



European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
– 3rd Session – 2012-2013 –

At its 1187th Meeting on 12 December 2013, the Committee of Ministers decided to attribute a Special Mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe for “Giving attention to the urban landscape as a common good” to the project:

U-parks. U-turn we love
Utena district Municipality, Lithuania

The “U-parks. U-turn we love” project for the reclamation of a public park network in urban areas caught the committee’s attention because it counterbalances the wave of land privatisation that followed the end of the Soviet era. Here public land regains its importance and can be enjoyed by everyone on a daily basis. This system of urban parks is a fine exercise in landscape planning as applied to individual and collective well-being. The landscape is regarded as a common good, enabling participatory practice to be developed. This achievement undeniably has a sustainable development dimension. The involvement of the landscape architects’ association and the use of parks as “teaching areas” for future professionals interested the committee.