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## **EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

***CEP-CDCPP***

### **9<sup>th</sup> COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**

*Conference organised under the auspices of the Cypriot Chairmanship of  
the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe*

### **STATEMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS**

Council of Europe  
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg  
23-24 March 2017

*[This document will be completed on receipt of contributions]*

*Document of the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe  
Directorate of Democratic Governance*

*Summary*

*The Representatives of international and non-governmental organisations were invited to send the written version of the address they would like to deliver on the occasion of the 9<sup>th</sup> Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe of the European Landscape Convention ([maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int](mailto:maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int); [susan.moller@coe](mailto:susan.moller@coe)).*

The 9<sup>th</sup> Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention:

- took note with great interest of the addresses presented by delegations of the following non-governmental organisations: Atelier international du paysage, CIVILSCAPE, International Association Rurality-Environment-Development (RED), Europarc Federation, European Council of Town Planners (CEU), Europae Archaeologiae Consilium (EAC), International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE), International Federation for Landscape Architecture (IFLA), International Terraced Landscape Alliance (ITLA), Landscape Research Group (LRG), REC-Caucasus (*written contribution*), UNISCAPE.

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS  
ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

**INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF THE PRESERVATION AND  
RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY / CENTRE INTERNATIONAL D'ÉTUDES  
POUR LA CONSERVATION ET LA RESTAURATION DES BIENS CULTURELS  
(ICCROM)**

*Mr Stefano DE CARO, Director-General, ICCROM*

**INTERNATIONAL NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS  
ORGANISATIONS NON GOUVERNEMENTALES INTERNATIONALES**

**ATELIER INTERNATIONAL POUR LE PAYSAGE (AIP)**

*Mrs Cristiane STORELLI-METZELTIN, Co-ordinatrice, Atelier international pour le paysage*

R A C O N T E R   L E   P A Y S A G E



édition le hérisson

*Il imaginait le ponton arrivant d'élan sur la façade de la mairie et les réfugiés qui entrent par les fenêtres...enfin sains et saufs...enfin en sécurité.*

C'est à ça qu'il pensait sur le parcours quotidien vers son poste de travail, en faisant allusion au graffiti, parce que c'est son point faible. Il les aime parce qu'ils expriment, ils interrogent, ils dénoncent. Ils réclament des réponses et des réactions, à son égard. Mais surtout ils sont expression de liberté. Et si parfois ils frôlent une œuvre d'art, il doute de l'efficacité de ce moyen d'expression et de communication. Il passe au Café des Sportifs, un café rapide avec brioche, un coup d'oeil aux quotidiens....et les nouvelles comme d'habitude, les morts, les images de destruction, les violences ... un déjà vu qui devient ordinaire, de routine.

*Lui, il fait toute autre information, une information de recherche et d'enquête, réelle, vécue et qui fait bouger les sentiments, réagir et soutenir une action. C'est la raison pour laquelle il imagine qu'un graffiti, un graffiti puissant et hurlant peut se révéler utile. Il veut expérimenter ça, et commence à y penser.*

Au siège de la rédaction l'équipe des journalistes, réunie autour de la table de conférence, était déjà au travail. Là aussi c'était la routine, comme toujours. Quand à son tour, il annonce

qu'il veut expérimenter une information alternative, ses collègues le regardent de biais avec un petit et malin sourire. Sans ajouter un mot, il se lève et sort en claquant la porte.

*Gardant dans sa tête le ponton qui fonce la façade de la mairie, il prend le chemin vers...*

\*

Dans ce début du roman, qui deviendra probablement un thriller avec final à surprise, il y a des éléments pour exposer « aussi » le paysage : les êtres humains avec leur histoire, les lieux, le besoin de liberté, l'imagination, l'histoire, les changements, l'intrigue, les acteurs...

On peut donc parler de paysage en racontant une histoire  
et on peut **raconter le paysage** par un roman

en se *référant* à la Convention européenne du paysage et aux **principes du Conseil de l'Europe**, en *employant* un **langage immédiat et compréhensible** (autrement des langages des techniciens, de la bureaucratie et de la politique) qui est celui de la Convention, en *employant* l'imagination, et comme objectifs : *intéresser* le public à s'occuper du lieu qu'il habite, *rappeler* les droits humains, inviter les populations (devenues en même temps lecteurs) à imaginer leur propre paysage.

et ça en s'amusant sur la chaise longue en lisant le roman "PROFESSION REPORTER".

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## CIVILSCAPE

*Mr Dirk GOTZMANN, Director, CIVILSCAPE*

*Mr Gerhard ERMISCHER, Vice-President, CIVILSCAPE*

**CIVILSCAPE** is dedicated to landscape and to the European Landscape Convention. Therefore **CIVILSCAPE has developed** the **Landscape Forum events** in 2013 together with many partners in different countries. More than 20 events have since then taken place, dedicated to different landscape issues in various regions in Europe. In 2016 we organized two Landscape Forum events. We have continued to invite the Council of Europe for key notes speeches to these events. We thank very much the Council of Europe and especially Maguelonne Dejant-Pons who held inspiring key note speeches at most of these Landscape Forum events. We were very happy to invite her recently to our 2nd **Central European Landscape Forum** last October and to the **International Conference on Landscape Observatories** on 9-10 February 2017, which we co-organized.

**CIVILSCAPE** has joined 2014 the **European Heritage Alliance 3.3**, which is an informal European sectoral platform composed of 40 European or international networks and organizations active in the wider field of cultural heritage, launched in June 2011 on the occasion of the European Heritage Congress 2011 organized by Europa Nostra in Amsterdam. Together with 40 European networks forming the Alliance we have promoted the **European Year of Cultural Heritage for 2018**. This European Year is a joint activity of the Council of Europe and the European Union. Following the positive Council of Europe decision, on 19 April 2016 Tibor Navracsics, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, publicly announced that the European Commission will propose to the EU Council and the European Parliament that 2018 will be the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018. In a number of events **CIVILSCAPE** promoted since then the up-coming year like on 9 November 2016, when members of the European Heritage Alliance discussed their contributions to the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 and how to combine forces and resources to make the best of this important Year. Michel Magnier, Director of Creativity and Culture of the DG Education and Culture of the European Commission, informed about the preparations for the European Year and exchanged views with Alliance members. **CIVILSCAPE** addressed the EYCH2018 on occasion of the Landscape Forum Berlin in December 2016.

In the context of the European Year of Cultural Heritage **CIVILSCAPE** will promote with its members and partners **Cultural Landscapes Days** to be organized in the framework of the Cultural Heritage Days of the Council of Europe. This campaign will start in 2018, but we seek to continue this for the next 10 years. We see a good chance to raise further awareness and start a wider dialogue with interested stakeholders about landscape management, planning and protection.

Following our **Landscape Observatories Strategy**, **CIVILSCAPE** has attended the seminar on landscape observatories in Helsinki organised by Prof Juanjo Galan from Aalto University, School of Arts, Design and Architecture. The seminar offered a good chance of getting acquainted and to discuss some of the most acknowledged or promising initiatives on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, both at national and regional level. Background for this seminar was the initiative to establish a Finnish Landscape Observatory. Beginning of May 2016 the University of Gothenberg invited our Director to give a lecture on "The transformation of the Ruhr industrial landscape". The **CIVILSCAPE** Director participated at the working group for the planned Västra Götaland Landscape Observatory and informed them about the outcome of the seminar in Helsinki. During our Central European Landscape Forum last October, the role of landscape observatories for landscape policies as a platform for long-term stakeholder involvement was discussed again. End of the year the presentation of Pere Sala í Martí about the Landscape Observatory in Catalonia during the Landscape Forum Berlin 2016 was another step stone leading to the International Conference on Landscape Observatories in Amersfoort on 9-10 February 2017. **CIVILSCAPE** actually applies for a ERASMUS+ grant for a strategic partnership on the educational work of Landscape Observatories.

