

Public Involvement in Spatial Planning processes related to Landscape Heritage

I. The Charter of European Planning: the new vision for the European populations living environment



Luc-Emile BOUCHE-FLORIN
Honorary President
Council of Europe representative



Dubrovnik, Croatia, 13 June 2014
Tivat, Montenegro, 14 June 2014



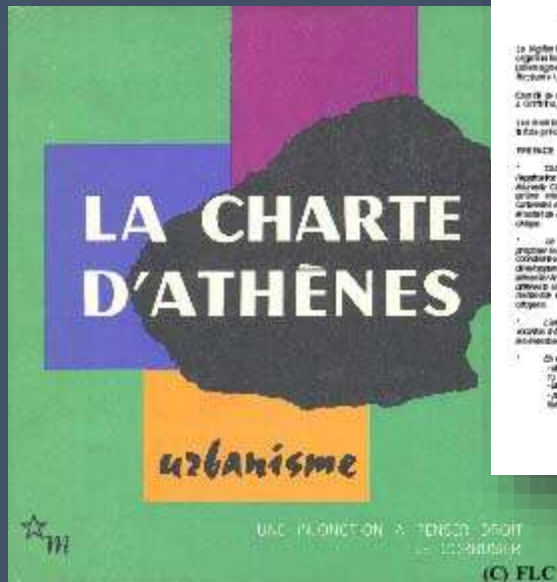
ECTP-CEU

- Founded in 1985, ECTP-CEU (European Council of Spatial Planners - *Conseil Européen des Urbanistes*) brings together 27 professional European spatial planning associations representing more than 40,000 professionals distributed on the European Continent.
- ECTP-CEU sets standards of education and conduct for the planning profession and engages in dialogue with local, national and European government.
- Our partners: AESOP, IFLA, UN-HABITAT, COTER, ICOMOS, Council of Europe...
- <http://www.ectp-ceu.eu>

The history !

Keeping the music Up-to-date

Adapting the vision to the reality of changing world



1933



1998



2003



2013

The Charter of European Planning La Charte de l'Urbanisme Européen

The Reformulating of the New Charter of Athens



The Charter of European Planning
Barcelona 2013
The Vision for Cities and Regions - Territoires of Europe in the 21st Century
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La Charte de l'urbanisme européen
Barcelone 2013
Une vision pour les villes et les régions-territoires de l'Europe du XXIe siècle
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The European Council of Spatial Planners
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September 2013



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Role of ECTP-CEU?

Orchestrating the players!

Interpreting the territorial musical score !



Where are we in 2013 ?

