that most people could incorporate into their daily lives; “Then and now”, an exciting virtual journey to visit familiar landscapes from a hundred years ago through a collection of old postcards and corresponding contemporary photos. People were encouraged to submit their own photos for the exhibition. The campaign was complemented by activities on sustainable landscape management at individual, farm and local community level. Actions were developed in the form of fact sheets and educational materials. The results of research entitled “Landscapes speak. Changes in Latvian landscapes and their values in the last century” by the University of Vidzeme, received wide media coverage. The vision and main objectives of the project are contained in a Landscape Manifesto – <https://ainavasruna.lv/ainavas-manifests>.

Living Landscape: the Fjord Coast Regional- and Geopark

Municipalities of Solund, Fjaler, Askvoll and Hyllestad, Norway

The Fjord Coast Regional- and Geopark brings together the inhabitants of four municipalities who are acting together to preserve, enhance and promote the nature and culture of their region. The work carried out is part of a long-term sustainable development perspective, from an environmental, cultural, social and economic point of view. With a sheep society's practical knowledge of the Old Norwegian sheep husbandry, people can learn to produce their own food while protecting the threatened coastal moor.

The inhabitants work together to maintain one of Europe's oldest cultural landscapes with its diversity of species. They pass on to new generations a traditional method of farming. Sheep roam the moors all year round and the burning technique is used. The park is pursuing a project to preserve the buildings associated with the local coastal cultural heritage. In addition to the initial results – food production, preservation of a threatened landscape and health benefits – the co-operation has created a sense of cohesion, belonging and integration among the inhabitants, which has given meaning to the word 'we'.

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

The project has enhanced the landscape with its environmental, cultural and historical features. Sustainable planning and management of the landscape revealed and enhanced the limestone hills with rocky outcrops which are a unique feature at national and European level. Non-forest thermophilic habitats have been protected, restored and preserved; nature conservation methods have been developed and invasive non-native species have been controlled, thus setting an example to be followed. The knowledge, experience and results of the project were promoted at conferences, and the education, information, publication and promotion activities of the Silesian Voivodeship Landscape Park Complex (*Zespół Parków Krajobrazowych Województwa Śląskiego*) were presented, both in Poland and abroad.

The project is part of a policy of sustainable and inclusive development of the Krakow-Częstochowa plateau, contributing to the social and economic development of the population. The landscape awareness-raising activities promoted and the forms of participation developed have led to the search for alternative sources of income that respect the natural and cultural environment. Active conservation of the landscape and the development of rural tourism that promotes gastronomy and the sale of local products have helped to improve the living conditions of local communities.

Herdade da Contenda, a tale of resilience for nature

Municipality of Moura, Alentejo, Portugal

The project implemented a landscape policy in an area of called *Herdade da Contenda* (Contenda Estate, 5,270 hectares) belonging to the local authority of Moura, which borders Spain. The importance of this cross-border landscape dates back to the Middle Ages, when it was managed as a community. It was the subject of disputes between Portugal and Spain, and the vast property was divided between the two countries at the end of the 19th century.

Managed by the municipality, the Portuguese part was later leased for agriculture and overexploitation led to its decline, loss of biodiversity and consequent abandonment and the degradation of the landscape. The local authority, in collaboration with the forestry services and the Institute for the Conservation of Nature and Forests, has implemented policies for the regeneration and enhancement of the landscape, transforming it into an attractive area of landscape and ecological richness.

The adopted management practices have made it possible to enhance the landscape for the benefit of all: for example, the use of machinery and adequate equipment in forest interventions; plantations on contour lines; the development of a regular census of hunting and protected species; respect for nesting periods; and the protection of natural regeneration.

The Gardens Park

Timișoara City, Timiș County, Romania

The Garden Park is also known as “Little Forest Giroc Park” and “Lidia Park”. In 2010, a sparse forest area was identified for a landscape project based on a functional adaptation of the area. The vegetation was mainly from a disused nursery, and this was considered an appropriate backdrop for the landscape development. The concept of the new park was based on a stylistic composition “a theme within a theme”, inspired by the words of a future user. When asked “What kind of park would you like to have here?”, he replied: “I grew up here and I always wanted it to be... a garden”.