Earlier in 2016, we started with **HERICOAST** working on our Marinescape Strategy. Europe's maritime & fluvial regions exist in great diversity, yet show parallels in spatial & political challenges. The Cultural heritage of these regions forms an essential part of coastal landscape. This heritage is considered particularly vulnerable to spatial changes in transport, industrialization of fisheries and use of coastal zones for tourism. This project aims to improve regional policies for heritage management in maritime & fluvial regions by facilitating policy education and supporting exchange of experience, in line with the EC's advice on participatory governance of cultural heritage. Recently we had a steering group workshop for this project in Bilbao. Beside the fruitful workshop itself, we had three intense days with a fact finding mission getting in touch with stakeholders in the partner region.

After presenting **HERICOAST** during the Maritime Days in Turku 2016, **CIVILSCAPE** will organize two Marinescape Forum events during the European Maritime Days 2017 and 2018. The next one will be the **Marinescape Forum Poole on 16-17 May 2017**. To both we have invited the Council of Europe for key note speeches.

Furthermore the **HERICOAST** project aims to develop a toolbox to improve regional policies for heritage management in maritime & fluvial regions. Partly this toolbox refers to actions related to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention like the landscape assessment and the development of cross sectoral landscape policies on local and regional level. In this context the approach of landscape observatories to implement a stakeholder platform that facilitates participatory forms of landscape planning, management and protection is a key element.

Some days ago, **CIVILSCAPE** helped organize the kick-off workshop for the **MODSCAPES project** on 20-22 March 2017 in Milano. A **HERA** project that deals with rural landscapes produced by large-scale agricultural development and colonization schemes planned in the 20th century throughout Europe and beyond. Conceived in different political and ideological contexts, such schemes were pivotal to nation-building and state-building policies, and to the modernization of the countryside. They provided a testing ground for the ideas and tools of agronomists, environmental and social scientists, architects, engineers, planners, landscape architects and artists, which converged around a shared challenge. Their implementation produced new rural landscapes which have seldom been considered as a transnational research topic. Hence **Modscapes** aims to raise awareness of this largely underestimated shared cultural heritage which stands today as a tangible evidence of recent European history.

End of the month we will open on 30-31 March 2017 in Rotterdam the **SMART-U-GREEN** project, with which we address the changes in management of urban landscapes. Urban landscapes witness major transformations that affect urban landscape quality as well as the quality of life. Some transformations are desirable, such as a transition to urban sustainability, some are inevitable, because of major changes in economy or culture. Transformations in urban landscapes come with intractable controversies, uncertainties and complexities, involving multiple actors, interests and rapidly changing advocacy coalitions. But they also stimulate the bottom-up emergence of alternative ideas, practices and networks that confront urban planning regimes with the challenge to adopt more organic, collaborative and transformative forms of governance.

On the other hand **CIVILSCAPE** has seen how our sister network **RECEP-ENELC** dissolved end of 2016. It was a sad moment, when we lost one of our tightest partners. Their commitment to bring together local and regional authorities was most valuable. According to the principle of subsidiarity endorsed by the ELC, "responsibility for action relating to landscape lies with public authorities not only at national and international levels, but also at local and regional levels". Being closer to citizens, local and regional authorities can more effectively act as a catalyst for change, especially by cooperating with civil society organizations. **CIVILSCAPE** has opened the network for local and regional authorities and changed therefore the statutes in October 2016. **CIVILSCAPE** promotes the "network" model of governance, using landscape observatories and inspired by the principles of cooperation promoted in the ELC as the best way to unite local, regional and national authorities, civil

society, and economic entities in landscape management, planning and protection.

**CIVILSCAPE** has founded a new tool for practical work with its task forces – dedicated working groups on specific themes open to all, members and non members alike. A **Task Force group “Local heritage in Europe”** focusing – among other topics – on the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 (EYCH 2018) has started operating.

With the **Task Force on “Health and Landscape”**, **CIVILSCAPE** has called again for partnerships - experts, ideas, and cooperation - in sharing relevant expertise which could contribute to the development of the knowledge on relationship between health and landscape. As back to back meeting to the **CIVILSCAPE** Landscape Forum Berlin in December 2016, members from 5 European countries met in Berlin.

Alongside the General Assembly in Sevilla we will have the 1st meeting of a third **Task Force group “Landscapes without borders”**, which will focus on migration and landscape. Those who are interested in the Task Force groups are most welcome to participate.

Next year **CIVILSCAPE** plans to hold a Landscape Forum and the General Assembly on 23 February 2018 in Aschaffenburg in Germany to celebrate the **10th anniversary of CIVILSCAPE**. We would be pleased if the next chair of the landscape conference and a representative of the Council of Europe accept our invitation to provide a key note.



**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION RURALITY-ENVIRONMENT-DEVELOPMENT /  
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE RURALITE-ENVIRONNEMENT-DEVELOPPEMENT  
(RED)**

*M. Patrice COLLIGNON, Directeur, Association internationale Ruralité-Environnement-Développement (RED)*

**RURALITE-ENVIRONNEMENT-DEVELOPPEMENT  
RURALITY-ENVIRONMENT-DEVELOPMENT**

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**Le paysage au cœur des dynamiques d'intelligence territoriale**

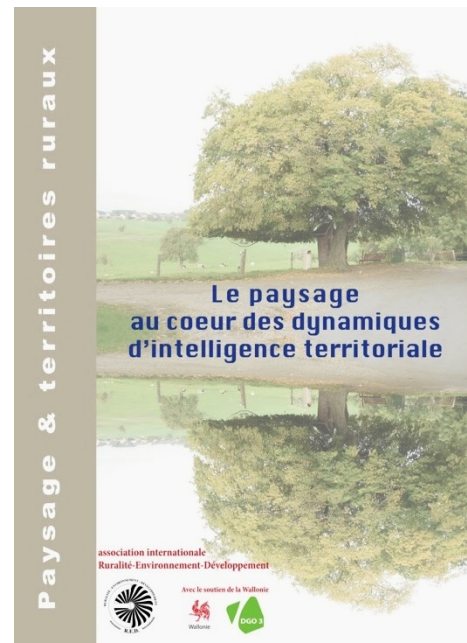
Le paysage est un fil rouge qui traverse de nombreuses politiques, particulièrement dans les territoires ruraux. Les interrelations entre paysage, politique agricole, tourisme, mobilité repensée... illustrent cette dimension transversale qui fait de la question paysagère un élément constitutif d'un territoire intelligent.

16 ans jour pour jour après l'ouverture à la signature de la Convention européenne du Paysage, l'association internationale Ruralité-Environnement-Développement (R.E.D.) a organisé les 20 et 21 octobre 2016, une conférence internationale en Wallonie (B). L'objectif de cette manifestation était de mettre en avant des solutions politiques et des expériences qui illustrent une bonne intégration des principaux enjeux territoriaux actuels dans la gestion, la protection ou l'aménagement des paysages ruraux, pour reprendre les trois termes de la Convention européenne du paysage.

Une brochure<sup>1</sup> publiée début 2017 reprend les principaux enseignements de ces journées introduites par Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Secrétaire exécutive de cette Convention au Conseil de l'Europe. Elle reprend de nombreux témoignages d'acteurs de terrain engagés en faveur du paysage.

Des solutions d'intégration grâce à des stratégies territoriales pluriannuelles

L'efficacité des mesures paysagères est apparue clairement renforcée lorsqu'elles s'inscrivent dans des démarches de développement local ascendantes, participatives et intégrées. Les échelles pertinentes peuvent être diverses, pourvu qu'elles soient accompagnées des outils adéquats. Commune et programme communal de développement rural, parc naturel et charte paysagère, territoire Leader et stratégie de développement local... : l'élément commun et fondamentalement efficace est bien la concomitance entre ces démarches stratégiques et la prise en compte, dès leur phase initiale, du paysage comme élément constitutif. Cette approche est apparue comme une manière harmonieuse de répondre au dilemme, souligné dans sa conclusion par Jean-François



<sup>1</sup> A commander sur <http://www.ruraleurope.org/>

Seguin, Président honoraire de la Conférence du Conseil de l'Europe sur la Convention européenne du Paysage, entre la perception du paysage comme un héritage statique ou comme une ressource engagée dans le flux du développement sociétal.

