



**COUNCIL OF EUROPE LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**  
**LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

*9<sup>th</sup> Session – 2025-2026*

**APPLICATION FORM**

**State Party: Slovenia**

## **Presentation**

*The Council of Europe Landscape Convention is the first international treaty to be exclusively concerned with all aspects of landscape: natural, rural, urban and peri-urban. It represents an important contribution to the implementation of the Council of Europe's objectives. By taking into account the value of landscapes, with their natural and human components, the Council of Europe acknowledges that the landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas.*

*The 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government, held in Reykjavík on 16 – 17 May 2023, recognised “the urgency of additional efforts to protect the environment, as well as to counter the impact of the triple planetary crisis of pollution, climate change and loss of biodiversity on human rights, democracy and the rule of law.” It committed the Council of Europe to strengthening work on the human rights aspects of the environment and initiate the Reykjavik process of focusing and strengthening the work of the Council of Europe in this field, as laid down in Appendix V of the Reykjavik Declaration on “The Council of Europe and the environment”.*

*Appendix V of the Reykjavik Declaration references the Landscape Convention to highlight that “landscape has an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields and is a key element of individual and social well-being, and that landscape protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone.”*

*Article 11 of the Convention establishes the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The 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, draws attention to the fact that Article 11 of the Convention institutes the Award and that it is in keeping with the work carried out by the Council of Europe concerning human rights, democracy and sustainable development.*

*Opened to the Parties to the Convention, the Award is intended to raise civil society's awareness of the value of landscapes, of their role and of changes to them. Its objective is to reward exemplary practical initiatives aimed at successful landscape quality objectives on the territories of the Parties to the Convention. The Award is conferred every two years and the files presenting applications must reach the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe.*

*At its meeting held in Strasbourg on 28-29 April 2008, the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDPATEP) decided that applications should be submitted to the Council of Europe Secretariat through the Permanent Representations of the Parties to the Convention.*

***Each State Party to the Convention is thus invited to send by post to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe (Council of Europe Landscape Convention), no later than 31 December 2025, via its Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe, a completed application form in paper format, together with a digital copy on a USB key of the form and additional material.***

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*Please note that:*

- participation to the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe is only open to local and regional authorities and their groupings and non-governmental organisations, as stated in the Resolution CM/Res (2008)3, Appendix, Article 2;*
- the application form must be completed in all its parts, in one of the two official languages of the Council of Europe (English or French);*

- *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.*

*For further information please visit the Landscape Award section of the Council of Europe website:*

[Convention du Conseil de l'Europe sur le paysage / Site web officiel \(coe.int\)](#)

[Council of Europe Landscape Convention / Official website \(coe.int\)](#)

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## I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

**1. State**

Slovenia

**Represented by**

*Address:*

*Telephone:*

*E-mail:*

**Ms / Mr**  
Blanka Bartol

Ministry of the Natural Resources and Spatial Planning  
Dunajska 48  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia

+386-1-478-7054

blanka.bartol@gov.si

**2. Applicant**

*Name of the local,  
regional authority(ies)  
or NGO(s)*

Landezine

- ☐ Local / regional authority project  
☐ NGO Project

**Website of the Applicant (if  
exists)**

www.landezine.com

**Represented by**

*Address:*

*Telephone:*

*E-mail:*

Mr Zaš Brezar

Landezine  
Cigaletova 5  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia

+386 40 81 40 04

[info \(at\) landezine.com](mailto:info@landezine.com)