The park was designed according to a stylistic composition “a theme within a theme”. Given the generous space available, the idea emerged to create not one but several gardens, and this inspired the conceptual name of the project “A Park with Gardens - The Park of Gardens”. The project thus offers a tour of European garden styles, ranging from classical to modern gardens. The elements introduced have a unity in the resulting landscape diversity: The “English Medieval Garden” contains a Celtic knot within a labyrinth; the “Biblical Garden” contains a round parterre divided by a green cross hedge; the “Italian Garden” reveals Tuscan influences of red brickwork along a path; the “Modern Garden” has outdoor tables and sun loungers on the surrounding lawn; the “Spanish Garden” has a classical monastic garden; the “Greek Garden” has a mini amphitheatre at its centre; and the “Romantic Garden” has a rose collection, a water lily lake and ornamental rockeries. The public can thus enjoy an attractive park in its urban landscape.

The Land of Bees

kRAJ Civic Association, Slovak Republic

The Land of Bees is a project focusing on education in the field of beekeeping, which is one of the European Union’s priority themes. The association has built a unique education centre and now operates educational apiaries for professionals and the general public. It organises experimental programmes for all types of schools, with day camps and activities during which it systematically raises awareness of the importance of bees and natural pollinators for the environment. Beekeeping courses for beginners and free courses for the long-term unemployed are provided. Material assistance and training for graduates in the sale of beekeeping products is also provided.

Engaged in social entrepreneurship, the association has founded a wax processing workshop and a carpentry workshop for the production of beehives. People from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and marginalised groups are involved and learn how to process beekeeping products. Vocational training is also offered, which helps to develop co-operation in the region and support community life. By extending bee families in the landscape and creating territories favourable to pollinators, it contributes to increasing the biodiversity of the landscape.

Brda Tourist Destination Development

Municipality of Brda, Institute for Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sport, Slovenia

The Municipality of Brda covers two thirds of the entire terraced landscape that stretches in western Slovenia between the River Soča, Mounts Sabotin and Korada and the Friulian plain. The pursuit of the best wine-growing and fruit-growing produce resulted in terrace-building on the hillsides. This long history and tradition are preserved to this day, and is promoted by the responsible spatial planning policy of the Municipality. It ensures the authenticity of the terraced landscape as well as the traditional and predominantly manual agricultural work, by integrating the old with the new.

The exceptional landscape with its olive trees, vineyards and fruit trees (cherry trees in particular) represents an asset for sustainable tourism wishing to discover traditional cultivation methods, forms of inter-generational co-operation on farms and the promotion of local products. The character of the

landscape is presented in the context of the products offered for sale (wine, olives, fruit), which helps to enhance them.

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

Val Bregaglia has a long-established culture of landscape, an awareness and willingness to intervene carefully in the landscape. This landscape sensitivity is deeply rooted in the population and is also supported by the municipal authorities. With the merger of five municipalities in this Alpine valley in 2010, landscape and built heritage quickly emerged as central elements of the overall strategy formulated for the valley. As a result of this commitment, the municipality was awarded the prestigious Wakker Prize in 2015 by the Swiss Heritage Association, attributed to municipalities that can boast a high standard of urban development.

In 2017, the valley was hit by a deadly landslide and debris flow, causing extensive damage in the Bondo and Promontogno areas. The prevailing landscape culture in the municipality has led it to ensure that new infrastructure for protection against natural hazards is well integrated into the landscape. A competition was launched in 2019 and the selected project, entitled “Strata”, proposed an ambitious landscape integration programme with the creation of a network of dry stone walls and the use of stones brought into the valley by the landslide. This example demonstrates how a rational approach to landscape planning based on the characteristics of the territory can appropriately address challenges.