Un autre élément clé au niveau local est la notion de pérennité : stratégique mais aussi opérationnelle. L'attention paysagère ne peut être intermittente et la continuité de l'action d'impulsion, de conseil et de suivi est impérative.

### Le paysage rural générateur de plus-values territoriales

L'utilisation du paysage comme support de valorisation des produits agro-alimentaires, voire forestiers, est de pratique courante dans les stratégies de développement local. Le paysage est aussi le cadre d'activités touristiques et de sports de nature, pratiquées par les touristes ou les habitants.

Ces secteurs représentent un potentiel économique particulièrement important dans les territoires ruraux. Comme le rappelait le Ministre wallon de la Ruralité René Collin, « *Les paysages, ce sont les sourires séduisants que l'espace rural adresse à ses visiteurs : ils sont les leviers puissants du développement du tourisme vert, axé sur la respiration d'espaces élargis et d'un temps ralenti, le ressourcement d'un contact plus intime à la nature et à soi-même, ou encore la cure de santé des pratiques sportives...* ».

Mais la qualité de vie est aussi devenue un véritable critère de distinction dans la compétitivité des territoires. La qualité et le cadre de vie d'une entreprise et de ses travailleurs deviennent des arguments d'attrait spécifique, facteur de niche territoriale à haute valeur.

### L'Europe du paysage en marche

Depuis l'ouverture de la Convention, l'Europe, les Etats et les Régions ont réalisé des avancées significatives. Le Directeur-général adjoint de la DG Agri de la Commission, M. Dumitru, a illustré comment l'Union européenne, par ses programmes et ses mesures, offre aujourd'hui de nombreuses opportunités financières, même si elles ne sont pas encore à la hauteur des enjeux. Mais la reconnaissance politique de l'importance du paysage par l'Union européenne reste encore insuffisante. Signature de la Convention européenne du Paysage, élaboration d'un Agenda rural européen valorisant la dimension paysagère... des pistes existent et les attentes citoyennes devraient inciter l'ambition européenne à les emprunter.

Sous l'impulsion de la Convention européenne du Paysage, au sujet de laquelle on a souligné l'excellence de l'initiative du Conseil de l'Europe, les politiques portées par les Etats et Régions signataires et enrichies par les fructueux Ateliers du Paysage ont induit une dynamique sensible. L'enjeu est de la porter dans la durée, de l'amplifier dans une vision stratégique et transversale de l'avenir des territoires ruraux, mais aussi urbains.

Les connaissances sur les paysages, dans toute leur diversité, ont été développées, mieux partagées ; elles fournissent des cadres précieux de référence pour les prises de décision. Mais la complexité des dossiers et les pressions liées aux intérêts particuliers rendent toujours bien inconfortable le rôle du décideur local. D'où l'intérêt de mettre à sa disposition des structures de conseil, des vademecums circonstanciés, de développer et de faire connaître une jurisprudence favorable au paysage... Des actions d'autant plus utiles dans les territoires ruraux où l'ingénierie humaine est souvent plus réduite.

Ces deux journées ont ainsi illustré la capacité des acteurs ruraux à appréhender le paysage comme un élément constructif de leur avenir par son inscription dans leurs démarches stratégiques, ce qui leur donne capacité à donner à cet héritage culturel et naturel une reconnaissance garante de son capital social et environnemental.

[www.ruraleurope.org](http://www.ruraleurope.org) / [patrice.collignon@ruraleurope.org](mailto:patrice.collignon@ruraleurope.org)

## EUROPARC FEDERATION / FEDERATION EUROPARC

*Mr Olaf HOLM, Council Member, EUROPARC Federation*



### 1. Introduction of M. Olaf Holm

- Council member of EUROPARC Federation, the largest network of protected areas of Europe
- Director of the Parc naturel regional de la Montagne de Reims
  - Created in 1976, 54 000ha, 35 000 habitants
  - On the UNESCO world heritage list since 2015 by the inscription of “Coteaux, Maisons et Caves de Champagne”
  - Label “Forêt d’Exception”
  - Member of the Fédération des Parcs naturels régionaux de France

### 2. Introduction of EUROPARC

- The EUROPARC Federation is the largest network of protected areas in Europe, a keystone for Europe’s natural and cultural heritage and its landscapes. Created by our members, the Federation works, to improve the management of Protected Areas in Europe through international cooperation, exchange of ideas and experience, and by influencing policy.
- As the representative body of Europe’s Protected Areas we are the collective voice for all nature and landscape areas and we seek to build a stronger, unifying, European network organisation that is better placed to support our members and to respond to current and future challenges Europe’s nature is facing.
- The EUROPARC Federation is dedicated to practical nature conservation and sustainable development of Europe’s biodiversity, fostering holistic landscape approaches in its management.
- We come together from across Europe, with a shared passion for nature and landscapes to look beyond our parks and highlight their importance to the environmental, social and economic development of our regions, countries and European society.
- We support and develop the management of protected areas at all levels and have internationally recognised programmes to address specific issues such as sustainable tourism, transboundary cooperation, youth programs, agriculture etc.

### 3. Relevance of the European Landscape Convention to EUROPARC members

- Europe is composed of a variety of landscapes, embedded in cultural identity. Often sculpted by nature and shaped by people, they have influenced the course of history, inspired artists and thinkers and enriched lives. They are our natural life support system.

- Parks are repositories of the richness and diversity of cultural landscapes in Europe, particularly as most of Europe's protected areas are living working landscapes.
- Covering large areas across Europe, these parks play an important role in protecting Europe's biodiversity. At the same time they safeguard the cultural heritage of places and they have become important in sustaining rural economies. They act too as a gathering place for communities to learn, work and participate in the management of protected areas for their shared future. Landscape protected areas contribute to our identity and provide the distinctiveness and sense of place that we value and enjoy.
- The European Landscape convention obliges authorities to establish procedures for participation. Parks in Europe have grown to be cooperative models and - as care of the landscape takes a wide range of actors - then Parks are an ideal nexus for the consideration of landscape management to take place. They co-ordinate their development objectives in the region with numerous stakeholders, providing a framework for joint commitment to the future-oriented development of the region, involving many partners. By connecting nature conservationists, farmers, tourism providers and education institutions, Parks create added value and promote innovation.
- Given the importance of landscape to our protected areas the EUROPARC Federation is committed - through its strategy and action plan - to promote and support the implementation of applying the European Landscape Convention widely across the network.

#### 4. Context of rural development for EUROPARC members and Landscape Protected areas

- Today our rural areas present a complex picture of both devastating decline and exciting opportunity. They make up 80% of the European territory and approximately 25% of the population. Many of these areas are showing relatively sharp declines in rural populations which points to issues of farmland abandonment exacerbated by structural and socioeconomic factors.
- Further with proportionately fewer people of working age and proportionally more people aged 65, the necessity for dynamic stimuli and initiatives within a territorial or spatial framework to recover, renew and make resilient our Europe's important rural resource. Landscape protection areas such as regional nature parks stimulate tourism, economic diversification, creating jobs, sustaining food production and ensuring viable rural communities. Well managed Parks, managing our landscapes, have shown that they can be the catalyst for change in territories.
- Further, in Europe, many of our species and rich ecosystems and landscapes have been created by traditional land use. EUROPARC through its members, seeks to preserve cultural landscapes with high biodiversity through sustainable use

#### 5. Landscape Protection areas- Regional Nature Parks in Europe

- In total, there are almost 900 Regional Nature Parks in Europe, covering a total area of over 370 000 km<sup>2</sup>. They play a vital role in the wide network of European parks and represent outstanding landscapes with a wealth of natural and cultural heritage. These Regional Nature Parks, which make up a significant component of EUROPARC's membership, contribute to nature conservation, the sustainable development of rural areas and sustainable tourism, and promote environmental education. At the same time

they preserve the beauty, biological diversity and cultural heritage of rural areas, they also provide spaces for recreation for all parts of society and promote public health. Their high quality landscapes contribute to the European aesthetic, for citizens, visitors as well as give a positive image of a region.

