



Ministry of Environmental  
Protection and Regional  
Development  
Republic of Latvia



Daugavpils  
City Council



## COUNCIL OF EUROPE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

### *TWENTIETH COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEETING OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION*

### *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections* *5<sup>th</sup> Session 2016-2017*

**Daugavpils, Latvia**  
**20-21 June 2018**  
*Study visit, 19 June 2018*

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*Mrs Maguelonne DEJEANT-PONS, Representative of the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe, Secretary of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape*

Dear Mrs Irēna Kokina, Rector of the Daugavpils University,

Dear Mr Igors Prelatovs, First Vice-Chair of Daugavpils City Council,

Dear Mr Rinalds Muciņš, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia,

Dear Mrs Katrīna Kukaine, Deputy Head of the State Inspection for Heritage Protection,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are delighted that this 20th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, on the Forum of national selections for the 5th Session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award (2016-2017), is being held in Latvia, in Daugavpils. I would like to warmly thank the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development and the

Daugavpils City Council for their co-operation in the organisation of this event. We also thank the Interreg Latvija-Lietuva Programme for its support in Daugavpils.

Special thanks are addressed, for their greatly appreciated co-operation, to our hosts from the Republic of Latvia:

- Mrs Kristīne Kedo, Head of the Spatial Planning Policy Division, Spatial Planning Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development;
- Mrs Dace Granta, Senior Expert in the Spatial Planning Policy Division of the Spatial Planning Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development;
- Mrs Inga Goldberga, Executive Director of Daugavpils City Council;
- Mr Artjoms Mahļins, Senior Project Expert in the Development Department of Daugavpils City Council,

and to all the people from Latvia who have contributed to the preparation of this event.

Thirteen projects were presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention, on the occasion of this 5th Session of the Landscape Award. These projects show that it is possible to promote the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the features of the landscapes that surround people. I am very pleased to inform you that, according to Resolution CM/Res(2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, all of these projects are now part of the “Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe”, which gathers exemplary achievements selected at national level on the occasion of the Sessions of the Award.

I would like to thank the authors of these projects and the representatives of the Ministries from Andorra, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Serbia, Slovak Republic and Spain, who selected them, for their considerable work and visionary attitude. The projects presented provide an important contribution to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention objectives, with a view to sustainable development. By developing a new territorial culture, the Council of Europe Landscape Award seeks to promote quality of the living environment.

I hope that this collection of outstanding best practices developed across Europe, presented during these two days, will inspire similar activities in other geographical areas.

I would like to extend special congratulations to Daugavpils City Council who welcomed us yesterday in Daugavpils Fortress, and now in Daugavpils City, for the exemplary work achieved for the Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress to Preserve Cultural and Historical Objects.

I also address special thanks to the Members of the International Jury of the 5th Session of the Landscape Award, composed of the following members:

- Mr Yves Luginbühl, Emeritus Research Director of the National Centre for Scientific Research, France, Chair of the Jury;
- Mrs Krisztina Kincses, Vice-Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, National Representative of the European Landscape Convention for Hungary, Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary, who represented the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP);

- Mrs Anne-Marie Chavanon, President of the Committee on Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe, who represented this Conference of INGOS of the Council of Europe;
- Mrs Linajeros Cruz, Former National Representative of the European Landscape Convention for Spain, Institute of Cultural Heritage of Spain; and
- Mr Michael Oldham, Founding President of the European Federation for Landscape Architecture (EFLA), Honorary Member of the International Federation of Landscape Architects Europe (IFLA-Europe).

This Forum is an event which will allow us to discover and understand all the richness which is behind the word “landscape” and how human initiatives can really improve the value of the living environment, creating places with *genius loci*.

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