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

The foundations of the Antalya Cotton Weaving and Spinning Mill were laid in the 1950s, becoming the first industrial facility in Antalya, with an area of 250,000 m². Many people worked there for long hours and until its closure in 2003, the factory became a place of memory for the stories of the workers, their families and friends. In 2005, the owners of the factory handed over the rights to the then administration, which handed over the use rights to a foreign company to build a shopping centre. In 2009, the new administration of the municipality of Kepez recognised the importance of this space for the collective memory of the city and spent several years fighting in court to recover the legal rights to the land and return it to its rightful owners, the citizens. The most important aspect was to recover the land, which was destined for commerce, and which would have erased the natural and cultural landscape of the area.

Focusing on the common interest, in collaboration with a management that defends its values, the city council convened a diverse working group. The resulting report served as a master plan for the creation of this centrally located park, a plan that protects the interests of society as a space accessible to all. There is now a common platform for raising awareness and engaging local citizens as active participants and owners of the park. This is recognised as an essential guarantee for a sustainable future in terms of maintaining the ecosystem qualities and socio-cultural characteristics of the park.

IV. DEBATE AND DECISION OF THE JURY

In order to maintain the impartiality of the decisions, Mrs Barbara Toce and Mrs Teresa Andresen did not take part in the decisions concerning the projects of Italy and Portugal, respectively.

The Jury recognised the importance of all the projects presented for the 7th Session 2020-2021 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, which through diverse approaches contribute to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in accordance with Resolution CM/Res(2017)18 on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe.

The Jury unanimously decided to ask the CDCPP to submit the following draft decision to the Committee of Ministers:

Twelve projects were presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the occasion of the 7th Session 2020-2021 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe.

On ..., the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in accordance with the Resolution of the Committee of Ministers CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, and on the proposals of the Jury and of the Committee of experts responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Convention:

i. acknowledged the great quality of the twelve achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe (ETS No. 176) for the 7th Session of the Landscape Award (2020-2021), 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 of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention, for the 7th Session of the Landscape Award (2020-2021), on the following achievement:

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

In keeping with a long tradition of solidarity carried on by the *Fondazione della Misericordia Maggiore* of Bergamo, the project has succeeded in enhancing a historic landscape to create a landscape turned towards the future. Combining tradition and novelty, it has promoted a sustainable territorial development considered in its environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions. The landscape of the Astino Valley and its monastic complex have been preserved at the city's doorstep. Continuing the work initiated by the monks, the authors of the project have developed contemporary agricultural and forestry management methods that promote biodiversity. The cultural heritage has been restored, social ties have been forged, and jobs have been created with the strong involvement of the local population. Soft traffic modes have been implemented. Awareness-raising activities and education promote a real landscape awareness. The close co-operation between the different actors based on an ethical charter, confer to this project an eminently exemplary value.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

iii. conferred identical Special Mentions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention, for the 7th Session of the Landscape Award (2020-2021), on the following achievements:

The Salt of Life,

Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation, Bulgaria

The operation achieved the preservation of the landscape of the coastal lagoon of Atanasovsko Lake, a witness of the symbiosis between man and nature. It has strengthened the public's attachment to the ecological, social and cultural values of this exceptional landscape that has undeniable aesthetic appeal. The hydraulic system has been carefully restored. This attractive site has become the preferred venue for cultural and artistic events, such as the salt festival. Born from the involvement of the scientific world, local associative organisations, inhabitants of the region and political decision-makers, the achievement has revealed a landscape that improves the quality of life for the populations of both people and birds, while supporting the local economy.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

Bothnian Bay Coastal Meadows Management,

Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment,
North Ostrobothnia, Finland

The strong co-operation between nature conservation authorities, landowners, farmers and local organisations has resulted in the restoration of a landscape of 4000 hectares of coastal meadows with maintenance practices dating back to the 15th century. Farmers have been able to benefit from agri-environmental measures to revitalise the rural landscape of the Bay of Bothnia. Awareness-raising initiatives have helped to familiarise new generations with traditional agriculture. The project represents a noteworthy example of solidarity between local actors, in order to preserve the history of a unique landscape.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

The Land of Bees,

kRAJ Civic Association, Slovak Republic

The project contributes to the sustainable preservation of a landscape by addressing the serious environmental problem of pollinator decline. It aims to ensure pollination by bees and other natural pollinators. The project promotes the making of a landscape designed for bees, developing a sustainable beekeeping method and provides professional training. Awareness-raising, education and training activities strengthen the link with the landscape and are a real source of inspiration, for local population and vulnerable people. The project contributes to the creation of a socio-economic space for job creation based on local honey and bee products. It thus promotes social cohesion in a previously neglected area.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