- Through the gathering of case studies, examples, workshops and experience exchange EUROPARC has built up a body of evidence in the governance and management of protected areas that examines the opportunities and challenges of our parks and the benefits they can bring to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention. Well managed and effective landscape protected areas can support strongly the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.
- In cooperation with the German network of Nature Parks, we have realised an important study about the benefits of Regional Nature and landscape Parks and the first results show us the important contribution of landscape conservation, but that means living landscapes where Parks combine human activity and landscape protection in a sustainable way! To find out more of this study and research, [we would like to welcome you for the presentation of the results, the 21<sup>st</sup> of June in Brussels! More details will be on the EUROPARC website, \[www.europarc.org\]\(http://www.europarc.org\)](#)

Conclusions and recommendations of EUROPARC Federation to the Council of Europe with respect to the Landscape Convention and protected areas

EUROPARC believes there are many success stories of Regional Nature Parks being the stimuli for change in their territory and the focal point of cultural identity and renewal, investment and resilience of the region and management of the landscape within which they are placed. Well managed and effective Regional Nature Parks are an efficient tool to a region and a model to better regenerate and make living working viable landscapes.

To fully realise these opportunities to develop rural Europe and implement the European Landscape Convention,

We call upon Parties of the European Landscape Convention to:

- ensure every region in Europe should have at least one Landscape protected area as the locus to realise the benefits,
- to develop and invest in existing Landscape protected areas , following examples of success , learning from the European network that EUROPARC offers, to gain better value and benefits,
- to make use of Regional Nature Parks as models for innovation and sustainable development of rural areas,
- to highlight the value Landscape protected area such as Regional Nature Parks make as suitable cooperation partners.

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS / CONSEIL  
EUROPÉEN DES ÉCOLES D'ARCHITECTURE DU PAYSAGE (ECLAS)**

*Mrs Sophia MEERES, Director taught Masters programmes, Landscape Architecture, School of  
Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy  
[Apologised for absence / Excusée]*

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF TOWN PLANNERS (ECTP) / CONSEIL EUROPEEN DES URBANISTES (CEU)**

*M. Luc-Emile BOUCHE-FLORIN, Président d'Honneur et représentant officiel du Conseil européen des urbanistes*

Comme vous le savez les urbanistes européens ont toujours été et restent mobilisés pour la prise en compte du paysage dans toutes les politiques d'aménagement des territoires européens comme l'affirme notre Charte de l'urbanisme européen.

Le paysage, partie visible et sensible des territoires du continent européen, est un élément majeur de la recherche d'une qualité des espaces de vie, un levier formidable pour un meilleur vivre ensemble dans le respect et la diversité.

La prise en compte de la dimension paysagère dans les politiques publiques doit et ne peut se construire qu'en complète et réelle implication des populations au travers d'une véritable mise en œuvre de la Démocratie participative au niveau local comme le rappelle la Charte de la démocratie participative rédigée par un groupe de travail que j'ai eu l'honneur de présider.

Cette Charte a déjà été signée par un certain nombre de responsables politiques locaux en charge de territoires européens d'échelles très diverses. Plusieurs maires de grandes villes européennes se retrouveront fin juin pour la signer dans le cadre de la Biennale européenne des villes qui se tiendra cette année à Paris.

A ce sujet, je vous invite à consulter le site du Conseil Européen des Urbanistes, [www.ectp-ceu.eu](http://www.ectp-ceu.eu), pour vous informer sur cet événement auquel vous êtes tous conviés bien évidemment. Cette année la thématique sera « *La ville et les jeux olympiques : retours d'expériences et perspectives* ».

Il est clair que les dernières éditions des jeux olympiques n'ont pas toujours laissés des traces positives et pérennes des aménagements urbains tant sur le plan social que sur le plan de l'intégration paysagère. Nous ne pouvons plus intervenir violemment sur le paysage urbain dans un cadre éphémère et non profitable pour les populations locales. Elles le rejettent d'ailleurs et ont provoqué le retrait des candidatures de plusieurs grandes villes européennes pour l'organisation des jeux de 2024.

Enfin, je voudrais remercier le secrétariat et cette assemblée pour nous avoir donné à l'ECTP-CEU que je représente, la possibilité d'une implication réelle et constructive au sein du Groupe de travail du Conseil de l'Europe « Paysage et démocratie » qui a rédigé les projets de recommandations qui nous sont soumis pour approbation et transmission au CDCPP.

Inutile de vous réaffirmer notre volonté de participation active aux travaux de la Conférence dont le programme de travail pour les deux ans à venir me semble aussi consistant que prometteur.

Merci de votre intention.

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR THE VILLAGE AND SMALL TOWN / CONSEIL EUROPEEN  
POUR LE VILLAGE ET LA PETITE VILLE (ECOVAST)**

*Mr Arthur SPIEGLER, Vice President International, Chairman of Landscape, ECOVAST Austria & International*  
*[Apologised for absence / Excusé]*

*Mrs Brigitte K. MACARIA, ECOVAST Austria, Secretary General*  
*[Apologised for absence / Excusée]*

**EUROPAE ARCHAEOLOGIAE CONCILIUM / CONSEIL ARCHEOLOGIQUE EUROPEEN  
(EAC)**

*Mr Adrian OLIVIER, Professor, Europae Archaeologiae Concilium*



## **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY / ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE D'ÉCOLOGIE DU PAYSAGE (IALE)**

*Mrs Christine FÜRST, Full Professor, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Institute for Geosciences and Geography*



### **Statement International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE)**

#### **Background and aims**

IALE is a foundation with the mission to push landscape ecology as the scientific basis for analysis, planning and management of landscapes and to stimulate inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration.

IALE provides an infrastructure for connecting research and researchers; IALE helps to bundle financial means and facultative commitment to generate synergies for global cooperation (support of conferences / working groups, scholarships for young scientists).

Additionally, IALE connects with and contributes to policy processes (e.g. currently IPBES) to ensure that a holistic (landscape) perspective is kept.

#### **Structure and regions**

Currently, IALE has approximately 2000 members in good standing, 24 national / regional chapters (11 in Europe + 1 regional EU chapter). Additional members whose fees are waived are doctoral students and members of new chapters, particularly in developing countries.

IALEs governance consists of an elected executive committee (election periods are each for years) and the council with elected representatives of all regional and national chapters. This two chamber system ensures that all decisions on IALEs further development are made in highly democratic manner and represent best the cultural and social backgrounds of the different participating countries and regions.

The building of IALE is dating back to the 1970ies (Slovak Republic / Netherlands), most recent chapters are Chile (2016), Africa (2017), India and Russia (upcoming).

#### **Synergies to the European Landscape Convention**

IALEs community is strongly motivated to support all measures that help to establish landscape as platform for inter- and transdisciplinary research and that ensure the integration of social-cultural and ecological aspects that contribute to human well-being.

We aim to contribute to creating knowledge on landscape-scale adaptation strategies for changes (climate, society) through planning and management. At the same time, we help to spread this knowledge in and outside the community through a bundle of connected journals and platforms (Landscape Ecology, Landscape Online, Living Reviews, Open Landscapes, Change and Adaptation in Socio-Ecological Systems, Solutions).

Additionally, we intend to learn and communicate to our community how to provide optimally research results for policy processes and informing the public.



## aims

- foundation with the mission to **push landscape ecology as the scientific basis for analysis, planning and management of landscapes** and to stimulate inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration
- provide infrastructure and **bundle financial means and facultative commitment** to generate synergies for global cooperation (support of conferences / working groups, scholarships for young scientists)
- **connect with and contribute to policy processes** (e.g. currently IPBES) to ensure that a holistic (landscape) perspective is kept




## who and where

- ~ **2000 members** in good standing, **24 national / regional chapters** (11 in Europe + 1 regional EU chapter)
- start in the 1970ies (Slovak Republic / Netherlands) – most recent chapters Chile (2016), Africa (2017), India and Russia (upcoming)



## synergies

- **landscape as platform for inter- and transdisciplinary research** - integration of social-cultural and ecological aspects that contribute to human well being
- creating **knowledge on landscape-scale adaptation strategies** for changes (climate, society) through planning and management
- learning how to **provide** optimally **research results** for policy processes and informing the public



**INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF COMPARATIVE LAW OF THE ENVIRONMENT /  
CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE DROIT COMPARE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (CIDCE)**

*Mr Michel PRIEUR, Professeur Emérite à l'Université de Limoges, Directeur scientifique du  
CRIDEAU*

**INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / FONDATION INTERNATIONALE POUR L'ARCHITECTURE DU PAYSAGE (IFLA)**

*Mrs Ana LUENGO, Landscape Architect, Past President, IFLA EUROPE*

Following the Resolution on Landscape Democracy that we sent for the previous Conference, we are pleased to inform you that our General Assembly, i.e. the 34 National Associations that are part of IFLA EUROPE, have approved in the last years:

- Lisbon Resolution 2015, *Learning from Landscapes*.
- Brussels Resolution 2016, *Urban Landscapes*.



