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COUNCIL OF EUROPE

EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

10th 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
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*Document of the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe
Directorate of Democratic Participation*

Summary

The Work Programme adopted by the 9th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention (23-24 March 2017) has been implemented. At its 1295th and 1329th Meetings (CM/Del/Dec(2017)1295/7.1, 27 September 2017 and CM/Del/Dec(2018)1329/7.1, 14 November 2018), the Committee of Ministers took note of the abridged Reports of the 6th and 7th Meetings of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) (Strasbourg, 10-12 May 2017 and 6-8 June 2018), adopting the draft decisions presented to it.

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). As of 8 April 2019, 39 States have ratified the Convention: Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, 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; two States have signed it: Iceland and Malta
www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/176
- invite member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and/or ratifying the 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 Convention¹

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)² was opened for signature by European States in Florence on 20 October 2000. To date, 39 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, 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. Two States have also signed it: Iceland and Malta.³

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 signatories 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.

1. The references of the documents mentioned hereafter are available at the Council of Europe Landscape Convention website: 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; www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops; www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/national-regional-symposiums. Book edited in the Council of Europe Publishing: 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.

2. www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/176

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](#). 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 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

The concept of sustainable development is understood as fully integrating the environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions in an overall, by applying them to the entire territory.

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, of course, 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 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.

Important work on sustainable development, highlighting the place of landscape in the lives of human beings and societies, has been carried out in the framework of the Work Programme of the Convention.

Reference texts adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention

Convention and Protocol

- [European Landscape Convention](#)
Council of Europe - European Treaty Series - No. 176
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
- [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 opened for ratification, acceptance or approval in Strasbourg on 1st August 2016

Recommendations

- [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\(2017\)7 of the Committee of Ministers to member States 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\(2015\)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States 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\(2015\)7 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on pedagogical material for landscape education in primary school](#)

adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 October 2015

- [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2014\)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on promoting landscape awareness through education](#)

adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 17 September 2014

- [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 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

Resolutions

- [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

- [Resolution \(2008\)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe](#)

adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008

The Convention and the basic texts on its implementation help to promote: 1. the definition and legal recognition of the landscape; 2. the consideration of the landscape dimension in national and international policies; 3. the development of international co-operation; 4. the recognition of exemplary projects.

1. Definition and legal recognition of landscapes

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 recognised 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.

The [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2008\)3 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#) notes:

“The concept of landscape in the convention differs from the one that may be found in certain documents, which sees in landscape an ‘asset’ (heritage concept of landscape) and assesses it (as ‘cultural’, ‘natural’ etc. landscape) by considering it as a part of physical space. This new concept expresses, on the contrary, the desire to confront, head-on and in a comprehensive way, the theme of the quality of the surroundings where people live; this is recognised as a precondition for individual and social well-being (understood in the physical, physiological, psychological and intellectual sense) and for sustainable development, as well as a resource conducive to economic activity.

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. 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.”

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.

The [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2017\)7 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States 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 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.⁴

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 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:

- 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, [“Landscape facets: reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”](#), Council of Europe Publishing, 2012

4. <https://rm.coe.int/16807bffda>

- 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
- Journal:
- "[Landscapes: the setting for our future lives](#)", *Naturopa*, 1998, no. 86
 - "[European Landscape Convention](#)", *Naturopa*, 2002, no. 98
 - "[Landscape through literature](#)", *Naturopa/Culturoropa*, 2005, no. 103
 - "[Landscape and public space](#)", *Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory*, 2014, no. 3

2. Consideration of the landscape dimension in national and international policies

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake, at national level, 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 taking into account the landscape dimension in international policies and programmes and to recommend, where relevant, that landscape considerations be included in them.

2.1. Establishment and implementation of landscape policies

The Convention 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. Among its "general measures", it also 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. In particular, [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2008\)3 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#) contains a set of theoretical, methodological and practical guidelines intended for Parties to the Convention who wish to draw up and implement landscape policies on the basis of the Convention.

The Convention provides a definition of the terms "protection", "management" and "planning" of landscapes:

- "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;
- "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;
- "planning" means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes.