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

The restoration and maintenance of Brda's terraced agricultural landscape combined with the conservation of local varieties and the promotion of traditional products, demonstrates the importance of preserving the identity of a landscape full of history. The restoration of the cultural heritage and the development of agri-tourism have positively contributed to supporting the economic activity of the commune in a sustainable development perspective. The participatory approach in the decision-making process has contributed to the success of the project. The population, as well as visitors, can now appreciate the landscape and its quality products.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

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

By deciding to create a park dedicated to linking nature and culture on the site of a disused spinning mill complex, the municipality of Kepez has put at the disposal of the inhabitants, a vast cultural and leisure space that can be appreciated by all. The different components of the park – a botanical garden, museums, a library, social spaces – have been restored and converted, thus preserving the memory of the place. The project was carried out with respect for civic and ethical values, and a participatory approach was followed from the beginning of the process. An interactive governance platform allows citizens to become actively involved in the future of this living landscape. A mayoral decision to prefer a park to a shopping centre has been fully vindicated.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

iv. acknowledged the great value of each project presented for the 7th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention (2020-2021) mentioned below, and the importance to make them well-known as sources of inspiration:

Landscapes are speaking,
Latvian Fund for Nature, Latvia

This project reflects a strong commitment of the involved actors to raise awareness on a large scale of the importance of the Latvian landscape for people and visitors. It made it possible to raise stakeholders' awareness of the importance of the landscape and the impacts that today's actions can have on tomorrow's landscape. A broad communication campaign proposed ways to preserve biodiversity and manage the landscape. The general public, professionals and public authorities were invited to consider the transformations of the landscape, in order to take care of it. A large virtual exhibition has aroused great interest.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

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

The project is part of a wider process of preserving a landscape that has been shaped by man for over 5,000 years. By re-establishing the traditional breeding of the Old Norwegian Sheep, the Hardbakke Old Norwegian Sheep Society, a cooperative run by the inhabitants of the Fjord Coast region, has made it possible to rediscover the richness of this ancestral breed. Jobs based on traditional, environmentally friendly forms of production have been created and the work carried out has enhanced ancestral practices that current generations are rediscovering. Based on a bottom-up approach, the project is the result of a strong commitment from the local population. By preserving the richness of a unique landscape, it has created a dynamic that is based on a lasting alliance between man and nature.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

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

Through the introduction of exemplary landscape planning and management operations, the project has helped to protect a unique landscape of the Upper Jura which consists of a mosaic of picturesque hills and rocks. It has preserved valuable habitats and endemic species that were threatened by agricultural intensification, by various forms of pollution and invasive species. The actions carried out to raise the local actors' awareness on the territory's history, the values of its natural and cultural resources, as well as on traditional farming and livestock practices, have fully placed the issue of sustainable territorial development at the centre of their concerns.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

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

The landscape policy implemented in the Contenda Estate has reversed the trend that was leading to its decline. The conservation status of this *montado* landscape has been improved through appropriate management and planning, with a remarkable participatory approach. The dissemination of scientific knowledge on its intrinsic values has enabled local actors to become its best protectors. By restoring degraded landscapes, the project ensures sustainable use of the forests, contributing to climate change reduction, and preserves endemic species. It also promotes educational and pedagogical practices in the field of ecology. Its economic dimension in terms of sustainable agriculture, animal breeding, beekeeping and hunting is certain. The domain of Contenda is also particularly popular for relaxation and recreation.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

The Gardens Park,
Timișoara City, Timiș County, Romania

This creative project has improved the quality of people's lives. The landscaping facilitated circulation in the park's paths and promoted individual and collective well-being by providing a park for relaxation and leisure. The project has taken full account of the environmental, social, cultural and economic values of the urban landscape in a sustainable development perspective. It is one of the largest green spaces recently developed in the city, promoting interest in the variety of gardens, the diversity of species, and in particular that of the varieties of roses.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