## LEARNING from LANDSCAPES

**The Landscapes we live in are social and cultural interpretations of nature. They represent the living archive of humankind's technological and social development in its strive to adapt itself to natural circumstances. As such, landscape resilience<sup>2</sup> is crucial to people's livelihoods, and it will provide answers to both, socio-economic needs as well as ecological issues. As a society, we are confronting the realities of increasingly rapid change and the challenge to create a sustainable lifestyle, while maintaining and improving the quality of life for all inhabitants.**

The undersigned, as representatives of the 34 National Associations of the European Region of the International Federation of Landscape Architects, having considered what we can learn from Landscapes at our general assembly in Lisbon,

### **WE BELIEVE**

#### ***landscapes are knowledge***

*they can teach us about nature and our own culture, providing we are able to read them and make sense of them.*

#### ***landscapes are memory***

*we need to allow for constant change while working with the historic layers and the identity they provide.*

**Understanding** that landscapes are the result of longterm mechanisms, of intangible and physical processes, repositories of ancestral knowledge, which made the best use of natural dynamics balancing them with the specific requirements of human societies. Also showing us the results of

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<sup>2</sup> Resilience is: a) the ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity; b) the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.

unbalanced relations, they can teach us good and bad examples about both troublesome and fruitful relations.

**Conscious** that how we change the landscape and what we add to it is a decision that influences the life of generations to come. Throughout history, landscapes have been subject to changes, many vulnerable or lost, once the relations between human communities and natural systems are interrupted.

**Recognizing** that landscapes are now confronting various dynamic changes. The ability of natural and managed ecosystems to adapt is unable to cope or react in order to slow down the rate of biodiversity loss. At the same time we are losing landscapes that were familiar to us. Constant urbanization is a reality around many of the economic centres in our countries.

**Aware** that as a result, many landscapes have undergone a deterioration process which is having significant impact on human livelihoods and that many communities are changing the way they live, work and socialize, possibly migrating and abandoning their landscapes. Once a long lived balance is lost, it is very hard and also costly to renew it, as creating new landscape quality is a difficult task.

## **WE URGE**

the Council of Europe, the European Union and all IFLA Europe Member States to develop a holistic vision regarding cultural, social, political, environmental, and economic balance beyond political borders, thus

**Taking** constant change into account in their social, economic and environmental policies. This means to follow an integrated and holistic approach to planning, which will develop strategies for landscapes to adapt to climate change, increase ecosystem resilience and foster the sustainable use of all our natural and cultural resources.

**Ensuring** the involvement of local communities, enhancing local knowledge about landscape and the way they understand it and adapt it to their needs. The lessons learned from the European landscapes, will teach us sustainability and help to create true quality of life for generations to come.

**Committing** to work closely with all stakeholders, international organizations, civil society and scientific community. By mobilising public support at local, regional, national and European level we can address the multiple challenges in the political arena.

**Promoting** research, sustainable development and examples of best practice in landscape planning, design and maintenance. The discourse of how landscapes can be or should be altered needs to embrace the holistic vision of landscape architecture. We can promote the sharing of knowledge about our landscapes and we can help to arrive at decisions on how to make the necessary changes.

**Assisting** developing countries, which are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of rapid change.

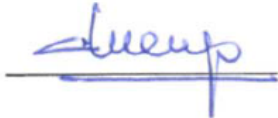
**Following** other international and European texts on the matter such as:

- The European Social Charter (CoE, 1961)
- The World Heritage Convention (Paris, 1972), whose Operative Guidelines first expressed the notion of Cultural Landscapes
- UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1992);

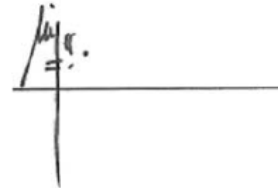
- The Action Plan on Cultural Policies for Development (UNESCO, Stockholm, 1998), which recognizes the importance of civil society within a democratic framework
- The European Landscape Convention (CoE, Florence, 2000).

The Executive Council of IFLA EUROPE certifies this document, as elected representatives of the 34 national associations that comprise the Federation,

**Ana LUENGO,**  
President



**Marc CLARAMUNT,**  
Treasurer



**Tony Williams,**  
Vice President Education



**Andrei Condoros,**  
Vice President Professional Practice



IFLA EUROPE General Assembly, Lisbon, Portugal, October 2015.



## URBAN LANDSCAPES

**For the first time in history, more than half the population of the planet lives in cities, which are now bigger than ever. These settlements are presenting unprecedented challenges to society and disrupting our relationship with the natural environment.**

**Understanding cities as landscapes will provide for opportunities linking the past, the present and the future in order to achieve social justice, sense of place, economic health and ecological integrity.**

The undersigned, as representatives of the 34 National Associations of the European Region of the International Federation of Landscape Architects, having considered Urban Landscapes at our General Assembly in Brussels 2016, and wanting thus to contribute to the III UN Habitat Conference and the Urban Agenda, make the following statement:

### **WE BELIEVE**

***Urban landscapes are dynamic,***

*places where people express their will to live together, inspiring social and economic transformations.*

***Urban landscapes are alive,***

*organic systems which rely on nature and its processes to create healthy environments.*

**Understanding** the need for holistic planning, as cities are at the centre of economic growth and innovation, generating most of the continent's prosperity, but their diversity and complexity makes them particularly vulnerable to social and environmental problems.

**Realising** that social cohesion was traditionally ensured by the tight integration that existed between individuals as well as a sense of belonging to the place they inhabited. Relentless urbanisation has created an urban society with changing lifestyles that increase identity problems and social alienation.

**Recognising** that continuous urbanisation is causing worldwide problems such as the deterioration of ecological systems due to urban pressures, conventional major infrastructure and agricultural intensification, while neglecting rural landscapes. This leads to threats to public health which, exacerbated by climate change, will adversely affect urban communities.

**Acknowledging** that economic growth models have had a tremendous impact on cities. They have become ravaged by poverty, lack of employment, precarious housing, social conflict and violence. These problems are very likely to intensify with the unrelenting migration of people to cities, and the continued liberalisation of global markets.



## WE URGE

the Council of Europe, the European Union and all participants to the III UN Habitat Conference to give great weight to landscape in their decisions, using a holistic vision favouring ecological integrity, economic development, and social justice across political and other borders, thus

**Promoting** an understanding of urban landscapes, which encompasses site and location, embodying and concentrating many natural and cultural elements and processes within which are the result of an accumulative and organic process, often also planned and designed, in which habits and traditions have woven a landscape pattern singular and characteristic to each city.

**Ensuring** that a well-informed landscape approach is fully integrated into urban planning, design and management. Understanding the city as a landscape will help to manage a system of perpetual change, resulting from living processes.

**Using** the metabolism of urban landscapes, its flows of energy, air, water, materials, food and biodiversity, thus creating urban infrastructures that provide for a sustainable and healthy environment.

**Committing** to establish mechanisms and tools that integrate all stakeholders in democratic governance, which considers the citizen as its main focus and recipient, aware that urban policies rely on setting up strategies of social transformation.

**Advocating** cities as pioneers for innovative solutions regarding resource efficiency, land use and environmental sustainability, making effective use of natural capital to deliver ecosystem services. This will have direct impact on human life, health and biodiversity, especially in a scenario of climatic change, in order to shape the cities of the future, creating new interpretations for sustainable healthy living spaces.

