

La Convenzione Europea del Paesaggio vent'anni dopo (2000-2020)
Ricezione, criticità, prospettive
a cura di Martina Frank e Myriam Pilutti Namer

The Implementation of the European Landscape Convention 2000-2020

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Per la Regione Veneto, così bella e fragile

The landscape...

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

... contributes to the formation of local cultures and... is a basic component of the ... natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human well-being...;



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... is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas;

... is a key element of individual and social well-being and... its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone. (“Preamble” of the European Landscape Convention)¹

Adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 19 July 2000, European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe (**ETS no. 176**)² was opened for signature by European States in Florence on 20 October 2000. To date, 40 Council of Europe member States have ratified it: Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. One State have also signed it: Malta.³

As the first international treaty devoted exclusively to all dimensions of the landscape, the Convention addresses the Organisation’s major challenges in the field of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law, with a view to sustainable development. Its signatory States have declared themselves “concerned to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, eco-

1 The references of the documents mentioned hereafter are available at the Council of Europe Landscape Convention website: www.coe.int/LandscapeConvention. Proceedings of the Workshops and other National Symposiums for the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (Council of Europe’s “European spatial planning and landscape” series): www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications; www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops; www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/national-regional-symposiums. Books edited in the Council of Europe Publishing: www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications. Council of Europe journal *Futuroipa*, for a new vision of landscape and territory: www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/futuroipa-magazines.

2 www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/176. Linguistic versions: www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/text-of-the-european-landscape-convention.

3 Chart of signatures and ratifications of Treaty 176. See also the document of the Council of Europe, “Ratification texts of the European Landscape Convention”, **CEP-CDCPP (2015)**⁴. After the entry into force of the Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe Treaty Series - **no. 219**) adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 15 June 2016, and opened for ratification, acceptance or approval in Strasbourg on 1st August 2016, the Convention will be entitled Council of Europe Landscape Convention. www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/219.

conomic activity and the environment”, considering the cultural dimension of the landscape. The concept of sustainable development is understood as fully integrating the environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions. The Convention applies to the entire territory and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It includes land, inland water and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that may be considered outstanding as well as everyday and degraded landscapes.

The landscape is the result of many change-producing actions resulting from the activity of various stakeholders in territorial processes in highly varied ways and on differing scales of time and space. Such activities may be the outcome of action by public authorities in establishing a large-scale infrastructure, or of individual action in a restricted space. The legal recognition of landscape implies rights and responsibilities on the part of all institutions and citizens towards their living environment. Although each citizen must contribute to preserving the quality of the landscape, it is the authorities that are responsible for establishing the general framework that enables that quality to be assured. The Convention accordingly lays down the general legal principles that must guide the adoption of national landscape policies and the establishment of international co-operation in this area.

The Convention provides that existing competent Committees of Experts of the Council of Europe, set up under its Statute, are designated by the Committee of Ministers of the Organisation, to monitor its implementation. The Work Programme of the Convention, adopted by the Council of Europe Conferences on the Convention and the Steering Committee in charge of landscape (Steering for Culture, Heritage and Landscape - CDCPP), is implemented by the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe, which transmits reports on the work carried out, and on the operation of the Convention to the Committee of Ministers.

The following reference texts concerning the European Landscape Convention, adopted, by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, show the close link which unites human beings and societies to their landscape.

Table 1 Reference texts on the European Landscape Convention, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/reference-texts

Convention and Protocol

- European Landscape Convention, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 19 July 2000, and opened for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000 ([Council of Europe - European Treaty Series no. 176](#))
- Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 15 June 2016, and opened for ratification, acceptance or approval in Strasbourg on 1st August 2016 ([Council of Europe Treaty Series, no. 219](#))

Recommendations

- Recommendation [No R \(2008\) 3](#) on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 6 February 2008 - [Linguistic versions](#)
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2013\)4](#) on the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe and its glossary, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 11 December 2013
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2014\)8](#) on promoting landscape awareness through education, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 17 September 2014
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2015\)7](#) on pedagogical material for landscape education in primary school, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 October 2015
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2015\)8](#) on the implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on Transfrontier Landscapes, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 October 2015
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2017\)7](#) on the contribution of the European Landscape Convention to the exercise of human rights and democracy with a view to sustainable development, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 27 September 2017
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2018\)9](#) contributing to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe: creation of public funds for landscape, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 14 November 2018
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)7](#) with a view to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe – Landscape integration in policies relating to rural territories in agricultural and forestry, energy and demographic transition, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 October 2019
- Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)8](#) with a view to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe – Landscape and democracy: public participation, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 October 2019

Resolutions

- Resolution [CM/Res\(2008\)3](#) on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008
- Resolution [CM/Res\(2017\)18](#) on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 27 September 2017

The Convention and its reference texts on its implementation help to promote: the definition and legal recognition of the landscape; a consideration of division of powers and administrative arrangements; the consideration of the landscape dimension in national and international policies; the development of international co-operation; and the recognition of exemplary projects.

1 Definition and Legal Recognition of the Landscape

The Convention defines landscape as “an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”. It provides that each Party shall undertake “to recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people’s surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity”. The landscape is considered irrespective of whether it is of exceptional beauty since all forms of landscape have a bearing on citizens’ quality of life and should be considered in landscape policies.

The scope of the Convention is extensive: it applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, rural, urban, and peri-urban areas. It includes land, inland water, and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes. The landscape forms a whole whose constituent parts are considered simultaneously in their interrelations.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention notes that the legal recognition of landscape implies rights and responsibilities on the part of all institutions and citizens of Europe towards their physical surroundings. The landscape in which they live is the result of many change-producing actions deriving from the activity of various stakeholders in territorial processes in highly varied ways and on differing scales of time and space. Such activities may be the outcome of action by public authorities in establishing a large-scale infrastructure or of individual action in a restricted space.

