

Twenty years of Landscape Policy and Governance in Europe, and the Way Ahead

*Original*

Twenty years of Landscape Policy and Governance in Europe, and the Way Ahead / Cassatella, Claudia - In: Cultivating Continuity of the European Landscape. New Challenges, Innovative Perspectives / Matteini T., Agnoletti M., Dobrii S., Palerm Salazar J.M.. - STAMPA. - Cham : Springer Cham, 2024. - ISBN 978-3-031-25712-4. - pp. 201-206 [10.1007/978-3-031-25713-1\_21]

*Availability:*

This version is available at: 11583/2984570 since: 2025-02-13T17:13:19Z

*Publisher:*

Springer Cham

*Published*

DOI:10.1007/978-3-031-25713-1\_21

*Terms of use:*

This article is made available under terms and conditions as specified in the corresponding bibliographic description in the repository

*Publisher copyright*

Springer postprint/Author's Accepted Manuscript (book chapters)

This is a post-peer-review, pre-copyedit version of a book chapter published in Cultivating Continuity of the European Landscape. New Challenges, Innovative Perspectives. The final authenticated version is available online at: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-25713-1\\_21](http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-25713-1_21)

(Article begins on next page)

Environmental History 15

Mauro Agnoletti  
Saša Dobričić  
Tessa Matteini  
Juan Manuel Palerm *Editors*

# Cultivating Continuity of the European Landscape

New Challenges, Innovative  
Perspectives

 Springer

# **Environmental History**

Volume 15

## **Series Editor**

Mauro Agnoletti, Florence, Italy

The series intends to act as a link for ongoing researches concerning the historical interrelationships between man and the natural world, with special regard to the modern and contemporary ages. The main commitment should be to bring together different areas of expertise in both the natural and the social sciences to help them find a common language and a common perspective. Interdisciplinarity and trans-disciplinarity are needed for more and better understanding of the environment and its history, with new epistemological frameworks and methodological practices. The links between human activities and flora, fauna, water, soil, are examples of the most debated topics in EH, while established disciplines like forest history, agricultural history and urban history are also dealing with it. The human impacts on ecosystems and landscapes over time, the preservation of cultural heritage, studies of historical trajectories in pattern and processes, as well as applied research on historical use and management of landscapes and ecosystems, are also taken into account. Other important topics relate to the history of environmental ideas and movements, policies, laws, regulations, conservation, the history of immaterial heritage, such as traditional knowledge related to the environment.

Mauro Agnoletti · Saša Dobričić · Tessa Matteini ·  
Juan Manuel Palerm  
Editors

# Cultivating Continuity of the European Landscape

New Challenges, Innovative Perspectives

 Springer

*Editors*

Mauro Agnoletti  
DAGRI  
University of Florence  
Florence, Italy

Tessa Matteini  
Department of Architecture  
University of Florence  
Florence, Italy

Saša Dobričić  
Graduate School  
University of Nova Gorica  
Nova Gorica, Slovenia

Juan Manuel Palerm  
Proyectos Arquitectónicos  
University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria  
Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

ISSN 2211-9019

Environmental History

ISBN 978-3-031-25712-4

<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-25713-1>

ISSN 2211-9027 (electronic)

ISBN 978-3-031-25713-1 (eBook)

© The Editor(s) (if applicable) and The Author(s), under exclusive license to Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2024

This work is subject to copyright. All rights are solely and exclusively licensed by the Publisher, whether the whole or part of the material is concerned, specifically the rights of translation, reprinting, reuse of illustrations, recitation, broadcasting, reproduction on microfilms or in any other physical way, and transmission or information storage and retrieval, electronic adaptation, computer software, or by similar or dissimilar methodology now known or hereafter developed.

The use of general descriptive names, registered names, trademarks, service marks, etc. in this publication does not imply, even in the absence of a specific statement, that such names are exempt from the relevant protective laws and regulations and therefore free for general use.

The publisher, the authors, and the editors are safe to assume that the advice and information in this book are believed to be true and accurate at the date of publication. Neither the publisher nor the authors or the editors give a warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material contained herein or for any errors or omissions that may have been made. The publisher remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

This Springer imprint is published by the registered company Springer Nature Switzerland AG  
The registered company address is: Gewerbestrasse 11, 6330 Cham, Switzerland

Paper in this product is recyclable.

# Contents

<b>Part I New Challenges for European Landscapes</b>	
<b>1 Performing Landscape</b> .....	3
Frédérique Aït-Touati	
<b>2 Policies, Landscape and Politics</b> .....	9
Franco Farinelli	
<b>3 Global Landscape Governance on the 20th Anniversary of the European Landscape Convention</b> .....	17
Amy Strecker	
<b>Part II Landscape Policy and Governance</b>	
<b>4 “Landscape Policy and Governance: An Introduction”</b> .....	29
Gian Franco Cartei	
<b>5 Landscape Planning Policy as a Measure of Implementation of the European Landscape Convention</b> .....	33
Stefano Civitarese Matteucci	
<b>6 Policy and Governance Challenges Facing European Rural Landscapes</b> .....	43
Jørgen Primdahl	
<b>7 Landscape Policies of Europe</b> .....	51
Clara Queiroz da Costa and Maria José Curado	
<b>8 Landscape Policy in Portugal. Where Are We?</b> .....	63
Isabel Joaquina Ramos and Maria Freire	
<b>9 A Country Through Crisis and Beyond: The Case of the Greek Landscape</b> .....	71
Theano S. Terkenli and Nikolaos Skoutelis	

<b>10</b>	<b>The ELC, a Game Changer in Scottish Policy Discourse</b> .....	<b>81</b>
	Sarah Govan	
<b>11</b>	<b>One Territory, One Plan, Many Authorities: The Future of Really Protecting the Landscape</b> .....	<b>91</b>
	Luca Di Giovanni	
<b>12</b>	<b>The Daily Governance of Landscape: The Contribution of Local Landscape Commissions</b> .....	<b>99</b>
	Raffaella Laviscio	
<b>13</b>	<b>Enclosing the Horizon: Land Privileges and the Right to Landscape</b> .....	<b>109</b>
	Marius Fiskevold	
<b>14</b>	<b>Landscape Observatory Västra Götaland &amp; Balaton Ecomuseum—A Swedish–Hungarian Interaction for Sustainable Landscape Management</b> .....	<b>115</b>
	Bosse Lagerqvist, Sándor Némethy, and Anders Nilsson	
<b>15</b>	<b>Landscape and Public Participation in Norwegian Local Planning—An Example of Implementing the European Landscape Convention</b> .....	<b>125</b>
	Marte Lange Vik	
<b>16</b>	<b>Implementing Landscape Policies by Promoting Sustainability, Democracy, and Participation. Awareness Raising and Landscape Education in Trentino, Italy</b> .....	<b>133</b>
	Gianluca Cepollaro and Bruno Zanon	
<b>17</b>	<b>Common Property in Europe: Landscape Design Evolution Over Time</b> .....	<b>141</b>
	Monica Pantaloni, Giovanni Marinelli, and Davide Neri	
<b>18</b>	<b>Collaborative Governance for Reviving Tiber Landscapes Downstream of Rome</b> .....	<b>155</b>
	Anna Laura Palazzo and Romina D’Ascanio	
<b>19</b>	<b>Planning the Adaptation of European Landscapes to Climate Change: The Experience of the EIT Climate-KIC AELCLIC Project</b> .....	<b>165</b>
	Daniele Torreggiani, Juanjo Galan, Francisco Galiana, Bas Pedrolí, and Emilio Servera-Martínez	
<b>20</b>	<b>The European Baykal—Regional Development Inspired by the European Landscape Convention</b> .....	<b>171</b>
	Nataliya Pozhidaeva, Alexandra Kruse, and Victor Pozhidaev	

<b>21</b>	<b>Twenty years of Landscape Policy and Governance in Europe, and the Way Ahead</b> .....	201
	Claudia Cassatella	
<b>Part III Landscape Design and Time</b>		
<b>22</b>	<b>Landscape Design and Time</b> .....	209
	Rita Occhiuto and Margherita Vanore	
<b>23</b>	<b>Geologic Architecture</b> .....	215
	Marco Navarra	
<b>24</b>	<b>Time-Tested Design and Implementation: Differing Temporalities in Landscape Design</b> .....	227
	Michel Hössler	
<b>25</b>	<b>The Art of Failing Urban Planting Precariousness as Landscape Project Ecology</b> .....	233
	Denis Delbaere	
<b>26</b>	<b>Seascape Design. A Limit for the European Landscape Convention</b> .....	243
	Daniela Colafranceschi	
<b>27</b>	<b>Water-Related Projects for the Urban Environment. The Case Studies of Lisbon Metropolitan Area</b> .....	251
	Caterina Anastasia	
<b>28</b>	<b>Soil Displacement. Landscape Project as an Infrastructure Across Building Geography and Grounding Metabolism. The Case Study of Pialassa Piomboni Constructed Wetland in Ravenna</b> .....	263
	Vittoria Mencarini, Gianni Lobosco, Luca Emanuelli, and Massimo Tondello	
<b>29</b>	<b>Mapping the Rhythm in Wetlands</b> .....	275
	Stefano Tornieri	
<b>30</b>	<b>The Creative Time of Gardens: From Microcosm to Landscape Infrastructure</b> .....	285
	Antonia Di Lauro	
<b>31</b>	<b>Underground Heritage Valorization of Camerano's Caves in Center Italy: A Case of Transition Toward Projects Integrating the Local Community and Landscape</b> .....	293
	Alici Antonello, Andreoni Luca, Chiapparino Francesco, De Serriis Marco, Fioretti Iliaria, Galli Andrea, Malinverni Eva Savina, Marcheggiani Ernesto, Paci Francesco, and Pierdicca Roberto	

**32 Compromised Landscapes** ..... 305  
Barbara Angi and Alberto Soci

**33 An Open Project for the Trembling Landscape of the Inner Areas: Fragile and Wounded** ..... 311  
Angela D’Agostino and Giovangiuseppe Vannelli

**34 Abandoned Army Barracks in Friuli Venezia Giulia (Italy) as New Time-Shaped Community Landscape Potential** ..... 321  
Luca Maria Francesco Fabris and Federico Camerin

**35 Rhythm and Continuity in Interventions to Reactivate Vacant Urban Spaces. Recognizing the Stratification of Places to Foster an Autonomous Process of Integration Between the Parts** ..... 331  
Chiara Caravello and Elisa Baldin

**36 What Future for Italian Historical Urban Landscape—A Veneto Case Study** ..... 337  
Daniela Ruggeri

**37 Green Infrastructure for the Landscape Reconfiguration of the VII Municipio of Roma: An Open Project, Beyond Urban Regeneration** ..... 341  
Giorgio Caprari, Matej Gulic, and Elio Trusiani

**38 The De-structuring of Infrastructure Landscapes** ..... 353  
Josep Lluís Miralles-Garcia

**39 Venice Marathon: From Landscape Brand to Healthy Infrastructure** ..... 361  
Massimo Triches

**40 KM0. Merging Public Space and Nature** ..... 373  
Enric Batlle i Durany and Javier Rivera Linares

**41 Project Perspectives for Making Landscape** ..... 383  
Rita Occhiuto and Margherita Vanore

**Part IV Observing Landscape**

**42 Observing Landscape: General Reflections and Linkages with the UNISCAPE2020 Conference** ..... 391  
Juanjo Galan and Juan Manuel Palerm

**43 The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia. A Journey of Fifteen Years** ..... 397  
Pere Sala i Martí

**44 Aesthetically Performed Landscape Criticism** ..... 403  
Nina Marie Andersen

**45 Cultivating Drystone Walls—Regional Observatories for European Landscapes** ..... 411  
Torben Dam

**46 Landscape Observatory in Alqueva, Alentejo Region (Portugal). Why It Matters?** ..... 423  
Maria Freire, Isabel Joaquina Ramos, and Maria da Conceição Rego

**47 Landscape Observatories: An Analytical Framework and a Case Study at the Landscape Observatory of Finland** ..... 431  
Juanjo Galan

**48 Regional Coordination of Large-Scale Infrastructure Projects—A New Role for Landscape Observatories?** ..... 441  
Anders Larsson

**49 The Observation of Informal Landscape Public Participation** ..... 447  
Elena Lorenzetto

**50 Governance Challenges of a Local Landscape Observatory Initiative in a Remote Landscape: Ways Ahead** ..... 455  
Maria Graça Saraiva, Isabel Loupa-Ramos, and Veerle Van Eetvelde

**51 The Atlas of Terraced Landscapes of Trentino, Italy** ..... 465  
Giorgio Tecilla and Alberto Cosner

**52 The Museum as an Active Observatory: Protecting and Shaping the Landscape** ..... 477  
Maciej Żołnierczuk

**Part V Cultivating Innovative Perspectives**

**53 Landscape Continuity: Cultivating Different Allegories of the Inseparable** ..... 489  
Saša Dobričić

**54 Cultivating Landscape Continuity. The Projects “ Design” in the Architecture of the Landscape** ..... 499  
Juan Manuel Palerm

**55 Cultivating the Landscape Dimension** ..... 515  
T. Matteini

**56 Living in an Anthropocene: Reconciling Culture and Nature for a Sustainable Future** ..... 525  
Conor Newman

**57 The European Landscape as a Task: Understanding the Past, Engaging in the Present, Living the Future? ..... 533**  
Bas Pedroli

**58 Where the Disciplines Meet: Uniscape as a Laboratory ..... 539**  
Conor Newman

# Chapter 21

## Twenty years of Landscape Policy and Governance in Europe, and the Way Ahead



**Claudia Cassatella**

**Abstract** The European Landscape Convention (ELC), which came into effect in 2004, has been ratified by 40 countries since its signing in 2000. For the first time in history, all these countries with rich and diverse landscape cultures as well as different institutional frameworks agree on a legal definition of landscape and common goals for landscape policies. The implementation of the ELC has ushered in innovations in their legislation, governance and administrative processes, and spatial planning systems. A systematic comparison is lacking and, while landscape heritage protection has internationally accepted protocols, landscape planning has not. This paper proposes a framework for a comparative analysis and, based on the collection of contributions to this section, drafts some initial considerations. After more than twenty years of implementation of the ELC, the most challenging issues seem to be participation, conflict management and strategy making.

**Keywords** Landscape policies · Landscape governance · Juridical issues in implementing the ELC · Landscape planning · Landscape democracy and participation

### 21.1 A New Baseline for 40 Countries

The European Landscape Convention (ELC), which came into effect in 2004, has been ratified by 40 Countries since its signing in 2000. For the first time in history, all these countries with rich and diverse landscape cultures as well as different institutional frameworks agree on a legal definition of landscape and common goals for landscape policies. The implementation of the ELC has ushered in innovations in their legislation, governance and administrative processes, and spatial planning systems.

---

C. Cassatella (✉)

Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning, Politecnico di Torino, Turin, Italy

e-mail: [claudia.cassatella@polito.it](mailto:claudia.cassatella@polito.it)

To mention one example of the effects of the ELC, Italy, a country where landscape protection as a principle has been enshrined in Constitutional Law since 1948,<sup>1</sup> shifted its legislation focus from landscape protection to planning; introduced new forms of collaborative planning between State and regions and innovated administrative procedures for landscape interventions; and set up new educational programmes.<sup>2</sup> In addition, many bottom-up civil society initiatives, such as local landscape observatories, have arisen.<sup>3</sup>

Although this book is devoted to exploring future challenges for the ELC, the “Landscape Policy and Governance” Section also celebrates the progress made since it came into effect. The diversity of concepts, cultural backgrounds, academic traditions, and social practices related to landscape in Europe is well known and documented by the preparatory documents of the Convention (see Seguin 2017). Even the official English and French versions of the text refer to two different semiospheres when making use of the words landscape and *paysage*. Nevertheless, these words now have the same definition in law and have been translated into dozens of languages.

In some countries, “landscape” simply was not a legal matter before the ELC; in others, it was an issue only for conservationists or, very occasionally, an ordinary matter for spatial planners or landscape architects. Even today, the ministry tasked with the ELC reveals much of a country’s diversity and traditions. In fact, landscape is a matter for a variety of Ministries, such as Culture, Agriculture, Land use, or others.<sup>4</sup> Interestingly, a search for the “landscape” concept in European countries’ constitutional laws reveals that a few countries do not explicitly mention landscape (nor environment); a small number of them address both landscape and environment (separately or jointly); and the rest refer to the sustainable development concept (Cerrina Feroni 2019).

## 21.2 Towards a Comparative Perspective

A comparative perspective is always challenging and in the case of the ELC, an investigation of its implementation should take into account a wide array of policies (Civitarrese Matteucci, *infra*). Nevertheless, the Convention facilitates much easier understanding, comparison and, in the end, collaboration at international level. In

---

<sup>1</sup> “The Italian Republic protects the landscape and the historic and artistic heritage of the Nation”, Italian Republic Constitution, 1948 (Article 9), translated by the author.

<sup>2</sup> In particular, in 2001 two new educational programs were introduced into the Italian university degrees’ system: Landscape Architecture and Regional, Urban, Environmental, and Landscape Planning.

<sup>3</sup> The ferment induced by the ELC is well testified by the notable presence of Italian scholars in this book (and section) as well as in the literature and networks regarding the Convention.

<sup>4</sup> See the Information System on the Council of Europe Landscape Convention, <https://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-observatory>. Last Access: July 2021.

fact, it would be possible to review legislation and regulation across European Countries through a shared international effort using themes identified in the ELC (definitions, general measures): the legal definition of landscape; implications for institutions and related competences at a national level; landscape protection systems and related categories of designation; the role of landscape planning in the spatial planning system, and established procedures for active participation.

Recognition of landscape in law can be taken for granted, as already mentioned. Nevertheless, the translation of the concept and the context where the concept is applied open interesting issues. In particular, the definition of landscape as an area “as perceived by people” may refer both to experiential perception and to conception. “In the Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish versions, “perceived” is translated to a word (“opfatte”) that is closer in meaning to “conceived”” (Primdahl 2018: 1473). On the contrary, in my country, Italy, perception is sometimes understood as “visual or sensorial” instead of “social” by the many who have not read the Convention’s explanatory texts. Moreover, the main Italian legislative text of ELC implementation (Italian Republic, Code of Cultural Heritage and Landscape, 2004 and subsequent amendments) introduces the notion of national identity which may be interpreted as the opposite of the plurality of “people’s perceptions”.

So we are far from a shared understanding and intention when implementing the ELC, but reaching homogeneity might not be so desirable. “It is clear that this linguistic and semantic diversity has not been, and is still not, a barrier to implementing the European Landscape Convention”, according to Seguin, who analysed landscape in the languages of Europe, “[...] this definition provides an aid to communication and discussion, which all Europeans can adopt and use” (Seguin 2017: 222, 225).

The text of the ELC provides a baseline for dialogue as the annual “Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention” demonstrates. What is still missing is a systematic study which goes beyond the cumulation of individual case studies on national policies.

A starting point might be a comparison of landscape preservation since it was the first public policy relating to landscape and, consequently, some countries have had a well-established preservation system for over a century. The result is a variety of designation categories which address cultural assets, natural features and environments, scenic resources, places of memory, and so on, not always labelled as “landscape” but related to the actual conceptualization of landscape in various ways. In addition, the action of international organizations and agencies, such as UNESCO, ICOMOS, IUCN, has contributed to the circulation of concepts such as “cultural/natural landscape”, or “protected landscapes” with their related analytical frameworks, facilitating international dialogue and comparisons among conservation experts.

Nothing similar can be said about planning and management. Landscape is linked to a variety of separate or integrated sectoral and spatial policies and European spatial planning systems are too diverse. The diverse institutional frameworks obviously influence land regimes, spatial planning systems and territorial governance in terms of ownership rights, the role of the State, the distribution of powers, subsidiarity,

and participation. A distinction can be made, for instance, between planning systems derived from the Napoleonic Code, those based on common law, or those influenced by the Soviet period.<sup>5</sup> Not surprisingly, there are few comparative studies on landscape planning systems and measures.<sup>6</sup>

Let me use my country once again as a case study: when commenting on the implementation of ELC “landscape planning” policy, the majority of Italian scholars automatically refer to the Italian “landscape plan”, a specific instrument designed by the State to match the ELC guidelines. But landscape planning, defined and intended as “strong-forward looking actions” (art. 1), can take many other forms: a sectoral plan or study, the integration of landscape concerns into ordinary measures, the assessment of interventions on landscape, or even financial measures (see the CM Rec 3/2008). Above all, landscape planning should include creation and future envisioning (which is far from the Italian approach, more focused on conservation). Interestingly, commenting on Denmark, a country belonging to a very different spatial planning system family, Primdahl (*infra*) complains about the same absence of strategy-making in its landscape planning practices.

Last but not least, a significant aspect for comparing ELC implementation is participation. From an institutional perspective, it would be interesting to see how and to what extent states respond to the call for “active” participation with ad hoc procedures. In Italy, for instance, landscape plans are subject to the same mandatory procedures of any spatial plan (meaning interested parties can submit comments in a given phase of the plans’ approval process). In addition, Regional Landscape Observatories have been set up which have no specific mission by law but carry out a variety of activities.

### 21.3 Initial Evidence and Gaps

The present section presents the feedback to our call for papers (2020 UNISCAPE Conference, Florence, 16–17 October 2020). A dozen contributions have been collected which deliver evidence from many countries, from Portugal to Norway. Da Costa and Curtado boldly face the challenge of comparing different countries and autonomous regions (Andorra, Catalonia, Hungary, Ireland, Mallorca, Portugal, Switzerland, and The Netherlands). They point to the lack of monitoring systems and financial provisions as major weaknesses of national and regional policies. A group of authors present in-depth analysis of ELC implementation in each of their countries, offering expert assessments and descriptions of related policies and systems

---

<sup>5</sup> EU country families or models have been identified with specific reference to spatial planning systems and territorial governance by the ESPON TANGO, Territorial Approaches for New Governance (2013) project, and further investigated by ESPON COMPASS (2018).

<sup>6</sup> Sala et al. (2014) is one of the few studies to systematize landscape planning systems in different countries. In the collaborative framework of the EU ESPON Programme, Targeted analyses, see LP3LP—Landscape Policy for the 3 Countries Park and LIVELAND—Liveable Landscapes: a Key Value for Sustainable Territorial Development.

in Italy (Di Giovanni), Scotland (Govan), Portugal (Ramos and Freire), and Greece (Terkenli).

Interestingly, the authors from Italy (Di Giovanni, Laviscio) focus on landscape protection and landscape controls, revealing how the traditional apparatus (derived from heritage preservation policies) still influences discourse on the ELC. In this context, participation and education practices are presented (Cepollaro and Zanon, Marinelli et al.) or called for (Palazzo and D'Ascanio) as needed innovations. On the opposite side, democracy and participation, with particular attention to the local scale and community level, seem to be the main discourse in Northern Countries (Lagerqvist, Némethy and Nilsson; Vik). Conflicts between local and regional authorities as well as between authorities and the general public are documented in both contexts.

The idea of “commons” is also proposed as a key concept. In particular, Marinelli et al. provide data on public land in the EU, with specific reference to farmland and its management. Once again, “commons” doesn't have the same meaning in different legal systems (sometimes it is nearly untranslatable) and is still debated as a legal topic but apparently, it has brought new insights and inspiration.

Managing transformations and creating landscapes, or the role of projects, also find space in this collection of papers. The conceptual framework and process proposed by the ELC (assessing multiple values through active participation, integrating sectoral perspectives, capturing aspiration for the future, and managing change) offer a clear path for designing both large-scale policies (Torreggiani & C) as well as site-specific visions and territorial development strategies (Marinelli et al., Palazzo and D'Ascanio).

## 21.4 Conclusion

The present section dealt with landscape policy and governance from various perspectives: juridical issues, government and governance systems, planning and management practices.

All the contributors, despite the variety of topics, disciplines and geographical contexts, testify to a struggle to improve landscape democracy by calling into question spatial justice and governance issues such as relationships between authorities, government levels, the general public, local communities, interest groups. They reason on the limits and possibilities of improving transparency, participation and knowledge, pillars of good governance. The ELC is an initiative of the CoE Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, managed by the General Directorate of Democracy. Since its inception, democracy and participation have been key principles of the ELC (CoE 2018) and yet they remain the most challenging to implement. As a consequence, conflict management's theories and practices offer a promising field of research (Calderon and Butler 2020), far from the illusion of landscape holism as a guarantee for reaching mediation and consensus. The present collection of papers demonstrates that the ELC has contributed to creating a baseline and a common

language, has brought innovations into national frameworks and changed the rules with a rippling effect, challenging regional and local levels. Still, comparative studies are lacking, particularly on landscape planning systems and measures.

In conclusion, landscape policy and governance is a fundamental topic that needs international collaboration in order to be explored from both a comparative perspective and an interdisciplinary point of view. UNISCAPE is the network that can carry on this programme.

## Abbreviations

CoE Council of Europe  
ELC European Landscape Convention

## References

- Calderon C, Butler A (2020) Politicising the landscape: a theoretical contribution towards the development of participation in landscape planning. *Landsc Res* 45(2):152–163. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01426397.2019.1594739>
- Cerrina Feroni G (2019) Il paesaggio nel costituzionalismo contemporaneo. Profili comparati europei. In: *Federalismi.it*, n. 8/2019, pp 1–25
- Council of Europe, Committee of Ministers, Recommendation CM/Rec (2008) 3 on the Guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, 6 February 2008
- Council of Europe (2018) Council of Europe landscape convention contribution to human rights, democracy and sustainable development. Council of Europe Publishing
- ESPON TANGO (2013) Territorial approaches for new governance. Final report, Luxembourg: ESPON
- ESPON COMPASS (2018) Comparative analysis of territorial governance and spatial planning systems in Europe. Final report. Luxembourg: ESPON
- Primdhall J (2018) The contested nature of farmed landscape. In: Marsden T (ed) *The SAGE handbook of nature*. SAGE Reference, London, pp 1468–1487
- Seguin J-F (2017) Wealth and variety of terms, instruments and approaches to landscape in Europe. In: Council of Europe (ed) *Landscape dimensions, reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*, Council of Europe Publishing, pp 221–233
- Sala P, Puigbert L, Bretcha G (eds) (2014) *Landscape planning at a local level in Europe*. Observatori del Paisatge de Catalunya; Andorra la Vella: Govern d'Andorra, Olot (Documents; 2)

## Websites

- CoE (2018) Information System on the Council of Europe Landscape Convention. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-observatory> Last Access July 2021.
- EU ESPON programme targeted analyses. <https://www.espon.eu/targeted-analyses>. Last Access July 2021.