**Assisting** developing countries, as in the next decades more than three quarters of the planet will be urban, and therefore living through even greater challenges.

**Following** other international and European texts on the matter such as:

- *The Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements*, 1<sup>st</sup> UN-Habitat Conference. Vancouver (1976).
- *Recommendation concerning the Safeguarding and Contemporary role of Historic Areas*, ICOMOS. Nairobi (1976).
- *Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements*, 2<sup>nd</sup> UN-Habitat Conference. Istanbul (1996).
- *The European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe. Florence (2000).
- *World Urban Campaign*, UN-Habitat (2009).
- *Territorial Agenda 2020*, European Union (2011).
- *Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape*, UNESCO (2011).
- *Environment Action Programme 2020*, European Union (2013).
- *The City we need 2.0*, Urban Thinkers Campus, UN-Habitat, (2015-16).

IFLA EUROPE General Assembly, Brussels, Belgium, October 2016

## **INTERNATIONAL TERRACED LANDSCAPES ALLIANCE / LE RÉSEAU DES PAYSAGES EN TERRASSES (ITLA)**

*Mr Michael DOWER, Ambassador to European Institutions, International Terraced Landscapes Alliance*

*Mrs Sabine Christiane GENNAI SCHOTT, Member of International Terraced Landscapes Alliance (ITLA)*

*Mrs Donatella MURTAS, Italian co-ordinator and international Board member, International Terraced Landscape Alliance*



### Terraced Landscapes in Europe

The International Terraced Landscape Alliance was set up in 2010 following the 1<sup>st</sup> World Meeting on Terraced Landscapes held at Honghe in China in November that year. The 2<sup>nd</sup> World Meeting was held in Peru in May 2014. The 3<sup>rd</sup> World Meeting, focused upon terraced landscapes in Europe, was held in Italy in October 2016, and was attended by 250 people from over 20 countries. The Alliance now has members including governments, NGOs, Universities and others, in many world countries, of which the majority are in Europe.

The Alliance is committed to the well-being of terraced landscapes throughout the world. We are glad to be represented for the first time at the Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention. We greatly appreciated the patronage which the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe gave to the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Meeting on terraced Landscapes last October.

Terraced landscapes are found in very many countries, notably in the hilly and mountainous regions of Europe, Asia and South America and on steep coasts and islands. They were created because the people living in those regions needed food, which could not be produced by use only of flat land in valleys or on hilltops. Their creation involved high levels of skill, and massive human effort, collective organization, planning.

Cultural Heritage. Terraced landscapes are a key element in the world's cultural heritage, as is recognised by the World Heritage status accorded to some such landscapes some of which are in China, Phillipines, Peru and Italy. Terraces represent inherited social and economic infrastructure, created by the skill and hard labour of past generations, capable of being used for decades and centuries ahead. They reflect a way of life which in many regions is still continuing. But in some other regions terraces have been abandoned, because of the hard work involved, out-migration of people or changes in agricultural practice.

A time for revival. The Alliance believes that the time is now ripe for revival in the use and sustained management of terrace systems. This belief is based upon factors increasingly visible in Europe –the concern for sustainability in a troubled world; the search for quality of life and a good standard of living for rural populations; the rising demand for fresh, locally produced food of known provenance and good quality; public and political support for small and family farms; the desire to enable a new generation of young farmers to gain access to the land and to a dignified life in mountain areas. We

note also the rising interest in the cultural heritage, as shown (for example) by the provisional decision by the European Council and Parliament to establish a European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018.

Benefits from terraced landscapes.The effective use and maintenance of terraced landscapes can yield a range of long-term public benefits. Those include the prevention of soil erosion, the mitigation of the effects of climate change, the control of flooding and management of water systems; the protection and enrichment of agrobiodiversity and ecosystems; the diversification of rural economies by adding value to different foods, seeds and crops; the educational value of heritage and cultural landscapes, and of the human and natural stories which they embody; and the beauty and appeal of these landscapes for leisure and tourism. These ‘public goods’ justify the injection of communal resources – at local, regional, national and European scale – into the maintenance, and where necessary the redemption, of terraced lands.

European Landscape Convention.In this context, the Alliance is enthused by the principles embodied in the European Landscape Convention. We note that, by adopting the Convention, many European governments have committed themselves to identify, evaluate and prepare objectives related to all the landscapes in their territory; to secure protection and management of all landscapes and promote redemptive action where that is needed; and to reflect these intentions in all relevant policies.

Relevant policies.The distinctive character of terraced landscapes, and the clarity of the link between the maintenance of terraces and the economic uses to which they are put, means that they are highly suited to the process of thought and action which is set out in the Convention. Also very clear is the range of policies which may need to be applied in order to secure the well-being of terraced landscapes. This may include policies for support for agriculture, rural development, environmental protection, water and river catchment management, spatial and territorial planning and regional development, cultural heritage and quality of life.

Conclusion.We call upon all European governments, and notably those which have signed and ratified the European Landscape Convention, to bring terraced landscapes into clear and specific focus within their policies related to landscape. We also call upon international organisations, local authorities, landowners, commercial interests, rural and urban communities, peasants, artisans and other ‘hands-on’ producers, educators, researchers and all relevant stakeholders to commit themselves to the protection and long-term maintenance of terraces.

The International Terraced Landscapes Alliance is committed to working with all relevant interests, promoting multinational exchanges of ideas and experiences, and assisting the strengthening of initiatives and networks in this field.

[www.terracedlandscapes2016.it](http://www.terracedlandscapes2016.it)

[www.paesaggiterrazzati.it](http://www.paesaggiterrazzati.it)

\*

## **Oral presentation**

Terraced landscapes are often unseen, silent. (1st slide)

But many European countries have a rich heritage of them: Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Italy and others. The same physical structure enriched by a wide variety of local, precious details: from building techniques to choice of crops. These landscapes contribute strongly to the distinct character, to the diversity richness of Europe and to the quality of life of its inhabitants. (2nd slide)

They were built over the years to allow life and cultivations in steep areas, to fulfill human needs. They are the perfect and only solution to cultivate the slopes of the mountains, the hills and the coasts, to answer the need for food and water supply, for the sustainable use of resources, for spiritual values. (3rd slide)

After the Second World War, many of them were abandoned because of the industrial/plains “golden rush”. But nowadays they are gaining new attention and they have become of interest for the same reasons they were originally built: food, water, soil erosion, fertility, spirituality, sustainability, diversity. (4th slide)

There is the need to share this updated vision and to give attention to these terraced landscapes for what they are and what they can offer. The principles of the European Landscape Convention are highly suited to securing the well-being of terraced landscapes. Those landscapes, in the words of the Convention, merit protection, management and planning, plus the focused application of a range of policies, notably those for agriculture, rural development, cultural heritage, spatial planning and environment. (5th slide)

We plead that you recognize the importance of these landscapes and bring them into your thinking and your action. (6th slide)

# THE INTERNATIONAL TERRACED LANDSCAPES ALLIANCE A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT TO VALUE OUR COMMON LANDSCAPES

Donatella Murtas, International Board Member ITLA



## TERRACES: A WORLD AND EUROPEAN ASSET





they are the perfect and only solution  
to cultivate the slopes of  
the mountains, the hills and the coasts,  
to answer the need for food and water supply,  
for the sustainable use of resources  
for spiritual values



history sharpens our vision for actions:  
from neglect and abandonment to  
choosing the future, a future worth living in





**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE / UNION  
INTERNATIONALE POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA NATURE (IUCN)**

*Mr Nikolay SOBOLEV, Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences  
[Apologised for absence / Excusé]*



**LANDSCAPE RESEARCH GROUP / GROUPE DE RECHERCHE SUR LE PAYSAGE (LRG)**

*Mrs Laurence LE DU-BLAYO, Representative of the Landscape Research Group*



## Landscape Research Group

**Laurence Le Du-Blayo**  
International Coord.  
[Laurence.ledu@univ-rennes2.fr](mailto:Laurence.ledu@univ-rennes2.fr)

The anniversary of the Landscape Research Group (LRG) in 2017 marks **50 years since the charity was established** to promote research and education in the field of landscape. LRG was involved in the emergence of ELC

The Landscape Research Group (LRG) is a UK registered charity with an **international membership** and remit. We are an independent organisation founded in 1967 to promote education and research in landscape and any related subject.