## II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT

### 3. Name of the Project

Landezine – Landscape Architecture Platform

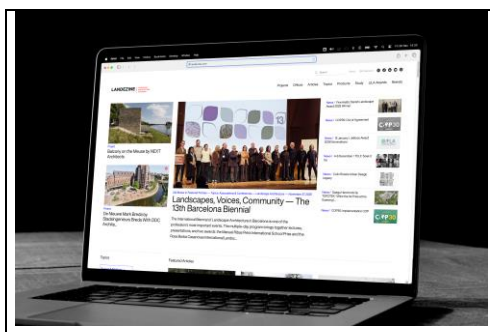
### 4. Location of the Project

Ljubljana, Slovenia

### 5. Summary of the Project (10-12 lines)

Landezine is an independent, transnational platform dedicated to landscape architecture, operating for over fifteen years with a global professional audience. It promotes responsible landscape protection, management, and planning through cultural mediation, critical reflection, and public awareness. Landezine treats landscape as a public good shaped by environmental processes, social relations, and political decisions, rather than as a purely visual impression or utilitarian terrain. The platform foregrounds environmental responsibility, social justice, and long-term thinking, while actively confronting greenwashing and short-term, image-based approaches to landscape production. Through the publication of exemplary projects, critical essays, interviews, and their international awards program LILA, Landezine raises awareness of the role of landscape in multi-species well-being, democratic life, and publicness. By connecting practitioners, researchers, students, and institutions across borders, it contributes to a shared European and global landscape culture and encourages informed, inclusive, and accountable approaches to spatial development.

### 6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi) and name of the author of the photo please



Author of the photo: Zaš Brezar

### 7. Website of the Project (if exists)

### III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

8. **Start of the Project** month  year   
*The project must have been completed at least three years previously*

9. **End of the Project** month  year   
*The project must have been completed at least three years previously*

10. **Partners**

11. **Financing bodies**

12. **Central aims of the Project**

*What are the main objectives of the project regarding landscape?  
How does the project contribute to the implementation of the Convention at the national level or transnational level?*

The main objectives of the project are detecting and reflecting on contemporary modes of production of space. Landezine aims to strengthen the protection, management, and planning of landscapes by co-shaping the professional culture that produces them. Rather than acting on a single site, Landezine operates on the discursive and cultural level, influencing how landscapes are imagined, designed, evaluated, and governed.

Its central objectives are to:

1. Promote environmentally responsible and socially just landscape practices.
2. Expanding the discussion - Increase critical awareness of how landscapes are shaped under ecological crisis and social inequality.
3. Critical thinking: Expose and confront greenwashing as a systemic threat to credible landscape action.
4. Reinforce the key-, and often overlooked role of aesthetics as a political and inclusive

- force, shaping who feels invited, represented, and acknowledged in shared spaces.
5. Support younger generations of landscape professionals in developing reflective, responsible, and engaged approaches to landscape.

#### Contribution to Implementation of the Convention

- Landezine contributes to the implementation of the Landscape Convention by advancing its principles beyond legislation, into professional culture and everyday practice.
- As it operates as a transnational platform, it disseminates exemplary approaches across Europe and globally.
- Landezine supports public awareness and participation by making landscape discourse accessible, critical, and visible to all.
- Strengthening the link between human well-being, environmental responsibility, multi-species co-habitation, and cultural identity, directly aligned with the Convention's preamble.
- Through our work, we seek to broaden and deepen discussion within landscape architecture by questioning the idea of "harmony" in contemporary landscapes, which can obscure underlying and often invisible environmental pressures. We emphasise landscape as a point of convergence for far-reaching processes such as carbon emissions, material extraction, production, and displacement. The challenges ahead cannot be addressed through reassuring images or aesthetic coherence alone, but require informed public debate, responsible limits to environmental impact, and collective political action capable of enabling real change.

### 13. Type of the Project

*Describe the nature/type of the project:*

*Does it focus on landscape protection and management, or does it involve landscape planning, or both?*

*Is the project related to specific measures or to a landscape public policy?*

*Is it implemented at a national level or a transnational level?*

Landezine is a transnational cultural and professional platform.

1. It addresses landscape protection, management, and planning simultaneously, through critique, dissemination, and cultural framing.
2. The project relates to landscape public policy indirectly, by shaping professional standards, ethical expectations, and public discourse. We try to engage writers who write about public policies and very specific measures, so first-hand experiences and knowledge are circulating on the platform, available to all freely.
3. Transnational in scope and impact. There is no formal implementation, but we do aim to build bridges between practice, academia, institutions, and other professional participants in the production of space

This approach resonates strongly with the New European Bauhaus, as Landezine:

- Bridges ecology, culture, and social inclusion.
  - Treats aesthetics not as harmonisation of the environmental realities but as a driver of belonging and participation.
  - Encourages co-creation, debate, and plurality rather than simplified solutionisms.
- Articles we publish and author, are often seen as questioning and provocative within the community. In this sense we consider our project as a platform for doubt and constructive critique

#### 14. Outcome

*What are the effective and measurable results of the project on the landscape?*

##### Effective and Measurable Results

Landezine is the most visited landscape architecture platform in the world, with approximately 6,000 daily visitors from across the globe.