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

The landscape culture is well anchored in the concerns of this municipality of the Swiss Alps. In order to meet the socio-economic needs of the population and to repair the damage caused by natural disasters, the municipality has integrated the landscape dimension into its land use and town planning policies. The aim is to preserve the environment and the building culture of the valley. Based on a participatory approach of the stakeholders, the action undertaken shows that a landscape approach makes it possible to face contemporary challenges, in the forefront of which is climate change.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

V. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The members of the Jury underlined that the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe constitutes an important means for promoting awareness-raising of the landscape dimension, according to the provisions of the European Landscape Convention.

They expressed the wish that the application forms explicitly highlight the landscape issues of the projects.

They also expressed the wish that all Parties to the Convention participate in the 8th Session of the Award, to be held in 2022-2023.

VI. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

The Chair thanked the members of the Jury and the Secretariat and closed the meeting.

APPENDIX 1

AGENDA

- I. WELCOME AND OPENING OF THE MEETING
 - Adoption of the draft agenda
[CEP-CDCP-LA (2021) 1E]
 - General presentation of the work of the meeting
[CEP-CDCPP-LA (2021) 2E]
- II. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR
- III. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECTS
- IV. DEBATE AND DECISION OF THE JURY
- V. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
- VI. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

APPENDIX 2**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS****MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY****Representative of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)**

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Representative of the Conference of INGOS of the Council of Europe

3. Mr Thierry MATHIEU, President of the Committee on Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges of the Conference of INGOS of the Council of Europe, Secretary General of the International Association for Hospital Hygiene Research (IAHR), L'Herculis, 12 Chemin de la Turbie, MC-98000 Monaco
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Three eminent specialists on landscape

4. Mrs Teresa ANDRESEN, Landscape Architect and Agricultural Engineer, Doctor of Applied Environmental Sciences from the University of Aveiro, former President of the European Foundation for Landscape Architecture (EFLA), Quinta do Souto, Rua de Areias, 86, São Pedro d'Este, 4715-415 Braga, Portugal
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APPENDIX 3

**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 at the 1018th meeting
of the Ministers' Deputies)*

www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/rules-and-linguistic-versions

The Committee of Ministers,

Recalling that Article 11 of the European Landscape Convention (ETS No. 176) (hereinafter “the Convention”), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000 and opened for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000, institutes the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (hereinafter “the award”);

Bearing in mind that this article provides that the Committee of Ministers shall define and publish the criteria for conferring the award, adopt the relevant rules and grant the award;

Bearing in mind that the award’s purpose is to reward exemplary practical initiatives for the achievement of landscape quality objectives on the territories of parties to the Convention (hereinafter “the Parties”);

Considering that the award is in keeping with the work done by the Council of Europe in favour of human rights, democracy and sustainable development and that it promotes the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape features of people’s living conditions;

Convinced that the award is intended to heighten civil society’s awareness of the value of landscapes, of their role and of changes to them,

Resolves as follows:

- I. The rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe are adopted as set out in the appendix to this resolution.
- II. The criteria for awarding the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe are appended to these rules.
- III. The Parties are invited to translate into their national language(s) and promote the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. They are also requested to encourage media coverage of the award so as to raise public awareness of the importance of landscapes.

Rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Article 1 – Aim

a. The award is an honorary distinction which acknowledges a policy or measures implemented by local or regional authorities or their groupings, or particularly remarkable contributions by non-governmental organisations, for sustainable protection, management and/or planning of landscapes. It takes the form of a diploma. Special mentions may also be awarded.

b. The award rewards a process of implementation of the Convention at national or transnational levels resulting in an effective, measurable achievement.

c. The award also helps to make people more aware of the importance of landscapes for human development, consolidation of the European identity and the well-being of individuals and society as a whole. It fosters public participation in the decision-making process concerning landscape policies.

Article 2 – Qualification of candidates

In accordance with Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Convention, the following may be candidates for the award: local or regional authorities and their groupings that have instituted, as part of the landscape policy of a party to this Convention, a policy or measures to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape, which have proved lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities in Europe. Non-governmental organisations having made particularly remarkable contributions to landscape protection, management or planning may also be candidates.