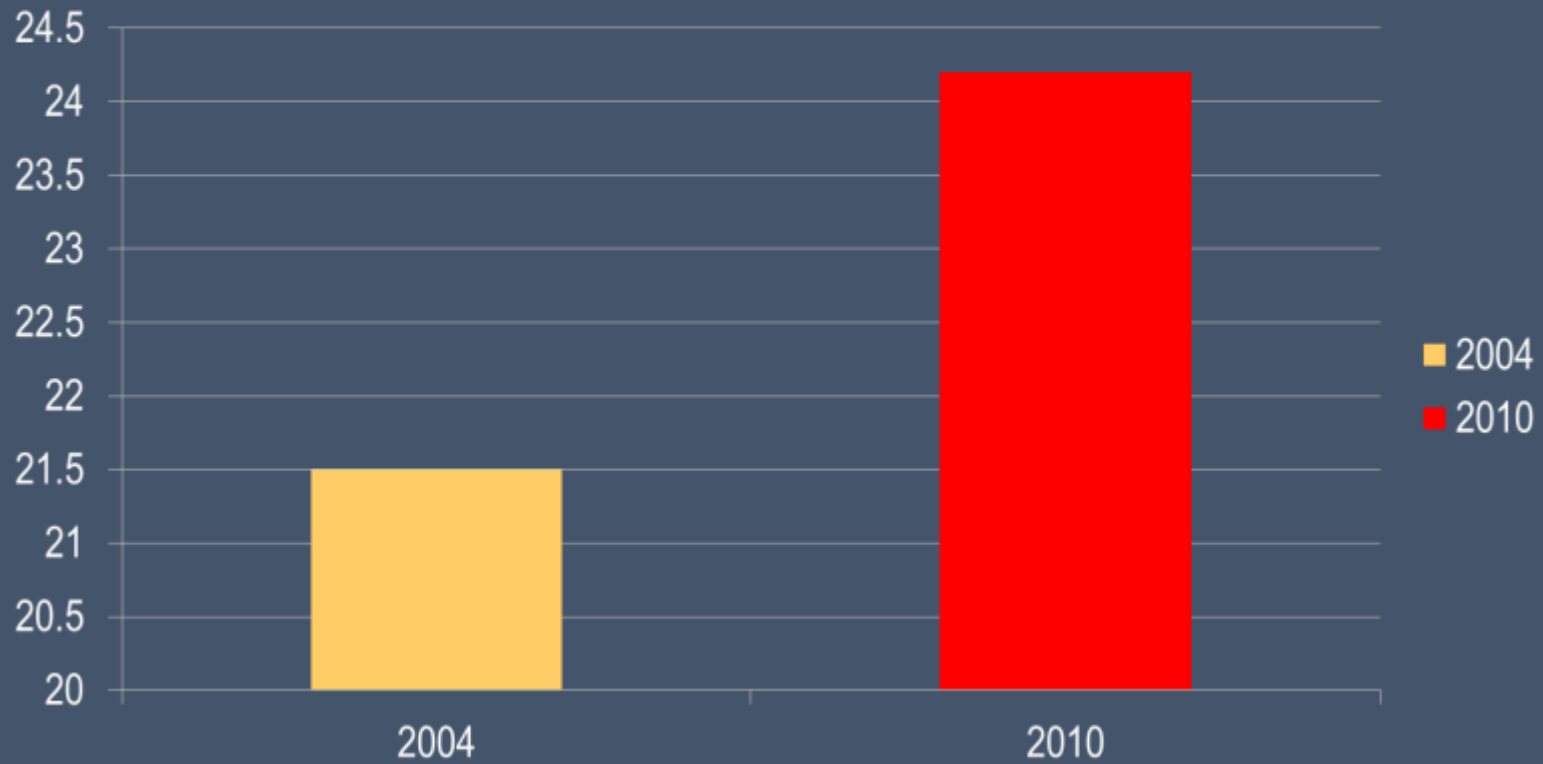


Since 2003, the economy.....



Since 2003, what kind of social cohesion? (exclusion, la precariousness, poverty, insecurity)...