Table 2 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

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

- *Landscape Policies: Contribution to the Well-being of European Citizens and to Sustainable Development (social, Economic, Cultural and Ecological Approaches)*, Strasbourg (France), 23-4 May 2002.
- *Landscapes and Individual and Social Well-being*, Strasbourg (France), 27-8 November 2003
- *Landscape and Society*, Ljubljana (Slovenia), 11-12 May 2006
- *Multifunctional Landscape*, Evora (Portugal), 20-21 October 2011
- *National Policies for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention: Challenges and Opportunities*, Yerevan (Armenia), 5-6 October 2016

- *The Implementation of the European Landscape Convention at Local Level: Local Democracy*, Brno (Czech Republic), 5-6 September 2017

Publications

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

- Council of Europe, *Landscape and Sustainable Development: Challenges of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
 - Landscape and social, economic, cultural, and ecological approaches
 - Landscape and individual and social well-being
- Council of Europe, *Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the European Landscape Convention 2000-2010 – New Challenges, New Opportunities*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Facets: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
 - Landscape and ethics
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Dimensions: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2017
 - Wealth and variety of terms, instruments and approaches to landscape in Europe
 - Landscape and democracy
- Council of Europe, *Council of Europe Landscape Convention: Contribution to Human Rights, Democracy and Sustainable Development*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2018
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Mosaics: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
 - Landscape and responsibility
 - Forms of thinking and spirituality in some places and traditional cultures around the world
- Council of Europe, *Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the European Landscape Convention 2000-2020 – Landscape Integration in Sectoral Policies*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021

Journal

www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/futuropa-magazines

- “Landscapes: The Setting for Our Future Lives”, *Naturopa*, 1998, no. 86
- “European Landscape Convention”, *Naturopa*, 2002, no. 98
- “Landscape through Literature”, *Naturopa/Culturopa*, 2005, no. 103
- “Landscape and Public Space”, *Futuropa, For a New Vision of Landscape and Territory*, 2012, no. 3

2 Division of Powers and Administrative Arrangements

The Convention states that each Party shall implement the Convention according to its own division of powers, in conformity with its constitutional principles and administrative arrangements, and respecting the principle of subsidiarity. Each Party harmonise the implementation of this Convention with its own policies.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention provides that each administrative level (national, regional and local) should draw up specific and/or sectoral “landscape strategies” within the limits of its competences. These are based on the resources and institutions which, when co-ordinated in terms of space and time, allow policy implementation to be programmed. The various strategies should be linked by landscape quality objectives.

The Recommendation contains a set of theoretical, methodological, and practical guidelines intended for Parties to the Convention who wish to draw up and implement landscape policies based on the Convention. These guidelines are put forward with due regard for the freedom, and particularly the creativity, of the authorities of each State to draw up legal, operational, administrative, and technical landscape-related instruments and are not legally binding. They avoid narrow or restrictive interpretations of the text of the convention or guidelines that have already been applied but have raised problems. The courses of action chosen by each State for the application of the Convention form a common resource useful to all other States.

It sets out a “Suggested text” for use as guidance for public authorities when implementing the Convention. It states that a specific national ministry should be responsible for implementing landscape policy and for inter-ministerial co-ordination in the area; that it should organise consultation with civil society and the assessment of landscape policies by an ad hoc body; that, in collaboration with the other ministries and with public participation, it should regularly develop and review a national landscape strategy, laying down the guiding principles of landscape policy, describing the paths taken and the goals pursued, in order to protect, manage or plan landscapes. The Recommendation provides that this landscape strategy should be made public and that ministries whose activities influence landscapes should liaise with departments responsible for implementing landscape policy during their activities, and regularly report on their landscape policy. It also provides that regional and local authorities should have staff familiar with landscape issues to implement landscape policy in their spheres of competence, taking landscapes into account at their respective territorial levels. The text reiterates that landscape policy is a responsibility shared between the nation-

al authorities and regional and local authorities, in keeping with the principle of subsidiarity.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2017)7** prescribes that the governments of States Parties to the Convention frame landscape policies in the long term, so that they take into account the common surroundings for present and future generations; and develop landscape policies throughout the entire territory, so that people can enjoy their surroundings in dignity and without discrimination.

3 Consideration of the Landscape Dimension in National and International Policies

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake to establish and implement landscape policies on the one hand, and to integrate landscape into its other policies that may have a direct or indirect impact on landscape on the other. They also undertake to co-operate on considering the landscape dimension in international policies and programmes and to recommend, where relevant, that landscape considerations should be included in them.

3.1 Landscape Policies

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake to establish and implement landscape policies. It states that “landscape policy” means an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscape.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention specifies that, from the operational viewpoint, the convention presupposes:

- the drawing up of specific landscape policies and concurrently the systematic inclusion of the landscape dimension in all sectoral policies that have a direct or indirect influence on changes to the territory. Landscape is therefore not additional to other themes but is an integral part of them;
- a transition from a policy based only on protecting a territory’s features and parts recognised as outstanding to a policy based on the quality of all living surroundings, whether outstanding, everyday or degraded;
- a definition of and experience with new forms of collaboration between the various bodies and the various levels of administration;
- a new approach to observing and interpreting landscape, which should henceforth: view the territory as a whole (and no longer

just identify places to be protected); include and combine several approaches simultaneously, linking ecological, archaeological, historical, cultural, perceptive and economic approaches; incorporate social and economic aspects.

3.1.1 Establishment and Implementation of Landscape Policies

The Convention gives definitions of actions on landscape: protection, management and planning:

- “Landscape protection” means actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and/or from human activity;
- “Landscape management” means action, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes which are brought about by social, economic and environmental processes;
- “Landscape planning” means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention specifies these concepts.