Over 3,000 landscape projects of good practice have been published.

The platform has built a global network of landscape architects, researchers, educators, and institutions.

Through the LILA – Landezine International Landscape Award, now in its 10th edition, Landezine actively promotes exemplary landscape practices aligned with sustainability, inclusivity, and cultural quality. In its tenth edition in 2025, LILA accepted more than 400 projects from all over the world. [Landezine-award.com](https://landezine-award.com)

Student-oriented initiatives such as the Streetlife Design Competition and the LILA Portfolio Award directly support future generations.

Landezine uses its reach to promote the set of values within the professional community and wider. Many of those values align with those of the Convention or New European Bauhaus.

Landezine was awarded Plečnik Medal for ‘Enrichment of Spatial Culture’ in 2025. Plečnik awards are the highest Slovenian recognition in architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, and interior design.

#### IV. RESPECT OF THE CRITERIA OF THE ATTRIBUTION OF THE AWARD

##### 15. Sustainable territorial development

*Is the project part of a sustainable development policy?*

*Does it contribute to the enhancement of environmental, social, economic, cultural or aesthetic values of the landscape? How?*

*Has it successfully countered or posed a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?*

*Does it respond to the triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss? How?<sup>1</sup>*

Landezine contributes across multiple dimensions:

**Environmental:** By focusing on environmentally responsible landscape practices and critically addressing greenwashing, Landezine strengthens the credibility of ecological action in landscape architecture and promotes approaches that acknowledge material flows, carbon footprints, and long-term environmental consequences.

**Social:** The platform addresses landscape as a shared social space, emphasising inclusion, accessibility, and social justice, particularly in everyday and ordinary landscapes where inequalities are most strongly felt. We try to frame landscape as a platform for open dissensus, co-facilitated by a profession that should not turn a blind eye to conflict and messy social realities of perpetual struggle – between private and public interests, development and protection, between landscape as pleasing amenity and a dynamic interface for social bonds and neighborhood.

**Economic:** By questioning short-term, image-driven approaches and promoting adaptive and responsible practices, Landezine supports resilient and trustworthy professional standards that contribute to long-term economic sustainability in spatial development. The platform advances an understanding of landscape production not as the creation of images, but as a political and societal process embedded in material realities: flows of resources and energy, environmental transformation, and the necessity of restraint. This perspective encourages decision-making that prioritises long-term public value over immediate visual or market-driven gains.

**Cultural and aesthetic:** Landezine treats aesthetics not as decoration, but as a factor that shapes social relations and public life. The way landscapes appear, feel, and are framed influences who feels welcome, represented, or excluded. In this sense, aesthetic choices are understood as having political consequences: they can either reinforce consensus and invisibility, or open space for debate, plurality, and democratic engagement.

##### 16. Exemplary value

*Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?*

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix V to the Reykjavík Declaration

*Which are the good practices that it implemented? Which of these practices are considered of exemplary value at the national or transnational level?*

Landezine can be considered exemplary due to its lasting international impact, and its sustained contribution to expanding understanding of landscape for over a decade.

Critical mediation: Translating complex environmental and social issues into accessible yet rigorous public discourse. Landezine offers an accessible window into the often hermetic academic discourse. With its glossaries and articles, it offers a theoretic infrastructure that caters academics and invites practitioners to expand their horizons.

Archiving discipline: As landscape architecture is a relatively small discipline, we curate and constantly expand the digital archive of profession's body of work – freely accessible to all.

Countering greenwashing: Systematically questioning superficial ecological narratives and promoting credibility and accountability in landscape practice.

Transnational knowledge exchange: Creating a platform where practices, ideas, and experiences circulate across borders, strengthening shared global landscape culture.

Support for future generations: Engaging students and emerging professionals through awards and competitions that encourage responsible, inclusive, and reflective approaches to landscape.

Integration of culture, ecology, and democracy: Treating landscape as a space where environmental sustainability, social inclusion, and cultural meaning must be addressed together.

Exemplary value at national and transnational level

At the national level Landezine has over the course of the past ten years organized several symposia on local issues (such as advertising in public space, and on a local phenomenon of roundabouts) and also international symposia with the winners of LILA award. There were five larger, full-day lecture events in Ljubljana, one at HafenCity Universitaet in Hamburg, at Quinzieme de l'urbanisme in Geneva Switzerland, LILA Honour Award at Akademie van Bouwkunst in Amsterdam. In the post-covid times, Landezine is organizing LILA juries in Ljubljana every June, also with social events and discussions between international jurors and local practitioners.