The aforementioned recommendation states 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. It further notes that 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. Finally, it points out that the Convention is 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.

The [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2017\)7 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States 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 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.

The 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](#)” (Erevan, Armenia, 5-6 October 2016) was dedicated to the presentation of Strategies and political documents, Legal and financial instruments, and Systems promoting integration and horizontal and vertical co-ordination.

The 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), was dedicated to the presentation of experiences of national policies adopted at local level by the States Parties to the Convention and Japan:

Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:

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

2.1.1. 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 players whose decisions influence landscape quality, and therefore has consequences in many policy and action areas, both public and private.

The [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2017\)7 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States 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.⁵

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

5. <http://rm.coe.int/16807bffd>

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

2.1.2. 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.

The [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2017\)7 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States 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 take into account the landscape issue in the actions taken to promote good governance and democratic citizenship, notably through awareness-raising, training and education.⁶

Awareness-raising

This is about increasing awareness of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them, among civil society, private organisations and public authorities.

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

6. <http://rm.coe.int/16807bffda>

Training

It is important to promote training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations, as well as multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors, and for the associations concerned.

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

Rapport:

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

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Education

It is important to promote school and university courses that, in the relevant disciplines, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has adopted the following basic texts, for the implementation of the Convention: [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2008\)3 on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#); [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2014\)8 on promoting landscape awareness through education](#); [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2015\)7 on pedagogical material for landscape education at primary level](#).⁸

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

7. Document of the Council of Europe [CEP-CDCPP \(2015\) 15](#).

8. www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/reference-texts

2.1.3. *Landscape identification and assessment*

It is necessary to enlist the help of all players concerned to improve knowledge of landscapes and ensure that landscape identification and assessment procedures are guided by exchange of experience and methodology between Parties at international level.

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

2.1.4. *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.

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

2.1.5. *Implementation of landscape policies*

It is necessary to introduce instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.

According to [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2008\)3 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#), 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.

The [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, Recommends that the States Parties to the European Landscape 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.);

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](#)

Reports:

- “[Report on public landscape funding](#)”; “[Selected funding opportunities to support the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#)”⁹

- Exploratory Report on experiences of public landscape funds, [CDCPP\(2018\)6](#) (Appendix)

2.2. 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.

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 and spatial planning”](#), 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 and society”](#), Córdoba (Spain), 15-16 April 2010
- [“Multifunctional landscape”](#), Evora (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

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

Reports:

- [Drawing agricultural landscapes for the sustainable and harmonious development of territories](#)
- [Towards a grammar for European landscapes](#)

Journal:

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

3. The development of international co-operation

The Contracting Parties 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.

3.1. Council of Europe Meetings for the implementation of the Convention

3.1.1. 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, 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 10.¹⁰ 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

10. [Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/conferences)
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/conferences: 1st Conference: [22-23 November 2001](#); 2nd Conference: [28-29 November 2002](#); 3rd Conference: [17-18 June 2004](#); 4th Conference: [22-23 March 2007](#); 5th Conference: [30-31 March 2009](#); 6th Conference: [3-4 May 2011](#); 7th Conference: [26-27 March 2013](#); 8th Conference: [19-20 March 2015](#); 9th Conference: [23-24 March 2017](#); [10th Conference](#). The “[Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the European Landscape Convention 2000-2010 – New challenges, new opportunities](#)”, was held in Florence, Italy, on 19-20 October 2010. www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications

3.1.2. 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.¹¹

Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:

www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops

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 “*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

11. www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops

- 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 (*provisional*)
 - 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 (*under preparation*)

3.1.3. 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 in order 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.¹²

Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:

www.coe.int/fr/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 “*Landscape and spatial planning*”, Tulcea, 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 \(provisional version\)](#)
- 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 \(provisional version\)](#)
- 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 \(provisional version\)](#)

3.1.4. 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.