People Living in Poverty (%)
In 28 EU Countries



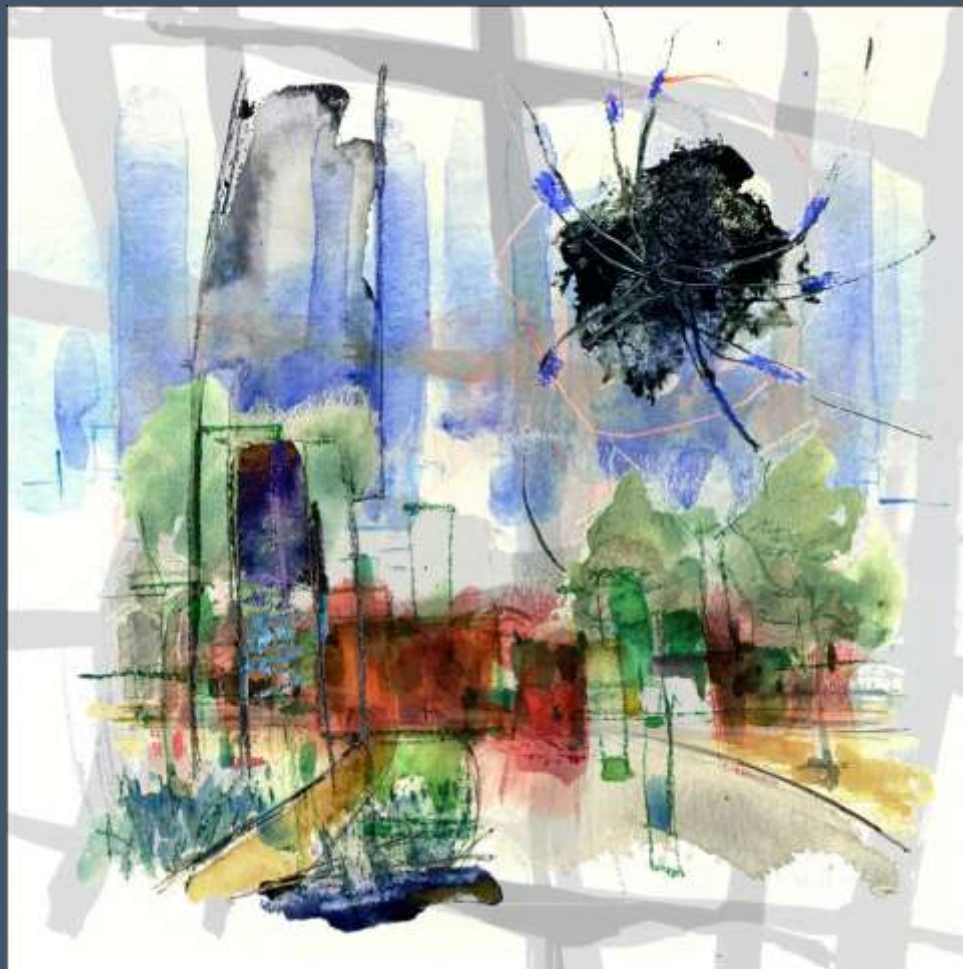
The Call to action



The Call to action

- Europe needs cities and regions (territoires) which are strong and good to live in. Spatial Planning is therefore vital to the future for Europe.
- The principles set out in this Charter need to be embraced by all the stakeholders. The Charter of European Planning is therefore a call to action to all whose policies and programmes will shape the future of European Continent.
- The diversity of Europe is reflected in the local distinctiveness and cross-disciplinary nature of spatial planning. This ensures that planning takes account of the diversity of its cities, regions (territoires) or other areas in terms of their geography, environments, heritage, landscapes and cultures.

Part A: the Vision



Part A: the Vision

- Throughout the 20th century, planning has continuously tackled the threats to the quality of life in European cities and regions (territoires). Our urban areas suffer from the decline of traditional industries, social exclusion, unemployment, sprawling developments, declining town centres, criminality, heavy pollution and environmental degradation. Rural areas experience economic pressures which are often combined with a loss of basic services and access to amenities.
- These trends in town and country have been compounded by globalisation and a growing cultural homogenisation. This is giving rise to new development pressures and an erosion of local identity. The integrated city and region (territoire) requires sensitivity in terms of the connection of the built and natural environment, infrastructure networks, and information and communication technologies.

- This Charter for European Planning therefore promotes a Vision of Europe based on Integrated and Connected Cities and Regions (Territoires) which have good accessibility for all who live, work and visit there and which are globally connected.
- This Vision is the goal towards to which we, the planners of Europe, are committed - a goal that can be achieved by the combined efforts of all stakeholders in urban and rural development and management.
- Our vision is a future for Europe that also connects to its past. European cities and regions (territoires) are distinguished by a long history of development, closely reflecting the characteristics of the institutional, cultural, social and economic structures of its population. It is this history and diversity which creates local distinctiveness and identity.

Part B: The Challenges to effective planning



The Challenges to effective planning

The principles of Spatial Planning are embedded in theory and practice of planning throughout Europe. They are based on three main actions : integration, connection and cohesion.

1 - Integrated & connected cities and regions

2 - Social Cohesion & Connectivity

3 - Economic integration & connectivity

4 - Environmental Connectivity



Part B: one particular Challenge to effective democracy: landscapes



The fourth pillar of sustainability: Culture's essential role in Spatial Planning

- *“Cultural vitality is as essential to a healthy and sustainable society as social equity, environmental responsibility and economic viability. In order for public/spatial planning to be more effective, its methodology should include an integrated framework of cultural evaluation along similar lines to those being developed for social, environmental and economic impact assessment”.*

Jon Hawkes.



