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Council of Europe
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Conseil de l'Europe
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

11th COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

*Conference organised under the auspices of the Presidency of Hungary
of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe*

Council of Europe
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg
26-27 May 2021
Online meeting [Room 9]

Opening speech

Mrs Krisztina KINCSES

*Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention,
National Representative of the Convention for the Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary*

Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Excellencies,
Madam Chair,
Monsieur Chairman,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear colleagues,

First, I would like to thank the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe, Secretariat of the Convention, Directorate of Democratic Participation for organising the Conference. Two years ago – golden times –, we had no idea then that this conference would have to take place online.

This will be the eleventh conference of the European Landscape Convention, and this one is being held under the auspices of the Presidency of Hungary of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

I am looking forward to meeting the representatives of the parties, representatives of signatories and representatives of the Council of Europe bodies, representatives of Council of Europe member States,

which are not yet parties or signatories of the Convention, representatives of observer States and representatives of various international governmental and non-governmental organisations.

The Conference gives us an opportunity to exchange information and we look forward to hearing news and on achievements from the member states. Representatives are invited to report on the most important actions undertaken in their countries since the previous Conference. International governmental and non-governmental organisations will also have the opportunity to present statements.

The pandemic has made it particularly difficult to organise face-to-face meetings. Nevertheless, I am pleased to say that the Council of Europe's working groups and experts have produced important working documents which will be presented to you.

When we finish the formal part of the Conference this afternoon, we have the official opening of two virtual exhibitions. Please stay with us.

Time goes rapidly, so, I wish you an interesting, useful and effective conference and wish you all every success for the next two years, when perhaps we will be able to meet again in person for the next Conference.

I now give the floor to Mrs Flora van Regteren Altena, Chair of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape of the Council of Europe, Senior policy advisor, Department for Arts and Heritage. Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of The Netherlands.

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