- The concept of ‘protection’ includes the idea that landscape is subject to changes which, within certain limits, have to be accepted. Protective measures, which are currently being widely trialled, should not be designed to stop time or to restore natural or human-influenced characteristics that no longer exist; however, they may guide changes in sites in order to pass on their specific, material and immaterial features to future generations. A landscape’s characteristics depend on economic, social, ecological, cultural and historical factors, the origin of which often lies outside the sites concerned. Landscape protection should find the ways and means of acting, at an appropriate level, not only on the characteristics present at sites but also on external factors.
- ‘Management’ of landscape is a continuing action aimed at influencing activities liable to modify landscape. It can be seen as a form of adaptive planning which itself evolves as societies transform their way of life, their development, and surroundings. It can also be seen as a territorial project, which takes account of new social aspirations, anticipated changes in biophysical and cultural characteristics and access to natural resources.

- Landscape ‘planning’ may be regarded in the same way as a territorial project and concerns forms of change that can anticipate new social needs by taking account of ongoing developments. It should also be consistent with sustainable development and allow for the ecological and economic processes that may occur in the medium and long terms. Planning also covers the rehabilitation of degraded land (mines, quarries, landfills, wasteland, etc.) so that they meet the stipulated landscape quality objectives.

The Recommendation considers that “landscape action” is a combination of protection, management and planning conducted over one and the same territory: certain parts and features can be protected, others, particularly processes, should be managed and still others should be intentionally adapted. The fundamental stages in the process leading to landscape action are:

- knowledge of the landscapes: identification, description and assessment;
- definition of landscape quality objectives;
- attainment of these objectives by protection, management and planning over a period of time (exceptional actions and measures and ordinary actions and measures);
- monitoring of changes, evaluation of the effects of policies, possible redefinition of choices.

Table 3 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

International Landscape Observatory of the Council of Europe

- [Information System of the European Landscape Convention: National/Regional Landscape policies](#)
- [Information Platform of the European Landscape Convention](#)

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- *National Policies for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention: Challenges and Opportunities*, Yerevan (Armenia), 5-6 October 2016
- *The Implementation of the European Landscape Convention at Local Level: Local Democracy*, Brno (Czech Republic), 5-6 September 2017

3.1.2 Procedures for the Participation

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake to establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies. It accordingly demands a responsible, forward-looking attitude on the part of all stakeholder

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

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention states that all action taken to define, implement and monitor landscape policies should be preceded and accompanied by procedures for participation by members of the public and other relevant stakeholders, with the aim of enabling them to play an active role in formulating, implementing and monitoring landscape quality objectives. Public involvement in decisions to take action and in the implementation and management of such decisions over time is regarded not as a formal act but as an integral part of management, protection and planning procedures.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2017)7** on the contribution of the European Landscape Convention to the exercise of human rights and democracy with a view to sustainable development, recommends that the

governments of States Parties to the Convention guarantee the right to participation by the general public, local and regional authorities, and other relevant parties including non-governmental organisations, with an interest in the definition, implementation and monitoring of landscape policies.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2019)8** on landscape and democracy: public participation, recommends that the governments of the States Parties to the Convention consider forms of participation of the public with an interest in the definition and implementation of landscape policies, as they appear in its appendix. These relate to information, consultation, dialogue, influence of decision making, and decision-making.

Table 4 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- *Innovative Tools for the Protection, Management and Planning of Landscape*, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
- *Landscape and Society*, Ljubljana (Slovenia), 11-12 May 2006
- *Visions for the Future of Europe on Territorial Democracy: Landscape as a New Strategy for Spatial Planning*, Thessaloniki (Greece), 1-2 October 2012
- *Landscape Identification and Assessment: An Exercise in Democracy*, Cetinje (Montenegro), 2-3 October 2013

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape and Sustainable Development: Challenges of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
 - Landscape and innovative instruments

- Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives
- Landscape and public participation
- Council of Europe, *Council of Europe Landscape Convention: Contribution to Human Rights, Democracy and Sustainable Development*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2018

3.1.3 Awareness Raising, Training, Education, Landscape Identification and Assessment, Setting Landscape Quality Objectives and Implementing Landscape Policies

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake to establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection, management and planning through the adoption of specific measures, such as awareness-raising, training and education.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2017)7** prescribes that the governments of States Parties to the Convention take into account the landscape issue in the actions taken to promote good governance and democratic citizenship, notably through awareness-raising, training and education.

Awareness-Raising

Each Party to the Convention undertakes to increase awareness among the civil society, private organisations, and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** notes that active public involvement means that specialised knowledge should be accessible to all, that is, it should be easily available, structured and presented in a way understandable even by non-specialists.

Table 5 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- *Awareness-raising, Training and Education*, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape and Sustainable Development: Challenges of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
 - Landscape and awareness-raising, training and education
- Council of Europe, *Council of Europe Landscape Convention: Contribution to Human Rights, Democracy and Sustainable Development*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2018

Training

Each Party to the Convention undertakes to promote: training for specialists in landscape appraisal; and operations; multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors and for associations concerned.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** notes that the training of specialists in knowledge and intervention in landscapes, which exist in many States, should be encouraged and developed. Courses should be geared to a view of landscape linked to sustainable development, that is, they should train people in the relationship between landscape and economic development, between landscape and the renewal of natural resources and between landscape and social justice. Courses of this nature are aimed at training designers, managers, engineers and technicians specialising in landscape protection, management and planning. They cover both the commissioning and management of projects. They lead to a State-recognised diploma and are now part of a European educational programme under which university exchanges between States are possible.

The **Statement of the Conference of the member States of the Council of Europe to the European Landscape Convention on the professional recognition of landscape architects**, adopted by the 10th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention on 7 May 2019, encourages the State Parties to the European Landscape Convention: to formally recognise the profession of landscape architects at national and international level; to support a multidisciplinary approach to landscape, through co-operation of all relevant professions in all phases of the planning process; and to increase the diversity of disciplines in the training of landscape professionals, particularly regarding science, management and planning.