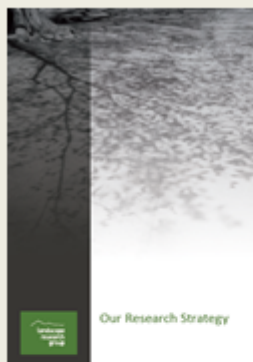
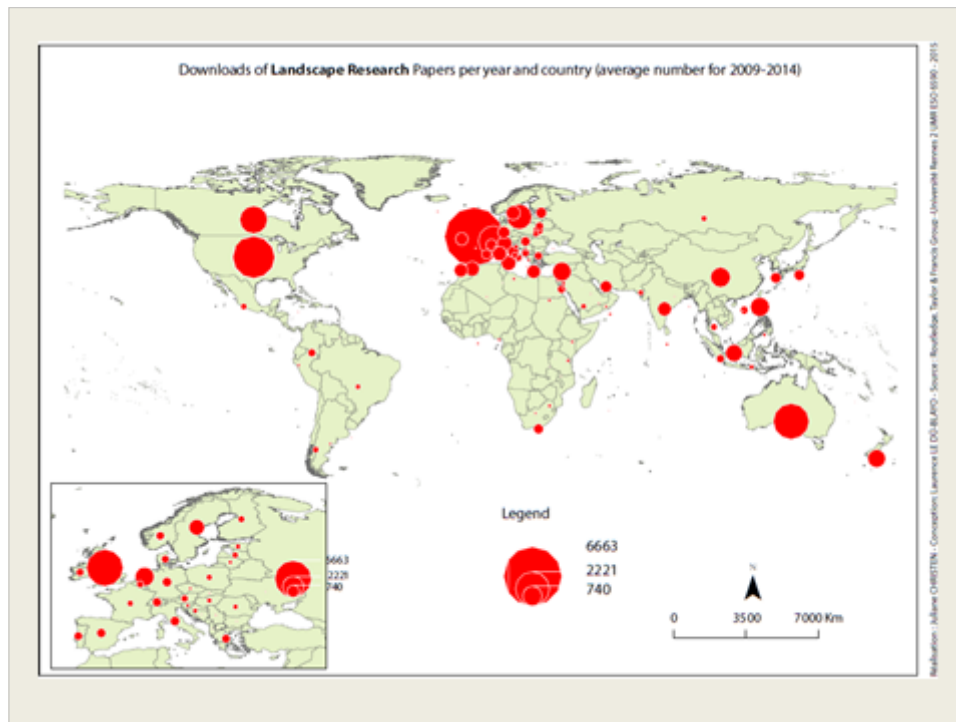
Membership of LRG is open to all and we promote interdisciplinarity through our activities. **We foster exchange and interaction between researchers, practitioners, administrators and policy-makers**, and we support and seek to catalyse cooperation between professionals and the public.



## Landscape Research Group



<http://www.landscape-research.org/>



We have identified four strategic research priorities (2014):

- **landscape justice**
- **rapid environmental change**
- **landscape governance**
- **critical landscape thinking.**

More specifically, we will:

- fund research and related activities through our **Strategic Research Fund**
- provide practical support for the development of **landscape research networks**
- collaborate on the conceptualisation and delivery of **specific research projects**
- disseminate research through our peer-reviewed journal **Landscape Research** and other print and digital media
- enable exchange and discussion through **conferences, workshops and other events**
- plan and deliver **research capacity-building activities**
- support **engagement with landscape research** amongst early career researchers and practitioners, for instance through our student awards and through targeted events.

## REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER (REC) CAUCASUS / CENTRE POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT REGIONAL (REC) CAUCASE

*Mrs Nune Harutyunyan, L.L.M. International Law, M.A. International Studies, Director REC Caucasus (written contribution)*

Ladies and gentleman, honorable guests, colleagues and Mr. Chair,

I am pleased to get a chance to present you initiatives of a unique regional organization supporting regional development and environmental initiatives and projects in South Caucasus – Regional environmental center for Caucasus, which is to assist in solving environmental problems in the Caucasus region through the promotion of co-operation at national and regional level among NGOs, governments, business, local communities, and all other environmental stakeholders in order to develop a free exchange of information, in line with the principles of the Aarhus Convention. Throughout decades REC Caucasus is offering assistance to all environmental NGOs and other stakeholders, increases public participation in the decision-making process, thereby assisting advancement of democratic civil society.

One of the tasks of REC Caucasus is to serve as a “bridge” between the public and governments. REC Caucasus assists its stakeholders in capacity building through provision of information, advice, expertise and to encourage dialogue, cooperation and public participation in environmental decision-making. REC Caucasus plays an active role in inter-agency cooperation, too. The organisation together with active environmental NGOs and the ministries of environment promotes the idea of environmental protection and sustainable development in the South Caucasus countries, demonstrating examples and arguments of direct links between environmental degradation/ destruction and the growth of poverty, migration, and economic recession. One of the new and challenging tasks for us was finding common approaches for sustainable landscapes and green economic development: peculiarities of South Caucasus, its reach biodiversity, impact of climate change, reach diversity of landscapes and biodiversity hotspots, unique natural monuments and SPNAs do demand special efforts, common vision and effective action to conserve current treasures, natural landscapes, and suggest effective co-operation schemes which have a defined perspective for the future.

Regional approaches to sustainable environmental management policies and practices, strategic planning and targeted initiatives for regional growth and green development mechanisms are a set of helpful tools which could serve for preservation of natural landscapes, smart management of natural resources and assets and green economic growth. We in REC C believe that green economic growth, joint efforts, strengthening of national capacities and elaboration of regional approaches and solutions for environmental and development Gordian knots could only be achieved follow the route of joint efforts, smart approaches to natural resources, and united knowledge and expertise which should be used by executive power, decision-making, civil society action, private business companies and all active citizens who are not indifferent to our future.

We are using preventive practices and innovation to save resources for producers and help improving management and organization of business companies through resource efficiency and cleaner production methodologies and technology, more than 50 SMEs have benefitted from our audits and cut their costs and environmental damage, saved 20% of their energy costs and water expenses.

We are using international and national expertise to improve management of bio-resource, improve and restore landscapes on Caucasus, though advanced forest restoration and preventive land degradation, which also reduced the threat of natural disasters and improved environment for communities.

We have identified common approaches for using ecosystem services and ecosystem valuation for regional initiatives and for our countries, having in mind peculiarities of each region and country, and common goals.

Green economic growth and sustainable use of resources are key concepts for sustainable future, however they can only be achieved in case of collective efforts of co-thinkers – people who might have different set of minds, mentality, national identity but who strongly support the idea of secure, sustainable and green future.

**UNISCAPE**

*Mr Bas PEDROLI, Director UNISCAPE, Associate Professor, Land Use Planning Group, Wageningen University & Research*

From: Pedroli, Bas [mailto:bas.pedroli@wur.nl]  
Sent: mercredi 1 mars 2017 13:12  
To: DEJEANT-PONS Maguelonne  
Cc: Juan Manuel Palerm; lionella.scazzosi@polimi.it; simon.bell@emu.ee; Veerle Van Eetvelde; tony.williams@europe.com; Gotzmann, Inge; tommaso.zanaica (tomaso.zanaica@uniscape.eu)  
Subject: Draft Recommendation on Higher Education and Training in Landscape

To the Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Ms Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons

*Dear Ms Déjeant Pons,*

*As announced, herewith we have the pleasure to send you a Draft Recommendation on Higher Education and Training in Landscape, to be considered in the 9<sup>th</sup> Council of Europe Conference on the Landscape Convention 23-24 March 2017 in Strasbourg.*

*We have discussed this document with a number of other international Networks active in landscape education:*

- ICOMOS
- IFLA
- ECLAS
- IALE-Europe
- CIVILSCAPE

*They all support this initiative and have expressed their consent to the current draft.*