Part B: one particular Challenge to effective democracy: landscapes

The landscape is vital to the quality and diversity of European cultural identity, ecology, environment and society, and contributes to the economy of all cities or regions through its protection, management and planning. The landscape relates to any piece of region-territoire, as perceived by people, and its character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.

Landscape is an important factor for the quality of life, individual and social well-being of people: in urban and rural areas, in degraded areas as well as high quality areas. Landscape is therefore an expression of the diversity of shared multi-cultural, urban, rural and natural heritage.

Part B: one particular Challenge to effective democracy

An integrated approach to landscape in planning policies is essential to ensure its cultural, environmental, social and economic value. It needs to be integrated into any policy which has possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.

Active public involvement in the development of landscapes, participatory democracy is a key factor in ensuring that landscape development policies have public support.

Concerning the population involvement in the definition of their living spaces, the Charter insists on the importance of the implementation of a true participative democracy.



'Landscape must not be a topic reserved to the circle of experts, but must become an integral part of political subjects, a subject to be debated democratically'

European Landscape Convention

Part C: The Commitments of spatial planners

1. Leaders of Change
2. Informed decision making
3. Designing spatial Visions
4. Managing conflict & promoting collaborative democracy



Thank you for your attention

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Public Involvement in Spatial Planning processes related to Landscape Heritage

II. Considering built heritage and landscape in Spatial Planning context



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Dubrovnik, Croatia, 13 June 2014
Tivat, Montenegro, 14 June 2014



Built heritage and urban landscape

- Cultural heritage in the urban landscape
- Cultural heritage in the urban context under the Charter
- Taking heritage into account in spatial development: 7 steps towards collective awareness and identity
- Conclusion

The Charter of European Planning La Charte de l'Urbanisme Européen

The Reformulating of the New Charter of Athens



Cultural heritage in the urban context under the Charter

Article 53- The opportunity must be provided for all to live and work in proximity to well-maintained elements of cultural and natural heritage. In addition, individual natural and cultural heritage resources need to be preserved and enhanced. This includes, for example, archaeological sites and monuments, traditional neighborhoods, parks, squares, and other open spaces, water features (lakes, rivers, wetlands and the sea shore) and natural reserves amongst others.

Article 54- All such elements are essential component of people's surroundings. Spatial Planning is an effective tool for the protection and enhancement of these elements, and the vehicle for developing new open spaces and renewing damaged landscapes which connect the urban fabric and mitigate the impacts of unmanaged urbanisation.

Concerning the population involvement in the definition of their living spaces, the Charter insists on the importance of the implementation of a true participative democracy

The fourth pillar of sustainability: Culture's essential role in Spatial Planning

- “Cultural vitality is as essential to a healthy and sustainable society as social equity, environmental responsibility and economic viability. In order for public/spatial planning to be more effective, its methodology should include an integrated framework of cultural evaluation along similar lines to those being developed for social, environmental and economic impact assessment”.

Jon Hawkes.





'Heritage must not be a topic reserved to the circle of experts, but must become an integral part of political subjects, a subject to be debated democratically'

Freely inspired by the European Landscape Convention

Taking heritage and urban landscape into account in spatial development: 7 steps towards collective awareness and identity

1. Various types of heritage impacted
2. Heritage as common good
3. Awakening of heritage awareness
4. Protection and development of the built heritage and its environment



Landscape, a common good

« The common good is, in a society, an indispensable link between individuals, such as culture (heritage) or language. The common good, as opposed to private property is a property that applies to everyone, a value understood by everyone, to which all community members can refer. »

Myriam Revault d'Allonnes, philosopher



Thomas Aquinas

Taking heritage and urban landscape into account in spatial development: 7 steps towards collective awareness and identity

1. Various types of heritage impacted
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Taking heritage and urban landscape into account in spatial development: 7 steps towards collective awareness and identity