Table 6 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape Facets: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
 - Landscape and training of landscape architects
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Mosaics: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
 - Professional recognition of landscape architects

Report

- Council of Europe, Report) presented to the 8th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention *Landscape and Training of Civil Engineers* (Document CEP-CDCPP (2015)15)

Education

Each Party to the Convention undertakes to promote school and university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** notes that while schools in certain States already offer landscape training, such training should be strengthened so as to develop children's sensitivity to questions which they are likely to experience when looking at the quality of their surroundings. Furthermore, this is a way of reaching a population through the family. This can come about through education in several disciplines, whether geography, history, the natural sciences, economics, literature, arts, architecture or engineering disciplines, or civics education.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2014)8** on promoting landscape awareness through education considers 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. It asserts that educational activities in the landscape field are an excellent way of giving meaning to the future, and recommends that the governments of member States Parties to the European Landscape Convention adopt legislative, regulatory, administrative, financial and other appropriate measures to initiate or to develop landscape education activities and to promote landscape awareness among the young in accordance with the principles set out in the appendix to the recommendation.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2015)7** on pedagogical material for landscape education at primary level asserts that educational activities in the landscape field are an excellent way of giving meaning to the future. A Pedagogical Booklet, **Landscape education activities for primary schools**, aims to arouse curiosity and interest of pupils in landscape by inviting them to think about what they mean by 'landscape', and to consider it with its environmental, social, cultural and economic dimensions, both in space and time. The activities can be carried out within the framework of formal and non-formal education.

Table 7 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention**Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention**

- *Awareness-raising, Training and Education*, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
- *Landscape and Education*, Tropea, Calabria (Italy), 3-5 October 2018

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape and Sustainable Development: Challenges of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
 - Landscape and awareness-raising, training and education
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Facets: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
 - Landscape and children's education
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Dimensions: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2017
 - Landscape and primary and secondary education
- Council of Europe, *Pedagogical booklet - Landscape education activities for primary schools*, Council of Europe Landscape Convention, Council of Europe, European Spatial Planning and Landscape Series, 2021, no. 121 (Other languages: Arabic | Armenian | Bulgarian | Estonian | Finnish | French | Italian | Latvian | Lithuanian | Polish | Portuguese | Romanian | Russian | Serbian | Turkish)

3.1.4 Landscape Identification and Assessment

Landscape knowledge constitutes the first fundamental stage in a process of the involvement of the stakeholders whose activities influence the landscape and of the formulation of choices; it leads to the establishment of landscape quality objectives and to landscape action.

With the active participation of the interested parties, and with a view to improving knowledge of its landscapes, each Party to the Convention undertakes: to identify its own landscapes throughout its territory; to analyse their characteristics and the forces and pressures transforming them; to take note of changes; and to assess the landscapes thus identified, taking into account the particular values assigned to them by the interested parties and the population concerned. These identification and assessment procedures are guided by the exchanges of experience and methodology, organised between the Parties at international level.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention states that the identification, description and assessment of landscapes constitute the preliminary phase of any landscape policy. This involves an anal-

ysis of morphological, archaeological, historical, cultural and natural characteristics and their interrelations, as well as an analysis of changes. The perception of landscape by the public should also be analysed from the viewpoint of both its historical development and its recent significance. The sensory (visual, auditory, olfactory, tactile, taste) and emotional perception which a population has of its environment and recognition of the latter's diversity and special historical and cultural features are essential for the respect and safeguarding of the identity of the population itself and for individual enrichment and that of society as a whole. It implies recognition of the rights and responsibilities of populations to play an active role in the processes of acquiring knowledge, taking decisions and managing the quality of the places where they live.

Table 8 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- *Landscape Identification, Assessment and Quality Objectives, Using Cultural and Natural Resources; Awareness-raising, Training and Education*, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
- *Landscape Identification and Assessment: An Exercise in Democracy*, Cetinje (Montenegro), 2-3 October 2013

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape and Sustainable Development: Challenges of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
 - Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Facets: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
 - European local landscape circle studies
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Dimensions: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2017
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Mosaics: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
 - Towards a grammar for European landscapes
 - A review of integrated approaches for landscape monitoring

3.1.5 Defining Landscape Quality Objectives

The aim is to define landscape quality objectives for the landscapes identified and assessed, after public consultation. The term “landscape quality objective” means, for a specific landscape, the formulation by the competent public authorities of the aspirations of the public with regard to the landscape features of their surroundings.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention notes that every planning action or project should comply with landscape quality objectives. It should in particular improve landscape quality, or at least not bring about a decline. The effects of projects, whatever their scale, on landscape should therefore be evaluated and rules and instruments corresponding to those effects defined. Each planning action or project should not only match, but also be appropriate to the features of the places.

Table 9 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- *Landscape Identification, Assessment and Quality Objectives, Using Cultural and Natural Resources*, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
- *Landscape Quality Objectives: From Theory to Practice*, Girona (Spain), 28-29 September 2006

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape and Sustainable Development: Challenges of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
 - *Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives*
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Mosaics: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
 - *Towards a grammar for European landscapes*
 - *A review of integrated approaches for landscape monitoring*

3.1.6 Implementation of Landscape Policies

To put landscape policies into effect, each Party to the Convention undertakes to introduce instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** notes that the means of implementing landscape policies or introducing the landscape dimension into sectoral policies may be either regulatory or voluntary. Regulatory implementation depends on the legislation that exists and the

type of objective; that is, it depends on the desired outcome in terms of protection, management or planning. Measures may be included in spatial-planning documents or provide for specific instruments. Voluntary implementation is based on agreements, charters, quality labels or contracts between the authorities and relevant stakeholders.

