



## LAUSANNE DECLARATION

### “Landscape integration in sectoral policies”

Symbolically adopted on 20 October 2020,

date of the Celebration of the 20th anniversary of the European Landscape Convention and the 4th International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe,

*by the representatives of the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention invited to participate in the 23rd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on "The integration of the landscape into sectoral policies", Lausanne, Switzerland, 19-20 October 2020, following a written consultation procedure.*

*Due to the pandemic and health regulations at this time, the meeting could not be held as planned and the contributions prepared for the Meeting will be the subject of a thematic publication by the Council of Europe.*

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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, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000 and opened to Member States for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000 [ETS No. 176];
- the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of 6 February 2008 on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, and in particular its Appendix 2 – Suggested text for the practical implementation of the European Landscape Convention at national level [CM/Rec(2008)3];
- the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of 27 September 2017 on the contribution of the European Landscape Convention to the exercise of human rights and democracy with a view to sustainable development [CM/Rec(2017)7];
- the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of 14 November 2018 on the creation of public funds for landscape [CM/Rec(2018)9];

- the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of 16 October 2019 on Landscape integration in policies relating to rural territories in agricultural and forestry, energy and demographic transition [[CM/Rec\(2019\)7](#)];
- the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe of 16 October 2019 on Landscape and democracy: public participation [[CM/Rec\(2019\)8](#)];

Reaffirming that the landscape:

- has an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields, and constitutes a resource favourable to economic activity whose protection, management and planning can contribute to job creation;
- is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: both in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas and in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty and in everyday areas;
- contributes to the formation of local cultures and that it is a basic component of the natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human well-being;
- is a key element of individual and social well-being and that its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone;

Considering:

- the powerful symbolic significance of the landscape, which feeds on the sources of the social imagination;
- its structural role as a lever for sustainable development based on a harmonious balance between the environmental, social, cultural, and economic dimensions;
- the importance of the landscape with regard to the challenges of health, food and energy, as well as addressing the challenges resulting from climate change, the disappearance of living species, pollution of the water and air, degradation of agricultural and forest soils, and artificialisation of land;

Noting that the pandemic period has only reinforced this social demand for landscape;

The participants urge the Parties to the European Landscape Convention, and other States which so wish:

1. To systematically integrate the landscape dimension into policies which may have a direct or indirect impact on the quality of the landscape, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;
2. To ensure thus that the policies of spatial and town planning, policies concerning infrastructure, water management, energy, the economy and employment, as well as environmental, agricultural, social, health, cultural and tourism policies, take into consideration the values and functions of the landscape;

3. To consider that integration concerns both the administrative bodies and departments on the same level (horizontal integration) and those belonging to different levels (vertical integration), in accordance with the provisions of the Recommendation No R (2008) 3.

The participants express the wish that, on the occasion of the 4th International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe, the Lausanne Declaration on "*The integration of landscape in sectoral policies*" be brought to the attention of the stakeholders of the landscape, as a contribution to the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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