5. See wider and live one's horizon...

6. Pressures and strengths of the economic dimension

7. Identity role of cultural heritage

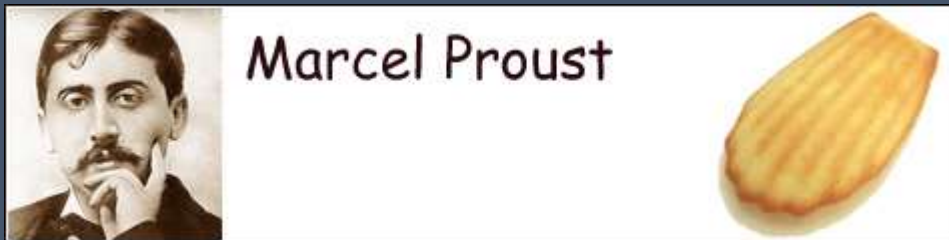


As an open conclusion,

« Le seul véritable voyage, le seul bain de Jouvence, ce ne serait pas d'aller vers de nouveaux paysages, mais d'avoir d'autres yeux, de voir l'univers avec les yeux d'un autre, de cent autres, de voir les cent univers que chacun d'eux voit, que chacun d'eux est; »

“The only true voyage, the only fountain of youth, it would not go to new landscapes but in having new eyes to see the world through the eyes of another, one hundred others, see the hundred universes that each of them sees, that each of them is;”

Marcel Proust in ‘À la recherche du temps perdu’



and living our common heritage together in diversity,
more than a journey, an adventure...



Thank you for your attention

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III. Public participation towards a true Participatory Democracy

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European Council of Spatial Planners
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What political decision has no direct or indirect impact on spatial development, on quality of living spaces?
Obviously none; because the 'common ground' on which our life in society is based is the 'common land' on which we live and where we exercise our rights.



We, spatial planners and other stakeholders of Spatial Planning processes, are relevant in defining the principles that should found participatory democracy as a counterbalanced power to the Representative Democracy.

Orchestrating the Players!



Several main concepts have to be questioned

- Democracy
- general interest
- participatory democracy
- participation
- information
- public representation
- public involvement...

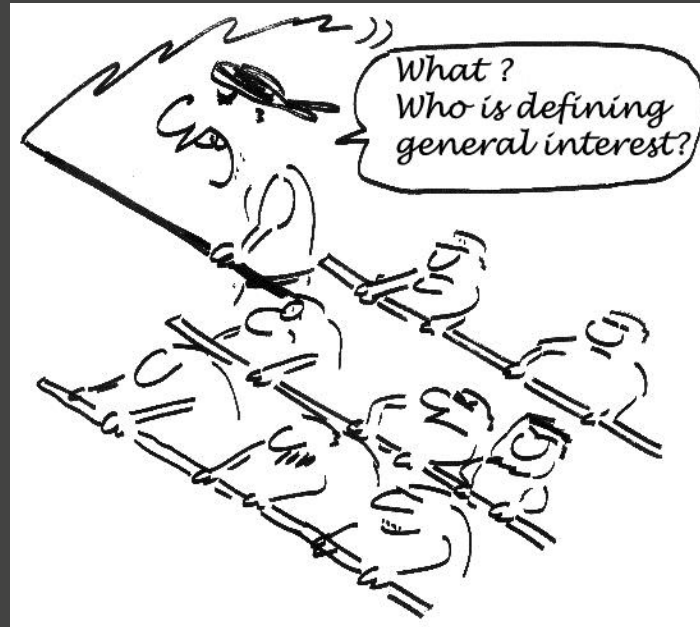
Democracy: elements for a definition

Democracy is the political system in which the people are sovereign. In the famous phrase of Abraham Lincoln, democracy is "government of the people, by the people, for the people." The people, however, referring to the more restrictive concept of citizens, citizenship is not necessarily given to the entire population.



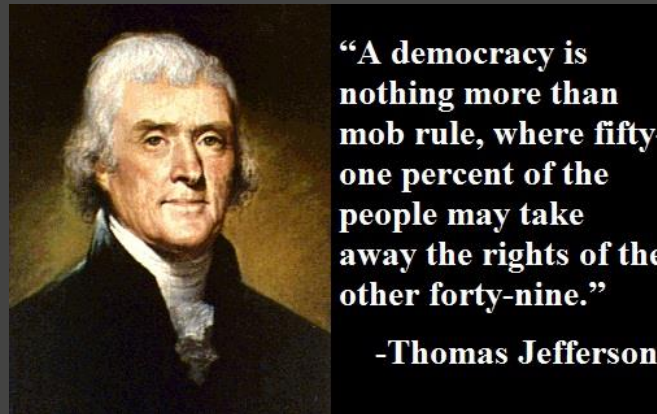
General interest

If we wish management of landscape to be considered in terms of commitments rather than obligations, we have to admit that landscape is political (in the sense of a public thing) and that it is the role of the political field to define what is of general interest.