The Recommendation specifies that in order to implement landscape policies, a general planning and development process should be introduced. This should use specific instruments and provide for the landscape dimension to be included in sectoral instruments. It notes that instruments are already being employed in several countries and each can be a model for either creating new instruments or improving existing ones. The main categories are: landscape planning (landscape study plans included in spatial planning); the inclusion of the landscape in sectoral policies and instruments; shared charters, contracts and strategic plans; impact and landscape studies; evaluations of the effects of operations on landscape not subject to an impact study; protected sites and landscape; relationship between landscape and regulations concerning the cultural and historic heritage; resources and financing; landscape awards; landscape observatories, centres and institutes; reports on the state of the landscape and landscape policies; and the management of transfrontier landscapes.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2018)9** on the creation of public funds for landscape recommends that the States Parties to the Convention: consider the creation or reinforcement, as appropriate, of legally regulated funds – whether national or regional – assigning them public law status; encourage support from, and participation of, different ministries or departments in the creation and supervision of the use of these funds; and finance these funds through public or private funding or any other source (taxes on tourism or other activities, levies linked to public works, etc.).

Memento on integrated approaches for landscape monitoring, adopted by the 10th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention on 7 May 2019, presents a set of criteria to promote integrated monitoring programmes that overcome the dichotomy between physical and perceived landscapes.

Table 10 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- 1st Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Innovative Tools for the Protection, Management and Planning of Landscape*, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 74

- 7th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Landscape in Planning Policies and Governance: Towards Integrated Spatial Management*, Piestany (Slovakia), 24-25 April 2008
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 89
- 18th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *National Policies for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention: Challenges and Opportunities*, Yerevan (Armenia), 5-6 October 2016
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 109
- 19th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *The Implementation of the European Landscape Convention at Local Level: Local Democracy*, Brno (Czech Republic), 5-6 September 2017
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 110

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape Mosaics: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
 - [Experiences of public landscape funds](#)

Reports

- Documents of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention: *Report on Public Landscape Funding; Selected Funding Opportunities to Support the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*

3.2 Integrating Landscape to Other Policies that May Have a Direct or Indirect Impact on It

According to the Convention, developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques and in regional planning, town planning, transport, infrastructure, tourism and recreation and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases led to the degradation, standardisation or transformation of landscapes. It points out that many rural and peri-urban areas in particular have undergone and are continuing to undergo far-reaching changes and deserve great attention both on the part of the authorities and the public.

The Convention therefore provides that each Party shall undertake to integrate landscape to its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and eco-

conomic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** considers that the landscape dimension should be included in the preparation of all spatial management policies, both general and sectoral, in order to lead to higher-quality protection, management or planning proposals. It notes also that landscape should be fully taken into account via appropriate procedures allowing systematic inclusion of the landscape dimension in all policies that influence the quality of a territory. Integration concerns both the various administrative bodies and departments on the same level (horizontal integration) and the various administrative bodies belonging to different levels (vertical integration).

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2019)7** on landscape integration in policies relating to rural territories in agricultural and forestry, energy and demographic transition recommends that the governments of the States Parties to the convention call on national, regional or local authorities to adopt, at the national, regional and local level, strategic guidelines to provide a reference framework for public policies designed to implement the Convention in rural territories.

Memento on Dry Stone in the Landscape, Ancestral and Innovative, for Sustainable Territories, adopted by the 10th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention on 7 May 2019, aimed to promote the consideration of the value of dry stone in the landscape.

Table 11 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- *Spatial Planning and Landscape*, Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003
- *Landscape for Urban, Suburban and Peri-urban Areas*, Cork (Ireland), 16-17 June 2005
- *Landscape and Rural Heritage*, Sibiu (Romania), 20-21 September 2007
- *Landscape in Planning Policies and Governance: Towards Integrated Spatial Management*, Piešťany (Slovakia), 24-25 April 2008
- *Landscape and Driving Forces (Climate Change and the New Energy Paradigm, the 'Globscape', Landscape and Social Transformations, Production Systems and Consumption Patterns)*, Malmö/Alnarp (Sweden), 8-9 October 2009
- *Landscape, Infrastructures for Society*, Cordoba (Spain), 15-16 April 2010
- *Multifunctional Landscape*, Evora (Portugal), 20-21 October 2011
- *Visions for the Future of Europe on Territorial Democracy: Landscape as a New Strategy for Spatial Planning*, Thessaloniki (Greece), 1-2 October 2012
- *Sustainable Landscapes and Economy: On the Inestimable Natural and Human Value of the Landscape*, Urgup, (Turkey), 30 September, 1-2 October 2014

- *Water, Landscape and Citizenship in the Face of Global Change*, Seville (Spain), 14-15 March 2019

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape and Sustainable Development: Challenges of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
 - Landscape and spatial planning
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Facets: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012
 - Landscape, towns and peri-urban and suburban areas
 - Landscape and transport infrastructure: roads
 - Road infrastructures: tree avenues in the landscape
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Dimensions: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2017
 - Landscape and wind turbines
 - Landscape and leisure
 - Landscape and economy
 - Landscape and advertising
- Council of Europe, *Landscape Mosaics: Reflections and Proposals for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2021
 - Drawing agricultural landscapes for sustainable and harmonious development of territories
 - The landscape in rural territories in energy, agricultural and demographic transition
 - Experiences of rural landscapes
 - Urbanisation, town planning and landscape
 - Dry stone in the landscape, ancestral and innovative, for sustainable territories
 - Walking the landscape

Journal

- “Landscape through Literature”, *Naturopa/Culturoipa*, 2005, no. 103
- “Vernacular Rural Habitat, a Heritage in Our Landscape”, *Futuroipa, for a New Vision of Landscape and Territory*, 2008, no. 1

4 The Development of International Co-operation

The Parties to the Convention undertake to co-operate in catering for the landscape dimension in international policies and programmes, and to recommend as appropriate the inclusion of landscape considerations in these policies and programmes. They

accordingly undertake to co-operate in respect of technical and scientific assistance and exchange of landscape specialists for training and information, and to exchange information on all matters covered by the Convention.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention considers that information exchange, the circulation of theoretical, methodological and empirical ideas between landscape specialists and learning from these experiences are of fundamental importance in ensuring the social and territorial relevance of the European Landscape Convention and in achieving its objectives.