In accordance with paragraph 2 of the above-mentioned article, transfrontier local or regional authorities and groupings of local and regional authorities concerned may be candidates, provided that they jointly manage the landscape in question.

Article 3 – Procedure

The procedure consists of three stages:

Stage 1 – Submission of candidatures

Each Party may submit one candidature to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe. The candidature may be the result of a competition held by each Party taking into account the award criteria appended to these rules.

The application file, in one of the official languages of the Council of Europe (French or English), shall include:

- a presentation of the candidate (not more than three pages long);
- the description of a completed project for the protection, management and/or planning of a landscape, which has proved lastingly effective and can serve as an example. Mention shall be made of the convention provision concerned.

The description shall take the form of a paper document, approximately 20 pages long, accompanied by a digital copy in PDF format on CD-Rom and posters. The file may also include a video presentation lasting approximately five minutes. The materials submitted must be copyright-free for use by the Council of Europe in communications aimed at promoting the award or any other publications or activities relating to the Convention. The Council of Europe undertakes to cite the authors' names.

Files that are incomplete or fail to comply with the rules will not be taken into consideration.

The award is in principle conferred every two years. The files presenting candidatures must reach the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by no later than 31 December of the year preceding the year of award.

Stage 2 – Consideration of candidatures

An international jury set up as a subordinate body of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention¹ shall determine whether candidatures are admissible. The jury is composed of:

- one member of (each of) the committee(s) of experts responsible for monitoring the Convention, appointed by the committee(s) concerned;
- one member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, appointed by the Congress;
- one representative of an international non-governmental organisation, appointed by the Secretary General on the proposal of the Grouping of INGOs enjoying participatory status with the Council of Europe;
- three eminent specialists on landscape, appointed by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

The jury appoints a president.

The jury proposes the award winner from among the candidates admitted.

The proposals of the jury are taken by an absolute majority for the first two rounds of voting, and by a relative majority for the following round, based on the criteria set out in the appendix to these rules, stating the reasons for its choice. In case of equal votes, the vote of the president of the jury is decisive.

The reasons for the choice are explained.

The jury can propose to attribute one or more special mentions.

The committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention* examine the proposals of the jury and forward their proposals concerning the award winner, and, wherever appropriate, special mentions, to the Committee of Ministers.

Stage 3 – Granting and presentation of the award and the special mentions

In the light of the proposals of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention, the Committee of Ministers shall grant the award and any special mentions.

The award and the special mentions shall be presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his/her representative at a public ceremony.

* On 30 January 2008, the Committee of Ministers decided to attribute this competence to the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDPATEP) [replaced on 1st January 2012 by the Steering Committee for Culture, Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)].

Appendix to the rules

Criteria for conferring the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Criterion 1 – Sustainable territorial development

The completed projects submitted must give tangible form to the protection, management and/or planning of landscapes. This means that the projects must have been completed and open to the public at least three years, when the candidatures were submitted.

They must also:

- be part of a sustainable development policy and be in harmony with the territorial organisation of the area concerned;
- demonstrate their environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic sustainability;
- counter or remedy any damage to landscape structures;
- help enhance and enrich the landscape and develop new qualities.

Criterion 2 – Exemplary value

The implementation of the policy or measures that have helped to improve the protection, management and/or planning of the landscapes concerned must set an example of good practice for others to follow.

Criterion 3 – Public participation

The policy or measures implemented with a view to the protection, management and/or planning of the landscapes concerned should involve the active participation of the public, local and regional authorities and other players and should clearly reflect the landscape quality objectives.

The public should be able to participate simultaneously in two ways:

- through dialogue and exchanges between members of society (public meetings, debates, procedures for participation and consultation in the field, for example);
- through procedures for public participation and involvement in landscape policies implemented by national, regional or local authorities.

Criterion 4 – Awareness-raising

Article 6.A of the Convention provides that “each Party undertakes to increase awareness among civil society, private organisations and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them”. Action along these lines taken as part of the completed project concerned will be assessed.

*