12. www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/national-regional-symposiums

- [First International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe](#) (2017):
*Message from Brno: “Taking into account the landscape at the local level”*¹³
- [Second International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe](#) (2018):
*Message from Tropea: “Promoting landscape education”*¹⁴
- Third International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe (2019):
*Proposal of Message from Seville: “Thirst for democratic participation: to take care of water landscapes”*¹⁵

3.2. Mutual assistance and the 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.¹⁶

The use of the [Information System of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention](#), set up pursuant to [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2013\)4 of the Committee of Ministers](#), provides on-line access to information concerning national policies.¹⁷ Addressed to authorities, organisations or citizens seeking useful information on landscape policies, A [Glossary](#) has been produced in order to explain certain terms employed.

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](#)

- [Information System of the European Landscape Convention: National/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

13. www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/-/20-october-2017-first-international-landscape-day-of-the-council-of-europe

14. www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/-/20-october-2018-second-international-landscape-day-of-the-council-of-europe

15. This will be a follow-up to the 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.

16. 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](#).

17. www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-observatory; https://elcl6.coe.int/WebForms/Public_List.aspx.

3.3. Transfrontier co-operation

Transfrontier landscapes are the subject of a specific provision: “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 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention](#) also pays particular attention to the management of transfrontier landscapes.

The [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2015\)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on Transfrontier Landscapes](#) considers that it is important for appropriate consideration to be given to landscape and its environmental, cultural, social and economic values as a development factor for local societies, and 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, and 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

4. 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. On 20 February 2008, 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 on the basis of 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, exemplariness, public participation and awareness-raising.

4.1. Sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

The Awards, special mentions and acknowledgments have been conferred on the basis of decisions by the Committee of Ministers, according to the proposals of the International Jury of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and of the Council of Europe steering committee responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Convention. In accordance with the Rules, the Awards are presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his/her representative at a public ceremony.¹⁸ Five sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe have been held: [Session 1 \(2008-2009\)](#), [Session 2 \(2010-2011\)](#), [Session 3 \(2012-2013\)](#), [Session 4 \(2014-2015\)](#) and [Session 5 \(2016-2017\)](#). [Session 6 \(2018-2019\)](#) is now under way.

Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention:

www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/sessions-of-the-landscape-award

4.2. 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:

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 2008-2010 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

4.3. 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](#). The Landscape Award Alliance gathers the exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention, showing 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, these achievements 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

18. The list of the achievements appears in Appendix 2.

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:

- *European Landscape Convention: [The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe](#), Territory and Landscape Series, 2018, No.105*
- [Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance](#)
- [Exhibition on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe](#)
- [Poster on the Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance](#)

Conclusion

Since the adoption of the European Landscape Convention, major progress has 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 are emerging 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 are adopted and institutional structures are 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 programs 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.

Important concept, of great relevance, the landscape represents a mosaic of the four dimensions of sustainable development: natural, 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, both in appearance and 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. It represents a contribution by the Council of Europe to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.¹⁹

*

19. Goals 3 (Good health and well-being), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 15 (Life on land), in particular.

Appendix 1

European Landscape Convention

Chart of signatures and ratifications of Treaty 176

Status as of 08/04/2019

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.

Members of Council of Europe

	Signature	Ratification	Entry into Force	Notes R. D. A. T. C. O.
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	T.
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			
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 2

Total number of ratifications/accessions 39

a: Accession s: Signature without reservation as to ratification su: Succession r: Signature “d 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

Sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

1st Session 2008-2009

Eight projects were presented by the States' Parties to the European Landscape Convention to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. 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

Fourteen projects were presented by the States' Parties to the European Landscape Convention to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. 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

Eighteen projects were presented by the States' Parties to the European Landscape Convention to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. 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 zeleznica 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

Twelve projects were presented by the States' Parties to the European Landscape Convention to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. 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, Szijártóháza and Zalaszombatfa (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

Thirteen projects were presented by the States' Parties to the European Landscape Convention to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. 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

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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 committees²⁰

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.²¹

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:

²⁰ Unless specified otherwise, the term “committee” refers to steering and ad hoc committees and their subordinate bodies.

²¹ 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.

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*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.

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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,²² 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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22. 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.