4.1 Council of Europe Meetings for the implementation of the Convention

4.1.1 Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention

Organised by the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe at the Palais de l'Europe in Strasbourg, the Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention aim to present the progress made in the implementation of the Convention, and to deal with the practical questions relating to its implementation, in accordance with its Article 10. The conclusions of the Conference are brought to the attention of the Committee of Experts mentioned in this article - the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP), according to the decision of the Committee of Ministers -, which then reports to the Committee of Ministers. Representatives of the Parties to the Convention and signatory States participate in them, as do representatives of the main Council of Europe bodies: the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the Conference of non-governmental organisations with participatory status at the Council of Europe. Also present with observer status are representatives of Council of Europe member States that are not yet Parties or signatories, observer States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organisations with an interest in the subject.

The results of the work of the Council of Europe meetings for the implementation of the Convention, the working groups responsible for drafting recommendations, the thematic reports produced by Council of Europe experts and formulating proposals for action, as well as the proposals of the International juries for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, are presented to these Conferences,

with the aim of preparing draft decisions submitted to the Steering Committee in charge of the Convention.

Table 12 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/conferences

- First Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 22-22 November 2001)
[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Second Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 28-29 November 2002)
[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Third Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 17 June 2004)
[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Joint meeting of the cultural heritage steering committee (CDPAT) and the committee for the activities of the Council of Europe in the field of biological and landscape diversity (CO-DBP) (Strasbourg, 18 June 2004)
[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Fourth Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 22-23 March 2007)
[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Fifth Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 30-31 March 2009)
[Report](#) | [Interventions by Parties and Observer States - by non-governmental organisations](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Sixth Council of Europe Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 3-4 May 2011)
[Report](#) | [Interventions by Parties and Observer States - by non-governmental organisations](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Seventh Conference of Member States of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 26-27 March 2013)
[Report](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Eighth Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 19-20 March 2015)
[Report](#) | [Contributions: States-Add. 1 - NGOs-Add. 2](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Ninth Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 23-24 March 2017)
[Report](#) | [Contributions: States-Add. 1 - NGOs-Add. 2](#) | [Draft agenda](#) | [Working documents](#)

- Tenth Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 6-7 May 2019)
[Report](#) | Contributions: [States-Add. 1](#) - [NGOs-Add. 2](#) | [Draft agenda](#) | [Working documents](#)
- Eleventh Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, 26-27 May 2021)
[Report](#) | Contributions: [States-Add. 1](#) - [NGOs-Add. 2](#) | [Draft agenda](#) | [Working documents](#)

4.1.2 Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the Implementation of the Convention

Organised periodically by the Council of Europe, the Meetings of the Workshop for the implementation of the Convention, these Meetings aim to present new concepts and achievements. They represent a real forum for exchanging practices and ideas. Special emphasis is given to the experiences of the State hosting the meeting.

Table 13 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops

- 1st Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape policies: contribution to the well-being of European citizens and to sustainable development (social, economic, cultural and ecological approaches); Landscape identification, evaluation and quality objectives, using cultural and natural resources; Awareness-raising, training and education; Innovative tools for the protection, management and planning of landscape”, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 74
- 2nd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Integration of landscapes in international policies and programmes and transfrontier landscapes; Landscapes and individual and social well-being; Spatial planning and landscape”, Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 72
- 3rd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas”, Cork (Ireland), 16-17 June 2005
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 82

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- 4th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape and society”, Ljubljana (Slovenia), 11-12 May 2006
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 83
 - 5th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice”, Girona (Spain), 28-29 September 2006
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 84
 - 6th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape and rural heritage”, Sibiu (Romania), 20-21 September 2007
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 88
 - 7th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management”, Piestany (Slovakia), 24-25 April 2008
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 89
 - 8th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape and driving forces”, Malmö (Sweden), 8-9 October 2009
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 93
 - 9th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Landscape and infrastructures for the society”, Cordoba (Spain), 15-16 April 2010
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 95
 - 10th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on “Multifunctional landscape”, Evora (Portugal), 20-21 October 2011
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 97
 - 11th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – Sessions 2008-2009 and 2010-2011*, Carbonia, Italy 4-5 June 2012
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 98
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- 12th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (and 16th International CEMAT Symposium) on *Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: Landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning*, Thessalonica (Greece), 2-3 October 2012
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 99
 - 13th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Territories of the future: landscape identification and assessment, an exercise in democracy*, Cetinje (Montenegro), 2-3 October 2013
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 100
 - 14th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Council of Europe Landscape Award European Landscape Convention - Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 3rd Session 2012-2013*, Wroclaw (Poland), 11-12 June 2014
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 101
 - 15th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Sustainable Landscapes and Economy: on the inestimable natural and human value of the landscape*, Urgup (Turkey), 1-2 October 2014
 - Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 104
 - 16th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Landscapes and transfrontier co-operation: Landscape knows no border*, Andorra la Vella, Andorra, 1-2 October 2015
 - Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 107
 - 17th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 4th Session 2014-2015*, Budapest (Hungary), 9-10 June 2016
 - Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 108
 - 18th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities*, Yerevan (Armenia), 5-6 October 2016
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 109
 - 19th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy*, Brno, Czech Republic, 5-6 September 2017
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Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 110

- 20th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 5th Session 2016-2017*, Daugavpils (Latvia), 19-21 June 2018

Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 113

- 21st Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention *Landscape and Education*, Tropea (Italy), 3-4 October 2018

Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 114

- 22nd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention on *Water, landscape and citizenship in the face of global change*, Seville (Spain), 14-15 March 2019

Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 116

- 23rd Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and Celebration at High Level of the Twentieth Anniversary of the European Landscape Convention *Landscape integration in sectoral policies*, Lausanne (Switzerland), 19-20 October 2020 (due to the evolution of the pandemic, the meeting could not be held; a thematic publication will be available)

Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 119

- 24th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 5th Session 2018-2019*, Geneva (Switzerland), 10-11 June 2021

Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 121

- 25th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention *Landscape Strategies, Action plans and Policy documents for landscape quality*, Majorca (Spain), 6-8 October 2021

Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European spatial planning and landscape*, no. 122

4.1.3 Council of Europe National and Regional Seminars and Symposiums on the Implementation of the Convention

National or regional seminars and symposiums are organised by the Council of Europe in co-operation with the host State in order to foster debate on landscape and the adoption of policies for the imple-

mentation of the Convention. They provide a forum for debate on landscape and landscape policies, with the participation of government representatives, professionals, representatives of the population and the private sector.

Table 14 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/national-regional-symposiums

Proceedings of the Council of Europe national and regional Symposiums on the implementation of the Convention

- Seminar *Spatial Planning and Landscape in Armenia*, Yerevan (Armenia), 23-24 October 2003
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 75
- Seminar *Spatial Planning and Landscape*, Moscow (Russia), 26-27 April 2004
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 77
- Seminar *Spatial Planning and Landscape*, Tulcea (Romania), 6-8 May 2004
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 78
- Seminar *The Contribution of Albania to the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Tirana (Albania), 15-16 December 2005
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 81
- National Seminar *Landscape of Andorra*, Andorra La Vella, Andorra, 4-5 June 2007
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 85
- National Symposium *The Implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Drawing Landscape Policies for the Future*, Trebinje (Bosnia and Herzegovina), 25-26 January 2018
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 111
- National Symposium *The Implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia: Interministerial Round-table: Integration of the Landscape into Policies*, Tbilisi (Georgia), 9-10 March 2018
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 112
- National Conference *Integrated Approach to Landscape Protection, Planning and Management in Croatia*, Zagreb (Croatia), 19-20 October 2018
 Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 115

- National Days *The Implementation of the European Landscape Convention in France: Landscapes from Here and Elsewhere, Diverse Perspectives on Some Landscape Approaches at Different Scales, on Both Sides of Borders*, Strasbourg (France), 26-27 November 2019
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 117
- National Symposium *The Implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Greece*, Larissa (Greece), 2021
Proceedings: Council of Europe Series, *European Spatial Planning and Landscape*, no. 118

4.1.4 International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe

The International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe is celebrated on 20 October, the day of the opening of the Convention for signature. On this occasion, political declarations are adopted, and events organised.

Table 15 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/international-landscape-day

- **First International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe (2017)**
Message from Brno: “Taking into Account the Landscape at the Local Level”
- **Second International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe (2018)**
Message from Tropea: “Promoting Landscape Education”
- **Third International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe (2019)**
Message from Seville: “Water and Landscape”
- **Fourth International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe (2020)**
Message from Lausanne: “Landscape Integration in Sectoral Policies”

4.2 Mutual Assistance and the Exchange of Information

To ensure exchanges of information and monitoring of the implementation of the Convention in the various member States Parties, a document setting out the landscape policies pursued in the member States has been produced on a regular basis and presented on the occasion of the Council of Europe Conferences on the Convention (Documents of the European Landscape Convention, Council of Europe: **CEP-CDPATEP (2009)3**; **CEP-CDPATEP (2011)7**; **CEP-CD-CPP (2013)5**; **CEP-CDCPP (2015)5**).

The use of the **Information System** of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention, set up pursuant to Recommendation **CM/Rec(2013)4** of the Committee of Ministers, now provides on-

line access to information concerning national policies. Addressed to authorities, organisations or citizens seeking useful information on landscape policies, a **Glossary** has been produced in order to explain certain terms employed.

The Parties to the Convention are invited to make use of this Information System in the context of their co-operation, to work together on developing it further and to continue to exchange information on the matters covered by the provisions of the Convention, in order to promote an awareness of landscapes and the policies relating to them.

The **Information Platform** of the European Landscape Convention is intended to present: the main themes of the Convention; summary reports on national and regional policies for the implementation of the Convention; the work carried out for its implementation.

Table 16 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

International Landscape Observatory of the Council of Europe

www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-observatory

- [Information System of the European Landscape Convention: National/Regional Landscape policies](#)
- [Information Platform of the European Landscape Convention](#)

Publications

- [Glossary of the Information System of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention, Spatial planning and Landscape Series, 2018, No.106](#)
[Linguistic versions](#)

4.3 Transfrontier Co-operation

Transfrontier landscapes are the subject of a specific provision in the European Landscape Convention: “The Parties shall encourage transfrontier co-operation on local and regional level and, wherever necessary, prepare and implement joint landscape programmes”. Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention also pays particular attention to the management of transfrontier landscapes.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has adopted the Recommendation **CM/Rec(2015)8** on the implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on Transfrontier Landscapes. The text reflects the importance of appropriate consideration to be given to landscape and its environmental, cultural, social and economic values as a development factor for local societies. It recommends that the States Parties to the Convention promote co-operation focusing on transfrontier landscapes by encouraging local and regional authorities to work together to draw up, where appropriate, joint landscape-enhancement programmes for implementation of the Convention on transfrontier land-

scapes. It also calls on the Parties concerned to inform the other Parties to the Convention, in the framework of the Council of Europe Information System on the Convention, of the co-operation programmes drawn up and put in place, in order to foster an exchange of experiences.

Table 17 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- *Integration of Landscapes in International Policies and Programmes and Transfrontier Landscapes*, Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003
- *Landscape and Transfrontier Co-operation: The Landscape Knows No Boundary*, Andorra la Vella (Andorra), 1-2 October 2015

Publications

- Council of Europe, *Landscape and Sustainable Development: Challenges of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, 2006
 - *Landscape and policies, international programmes and transfrontier landscapes*

Reports

- *Regional approaches to sustainable landscapes and green economic growth*, covering activities of Regional Environmental Center (REC) Caucasus for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Journal

- “*Landscape and Transfrontier Co-operation*”, *Futuroipa, for a New Vision of Landscape and Territory*, 2010, no. 2

5 Recognition of Exemplary Projects

The European Landscape Convention provides for a Council of Europe Landscape Award which recognises policies or measures adopted by local or regional authorities or non-governmental organisations to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape which have proved lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities.

5.1 Sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

The Council of Europe’s Committee of Ministers adopted Resolution **CM/Res(2008)3** on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The award and special mentions are conferred every two years on the basis of a Committee of Ministers’ decision following a proposal by a jury and the Council of Europe steering committee tasked with monitoring the implementation of the Convention. Four criteria have been established for the conferment of the Award:

sustainable territorial development, exemplary value, public participation and awareness-raising.

In accordance with the Rules, they are presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his representative at a public ceremony.

Table 17 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

- 1st Session 2008-2009: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 2nd Session 2010-2011: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 3rd Session 2012-2013: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 4th Session 2014-2015: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 5th Session 2016-2017: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 6rd Session 2018-2019: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)
- 7th Session 2020-2021: [Report of the Jury](#) | [Decision of the CM](#)

5.2 Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections

Biennially organised by the Council of Europe in co-operation with a hosting State, the Council of Europe Landscape Award Forums aim to highlight the selections made at national level within the framework of the Landscape Award, as sources of inspiration.

Table 17 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/forum-of-national-selections

Proceedings of the Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Convention

- *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 1st-Session 2008-2009 and 2nd Session 2010-2011*, Carbonia (Italy), 4-5 June 2012
- *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 3rd Session 2012-2013*, Wroclaw (Poland), 11-12 June 2014
- *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 4th Session 2014-2015*, Budapest (Hungary), 9-10 June 2016
- *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 5th Session 2016-2017*, Daugavpils (Latvia), 19-20 June 2018
- *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 6th Session 2018-2019*, Geneva (Switzerland), 21-22 October 2020
- *Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 7th Session 2020-2021*, 10-11 June 2021

5.3 The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe

The Committee of Ministers adopted the Resolution **CM/Res(2017)18** on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe. This Alliance gathers the exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention, showing that it is possible to promote the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the landscape features of people's surroundings.

Depending on the case, these achievements promote: landscape protection through measures to preserve the significant and characteristic features of the landscape; landscape management through action from a sustainable development perspective to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape in order to guide and harmonise change; or landscape planning through forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes. They foster: landscapes for living, in urban and peri-urban areas; landscapes to discover, through the provision of roads or country paths; landscapes both historical and alive, between nature and culture; or landscapes that enable people to get to know the countryside and take action to support it, by establishing methodologies and other landscape promotion tools.

Table 18 Work carried out in the Work Programme of the Convention

The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe

www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-award-alliance

- *European Landscape Convention: The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, Territory and Landscape Series, Volume 1, 2008-2017, 2018, No.105*
- *European Landscape Convention: The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, Territory and Landscape Series, Volume 2, 2018-2019, 2020, No.120*
- *Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance*
- *Exhibition on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe 2008-2019*
- *Poster on the Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance*

6 Conclusion

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2008)3** on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention considers that the concept of landscape is undergoing a period of rapid and profound change accompanied by significant advances. It notes that the Convention, and the documents relating to its implementation, have led to developments in numerous States, not only in their national and regional legislation but also at various administrative levels, and in methodological documents and experiments with active participatory landscape policies. This situation has come about both in States which have long been active in this area and which have tried and tested landscape policies and instruments, and in States which are not yet at that stage. The

Convention is also used as a reference by some countries to initiate a process of profound change in their landscape policies; for others it constitutes an opportunity to define their policy.

Since the adoption of the European Landscape Convention, major progress has indeed been made towards the establishment of landscape policies at national, regional and local level. Drawing on shared objectives, these policies foster the quality of a common living environment. The notion of landscape has been progressively introduced into the political agenda of governments and landscape actors: an important international network of cooperation for the implementation of the Convention has developed: the concept of landscape as defined the Convention is increasingly recognised by the public authorities and by the population; new forms of co-operation emerged between different levels of authority - national, regional and local; and between ministries or departments of a State or region; specific laws and regulations referring to the landscape were adopted and institutional structures have been put in place; States or regions co-operate across borders for transfrontier landscapes; landscape prizes referring to the Council of Europe Landscape Award are organised; university programmes referring to the Convention are adopted, summer universities on landscape are organised, biennials, landscape festivals and exhibitions referring to the principles of the Convention are being set up, and people feel more and more concerned and active.

The landscape represents a mosaic of the four dimensions of sustainable development: environmental, cultural, social and economic. Governments committed to implementing the principles of good governance must take into consideration the invaluable value of the landscape for the human being, and include the landscape dimension in their national, regional and local policies. It is also up to everyone to respect the landscape and to take care of it, in its appearance as well as in its substance, for present and future generations.

Recommendation **CM/Rec(2017)7** recommends that the governments of States Parties to the Convention “consider the importance that quality and diversity of landscapes has for the minds and bodies of human beings, as well as for societies, in the reflections and work devoted to human rights and democracy, with a view to sustainable development”. The opening of the European Landscape Convention to non-European States will be an opportunity to reaffirm the universality of the landscape dimension of human rights and democracy. It represents a contribution by the Council of Europe to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This represents a contribution by the Council of Europe to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular with regard to Goals 3 (Good health and well-being), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 15 (Life on land), in particular.