At the global level, Landezine is today—by audience reach—the most visited professional website dedicated to landscape architecture. By bringing together practitioners, researchers, students, and experts from related fields, Landezine demonstrates that the notion of landscape is being actively redefined. The platform places future environmental and social challenges in direct dialogue with contemporary landscape practice, explores points of friction, and maintains a critical and questioning stance toward the production of space. It gives visibility to marginal and progressive practices while openly scrutinising established norms and the status quo.

## **17. Public participation**

*Does the project actively encourage the public's participation in the decision-making process? How?*

*Which stakeholders were involved, and how and when were they engaged? When did the active public consultation and dialogue take place, and in what form?*

*Is the project in line with the wider policies implemented by national, regional or local authorities?*

While the public is not directly involved in the editorial work of Landezine, our work is all about the public. We present projects of replicable practice of public participation. We keep the question of how to design with social justice in mind at the top of priorities. By publishing projects, essays, interviews, and critical commentary, Landezine creates an open arena where differing positions on landscape development (ecological, social, economic, and cultural) are made visible and contested. This contributes to more informed, reflective, and accountable decision-making among those who shape landscapes.

Stakeholders at Landezine are engaged through publishing, juries, campaigns and online or other events:

- Landscape architects and urban designers,
- Researchers and academics,
- Students and emerging professionals,
- Public institutions and universities,
- Non-governmental organisations,
- Allied disciplines concerned with ecology, culture, and spatial justice.

Engagement takes place continuously and transnationally through open calls, editorial selection, interviews, awards, competitions, and public-facing publications. Dialogue is not limited to a single moment of consultation but unfolds over time, allowing positions to evolve, be challenged, and be reconsidered.

## **18. Awareness-raising**

*Is the project effectively increasing public awareness of the importance of landscape in terms of human development, consolidation of European identity, or individual and collective well-being? How?*

Raising awareness is one of Landezine's core functions. With a global audience of professionals, students, and institutions, the platform significantly contributes to understanding landscape as a key factor in human wellbeing, social cohesion, and cultural identity.

Landezine consistently frames landscape not as a background or aesthetic commodity, but as a lived environment shaped by political decisions, environmental pressures, and social relations. By addressing both outstanding and everyday landscapes, it reinforces the Convention's principle that all landscapes matter.

#### European Identity

Landezine is occasionally described as being "too European" in its outlook. This perception does not arise from a deliberate regional focus, but from a consistent commitment to publicness, environmental responsibility, and long-term thinking in landscape practice. When landscape is approached as a shared space shaped by collective responsibility and public interest, many of the most advanced and transferable practices currently emerge from European contexts. Landezine maintains a global overview of landscape architecture and actively publishes work from all continents; however, at present, Europe concentrates a significant body of work that treats landscape not as a private commodity or visual product, but as a public matter negotiated through regulation, democratic processes, and social accountability. The platform therefore reflects where these values, this understanding of landscape is most actively articulated, rather than promoting a geographically defined agenda.

At the same time, Landezine encourages critical reflection on established notions of landscape identity. While identity remains culturally significant, an uncritical attachment to familiar visual ideals can hinder awareness of the profound transformations already underway by climate change. The platform therefore supports discussions that acknowledge change, uncertainty, and loss as part of contemporary landscape conditions, and that seek new forms of meaning, care, and responsibility beyond inherited models.

In doing so, Landezine aligns with the European Landscape Convention's understanding of landscape as a living, evolving entity, shaped by social choices and environmental processes, and central to the future of European well-being and participatory and democratic culture.

## V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

**Together with the printed version of the Application form, additional material in digital format should be included in one USB key, and returned by post to:**

*Secretariat General of the Council of Europe  
Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DG I)  
Directorate of Social Rights, Health and Environment  
Department for the Reykjavík Process and Environment  
Council of Europe Landscape Convention  
9th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe  
F-67075 STRASBOURG, Cedex*

- Text (20 pages max.): *PDF format*
- Photos (10 max.): *JPEG 350 dpi high definition*
- Posters (2 max.): *PDF format high definition or JPEG 350 dpi high definition*
- Video (15 min max.): *mpeg 2 format - It is recommended to present a video (even of amateur quality).*

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