*We will be happy to present and discuss this draft at the Conference.*

*With sincere regards,*

*Bas Pedroli*

**D R A F T**

**Council of Europe Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on promoting landscape awareness through higher education and training.**

*version February 2017*

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve greater unity between its members for the purpose of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage;

Having regard to the European Landscape Convention (ETS No. 176), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000, opened to member States for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000 and entered into force on 1 March 2004;

Concerned to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between environment, social needs, culture and economic activity, for a better quality of life;

Noting that landscape has an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields, and that it constitutes a resource favourable to economic activity whose protection, management and planning can contribute to job creation;

Aware that landscape contributes to the formation of local and regional cultures and that it is a basic component of European natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human well-being and consolidation of the European identity;

Acknowledging that landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: both in urban and rural areas, in high quality or in degraded areas, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty and in everyday areas;

Noting that developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, the expansion of urban areas and of infrastructure networks, the increase in transport, tourism and recreation activities and, at a more general level, changes in the world politics and economy are in many cases accelerating the transformation of landscapes;

Wishing to respond to the public's demand to enjoy high-quality landscapes and to play an active part in the management of landscapes;

Believing that the landscape is a key element of individual and social well-being and that its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone;

Acknowledging that the quality and diversity of European landscapes constitute a common resource, and that it is important to co-operate towards its protection, management and planning;

Considering the aims of the European Landscape Convention and wishing to encourage its implementation;

Referring to Article 6.B of the European Landscape Convention on specific measures for training and education, which states that Each Party undertakes to promote: "[...] university [...] courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attached to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning", "training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations" and "multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors and for associations concerned";

Having regard to its previous recommendations:

- concerning the promotion of an awareness of Europe in secondary schools (Recommendation Rec(83)4);
- on the role of the secondary school in preparing young people for life (Recommendation Rec(83)13);
- on aid for artistic creation (Recommendation Rec(85)6);

- on teaching and learning about human rights in schools (Recommendation Rec(85)7);
- on the role of museums in environmental education, information and training (Recommendation Rec(90)18);
- concerning heritage education (Recommendation Rec(98)5);
- on ensuring quality education (Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)13);
- on promoting landscape awareness through education (Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8);

Agreeing with the considerations included in articles 1 and 2 of the UNESCO Convention concerning the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, of the United Nations (Paris, 1972), implying that landscape as heritage should be understood as a concept beyond the definition of cultural and natural heritage;

Considering that one of the aims of education is to train young people and equip them with a set of skills necessary for citizenship and democracy;

Asserting that educational and training activities in the landscape field are an excellent way of giving meaning to the future;

Recommends that the governments of member States Parties to the Convention adopt legislative, regulatory, administrative, financial and other appropriate measures to initiate or to develop integrative landscape curricula in higher education and training programmes to promote landscape awareness among students and professionals in accordance with the principles set out in the appendix to this recommendation.

#### *Appendix to Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)X*

### **I. Principles and proposals**

#### **a. General principles of higher education and training in the field of landscape**

Landscape is an asset characterised by a huge diversity of cultural and natural heritage values. It is constantly evolving, assimilating new societal demands into the inherited tangible and intangible patterns, structures and functions. The increasing dynamics in our globalising world and the associated – often unintended – impacts of policies and societal developments on the landscape require a well-focussed knowledge management. Higher education has a key role in translating the available knowledge into capacities and competences for the future managers and designers of the landscape to translate this requirement in transdisciplinary and participatory approaches to characterisation, valuation, analysis, diagnosis, design and management of the landscape. The societal relevance of landscape education and training is evident from the following considerations:

- The current state of landscape diversity in Europe results from the combination of historical and on-going environmental and land use processes and cultural heritage;

- As it assimilates economic, social, cultural and environmental processes over time and space, the European landscape is predominantly a multifunctional landscape. As such, it provides a crucial and effective space for integration of various functions for human wellbeing, including in the context of rural development;
- Rural and urban livelihoods and wellbeing are closely connected to the status and trends in landscape functions and values;
- Temporary, semi-permanent and permanent migratory human movements and associated exchange of skills, knowledge and goods between town and countryside have in many cases shaped the local landscape diversity in the past centuries and still provide ample opportunities for its enhancement;
- The involvement of local communities, and recognition of and respect for their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, innovations and practices can assist in more effective management and governance of multifunctional landscapes, and contribute to their resilience and adaptability;
- To better understand the dynamic interplay between the societal demands at the landscape level and their implications for livelihoods and wellbeing, there is need for enhanced inter- and transdisciplinary landscape research and education including its historical background and future developments;
- Public awareness of the links between landscape character and political action that considers these links in policy and decision making processes is needed to effectively implement international and national commitments dealing with environmental, social, cultural and economic sustainability and human wellbeing at different scales.

**b. Proposals to public authorities for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention through the promotion of higher education in the field of landscape**

The competent authorities should be invited to:

- incorporate the integrative aspects of landscape study into all higher education curricula that address issues pertaining to landscape, both in its biophysical-spatial dimension and in its historic and contemporary cultural dimension (including intangible values), to enable students to acquire a knowledge of the landscape and an understanding of its values, features, importance and role with regard to the quality of life as provided by well-managed landscapes;



- promote integration of deductive and normative approaches in higher education and training, based on a commitment to the ethics of conscience, participation, design, concept and aesthetics, and employing the best natural and cultural resources to take on sustainable development models and encourage a more democratic use of governance in landscape and urban planning and design;
- programme landscape education and training to inherently refer to the balance needed between measures to enhance visually appealing landscape *images* and activities of personal commitment to sustainably *functioning* landscapes;
- start from the premise that the landscape is a basic element contributing to the sense of belonging, to community identity, which implies using the cultural dimension of the landscape as a key element in the construction of a collective vision of landscape futures;
- highlight in education and training that landscape policies and actions imply conservation, innovation, restoration and adaptation transformations, always and anywhere appreciated in a long term perspective;
- recognise in education and training that landscape strategies, planning, design and measures should be based on a deep understanding and interdisciplinary knowledge of the inherited and contemporary character of each landscape in its biophysical-spatial and cultural expression;
- promote higher education that involves activities which will foster understanding and knowledge of the landscape in its diversity across Europe and beyond, and that includes the idea of collective identity carried by landscapes, enabling the coexistence of diverse cultures characteristic to contemporary society;
- pay due attention to the notion of public space, and to the debate about landscape as a common good, accommodating both public and private ownership of the land;
- encourage students to participate in and present proposals for projects and plans for the protection, management, design and planning of the landscape, preferably in real-life situations;
- promote the establishments of special chairs of integrated landscape study and design, to function as focal points in higher education institutions for capacity-building and training in the field of landscape.

## **II. Implementing landscape awareness and professional capacity through higher education and training**

The competent authorities should be invited to promote landscape education and training, which is interdisciplinary by its very nature, in the framework of higher education at all levels and in all types of training, be it formal, non-formal or informal, considering the following provisions:

- stimulate the relevant European professional and NGO Networks on landscape, and especially those specifically involved in coordinating landscape educational programmes, to join efforts in developing curricula and training programmes;
  
- encourage the setting-up of education and training programmes in organisations and institutions responsible for landscape;
  
- promote or organise workshops and training, both at theoretical and practical levels, wherever possible, for both faculty and professionals, enhancing mutual collaboration;
  
- set up a partnership for landscape education and training activities on an official basis between the relevant ministries, responsible for policies influencing and/or transforming landscapes (i.e. agriculture, environment, transport, energy, culture, etc.), if possible within existing structures;
  
- encourage initiatives taken by universities, landscape oriented professionals and associations and facilitate these, in so far as they correspond to the definitions and goals of the European Landscape Convention;
  
- undertake multidisciplinary assessment and monitoring of landscape education and training actions on pedagogic quality and effectiveness.

## **III. Documentation and material**

The relevant authorities and ministries in each State should be encouraged to produce or commission publicly accessible teaching and demonstration material relating to landscape, which should continuously be updated to reflect current practice and innovations.

Teaching and demonstration material should make use of the relevant information collected by Landscape Observatories at local, regional, national and international level. Exchange of experience and a better multilateral dissemination of information on landscape education should be ensured through the Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe.