

DIRECTORATE GENERAL
HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW (DGI)

DIRECTORATE OF SOCIAL RIGHTS, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT FOR THE REYKJAVÍK PROCESS AND
ENVIRONMENT
**SECRETARIAT OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE LANDSCAPE
CONVENTION**



Strasbourg 29 July 2026

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

9th Session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award (2025-2026)

Meeting of the International Jury

Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 10 September 2026

Agora Building, Room G04

LEGAL FRAMEWORK, PROCEDURE AND APPLICATIONS

Document prepared by the Secretariat

I. Legal framework

Article 11 of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (hereinafter: the Convention) refers to the Council of Europe Landscape Award.

This provision establishes:

1. *The Landscape award of the Council of Europe is a distinction which may be conferred on local and regional authorities and their groupings that have instituted, as part of the landscape policy of a Party to this Convention, a policy or measures to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape, which have proved lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities of the Parties. The distinction may be also conferred on non-governmental organisations having made particularly remarkable contributions to landscape protection, management or planning.*¹
2. *Applications for the Landscape award of the Council of Europe shall be submitted to the Committees of Experts mentioned in Article 10 by the Parties. Transfrontier local and regional authorities and groupings of local and regional authorities concerned, may apply provided that they jointly manage the landscape in question.*
3. *On proposals from the Committees of Experts mentioned in Article 10 the Committee of Ministers shall define and publish the criteria for conferring the Landscape award of the Council of Europe, adopt the relevant rules and confer the Award.*
4. *The granting of the Landscape award of the Council of Europe is to encourage those receiving the award to ensure the sustainable protection, management and/or planning of the landscape areas concerned.*

On 20 February 2008, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted [Resolution CM/Res\(2008\)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe](#) (see document attached).

The Award was launched in 2008 and eight [sessions of the Award](#) have been organised to date: in 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2020-2021 and 2022-2024.

The Committee of Ministers, in its [Resolution CM/Res\(2017\)18 on the Landscape Award Alliance](#), adopted on 27 September 2017, decided that the exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the Convention in the framework of the sessions of the Landscape Award and acknowledged by the Committee of Ministers are part of the "[Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe](#)".

II. Procedure and applications for the 9th Session

In connection with the 9th Session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award, the States Parties to the Convention were invited to submit applications to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by 31 December 2025, in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention and Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Council of Europe Landscape Award.

The Council of Europe Secretariat received 13 applications:

1. State party: **ARMENIA** / applicant: **Amanoo** / project name: **Amanoo Green Residential District** / project location: **Yerevan, Republic of Armenia**
2. State party: **BELGIUM** / applicant: **Regional Landscape *Kleine and Grote Nete*** / project name: ***Kempense Heuvelrug* (Campine ridge) between the valleys of *Kleine Nete* and *Aa*, where a biography of the landscape brings together past, future and people** / project location: ***Kempense Heuvelrug* and valleys (*Lille, Kasterlee, Herentals*) – Province of *Antwerp*, Belgium**
3. State party: **CYPRUS** / applicant: **Paphos District Administration** / project name: **“Aphrodite” Thematic (Environmental & Cultural) Route** / project location: ***Ineia* Village, *Paphos* District, Cyprus**
4. State party: **FINLAND** / applicant: ***Naapurinvaara* village association** / project name: **Long-term management of the unique landscapes of *Naapurinvaara* and establishment of a landscape management area** / project location: **Municipality of *Sotkamo*, *Kainuu* region, Northern Finland**
5. State party: **FRANCE** / applicant: **Syndicat mixte du SCoT de l'Agglomération Messine (SCoTAM)** / project name: **La démarche du Plan Paysages du SCoT de l'Agglomération Messine¹** / project location: **la Moselle et la Meurthe-et-Moselle, France**
6. State party: **ITALY** / applicant: **Magnifica Comunità di *Fiemme*** / project name: **1,000 Years of Forests at the Service of the Community: Heritage, Sustainability, and Shared Value** / project location: **Trentino Alto-Adige, Val di *Fiemme*, Italy**
7. State party: **LATVIA** / applicant: **Latvian Fund for Nature** / project name: **Restoration of the wooded meadows in *Lejzernieki* and *Kalnkalci*, located within the Natura 2000 site “*Ziemeļgauja*”** / project location: ***Lejzernieki* and *Kalnkalci*, *Valka* Municipality, Latvia**
8. State party: **The NETHERLANDS** / applicant: ***Vereniging Nederlands Cultuurlandschap* (Association for the Dutch Cultural Landscape) & *Staatsbosbeheer* (Dutch State Forestry)** / project name: **UNESCO Man and Biosphere *Maasheggen*** / project location: **Maasheggen, province *Noord-Brabant*, municipality *Land van Cuijk*, the Netherlands**
9. State party: **POLAND** / applicant: **Spatial Planning Department, Kraków City Hall** / project name: **Resolution No. XXXVII/908/20 of the Krakow City Council of 26.02.2020 on establishing the “Principles and conditions of placing small architecture objects, billboards and advertising devices and fences”** / project location: **Kraków, Poland**
10. State party: **PORTUGAL** / applicant: **Municipality of *Arganil*** / project name: ***Serra do Açor* Forest Project** / project location: ***Serra do Açor*; *Arganil*, Portugal**

¹ Translated title (ENG): The Landscape Plan Initiative within the Metz Metropolitan Area, Spatial Coherence Scheme (SCoT)

11. State party: **SLOVENIA** / applicant: **Landezine** / project name: **Landezine - Landscape Architecture Platform** / project location: **Ljubljana, Slovenia**
12. State party: **SPAIN** / applicant: **Consell Comarcal Del Priorat (Priorat Regional Council)** / project name: **Landscape management system “*priorat, montsant, siurana*: a resilient mediterranean mosaic”** / project location: **Priorat Region, Spain**
13. State party: **SWITZERLAND** / applicant: **Verein Birsstadt** / project name: **Birspark Landschaft** / project location: **Birsstadt metropolitan region, Switzerland**

The application files are available on the website of the Landscape Convention at the following [link](#).

At its meeting, the International Jury, constituted in accordance with the above-mentioned rules, will be invited to examine the applications and, taking into account the award criteria set out in the appendix to the said rules, to propose a winner for the Award and, where appropriate, special mentions.

The Jury's proposals will then be submitted to the [2nd meeting](#) of the [Steering Committee on the Environment \(CDENV\)](#) (Strasbourg, 13 – 14 October 2026), in its capacity as the committee of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention.

On the basis of the CDENV's proposals, the Committee of Ministers will grant the Award and any special mentions.

The Award and the special mentions will be presented successively by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his representative at a public ceremony.