Participatory Democracy: elements for a definition

The application of participatory democracy concepts to public participation in public land planning and decision-making, while widely advocated, has not yet been clearly defined and needs further consideration.



Establishing rules of operation and decision-making within the group is critical.

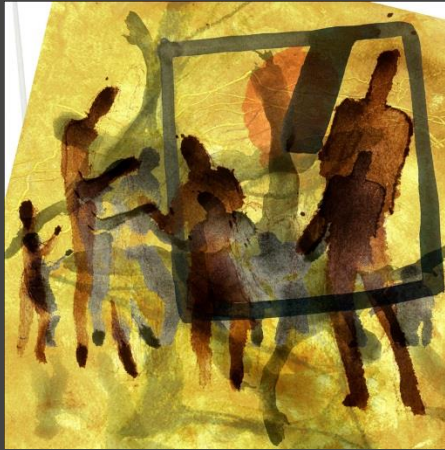


'Non bene pro toto libertas venditur auro'

'Liberty is not well sold for all the gold'

Can we carry out **liberty** or freedom without access to full information? But which level is the pertinent level of information? How can we assure access to information?

To guarantee **equality** in concertation, it is necessary to ensure an adequate level of shared knowledges. Does Equality occur in the phase of participation? Does Equality presuppose a co-design policies and territorial projects?



Fraternity is the reflection of diversity, of mixity. Sharing thoughts, free concertation, in equality and solidarity opens a way to shared decisions.

Fraternity, should it find its fulfillment in the adhesion to the project which, in extension, secures territorial cohesion?

It is too often when the common land is in danger that people are fully conscious of his importance.



Taksim Istanbul



The landscape, urban, rural, natural or other, seen, perceived, experienced, represented, images of places in which we live, we work and we move is only real to the extent that the 'awakening of consciousness landscape' arise. That seems to be a prerequisite for good governance and therefore the exercise of democracy.



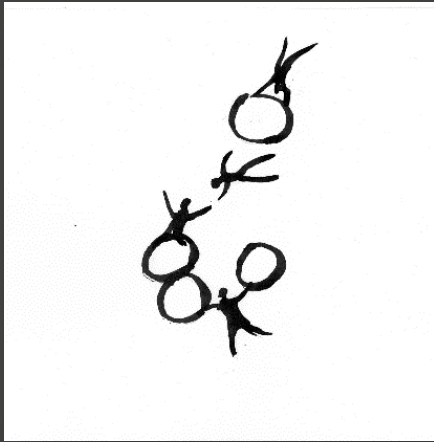
The appropriation that is shared in its dynamic and finds the sense of the common good. Then the diversity and multicultural approaches can create the conditions for a shared perception which will allow the 'common sense' to rise again.

The Call to action:

- Considering that participation of populations in public life at national, regional and local level is part of the core values of Democracy and that direct involvement of populations, mindful of their rights and duties is the lifeblood of any democratic system;
- Convinced that cities and regions, being the common ground of European populations, are the natural places of the exercise of the Participative Democracy.
- Convinced that the quality of living spaces is fundamental to insure the respect of human rights;

The Call to action

- Considering that authorities from local to national have and must assume a shared leading role in promoting citizens participation;
- Considering the recognition and enhancement of the role played by Civil Society as key player and driving force in developing and sustaining a true participatory Democracy;
- Convinced that a healthy model of participatory Democracy supports representative Democracy, makes dialogue with local communities' part of the formal decision-making arena.



Considering collective interest we must admit that two opposing viewpoints exist. One sees in the public interest the sum of individual interests, from, essentially, the ultra-liberal economic actors looking for utilitarian purposes. The other, more proactive, sees the general interest beyond personal interests and, in this context, the expression of the general will, which gives to the representative democracy his role in imposing to all individuals consulted beforehand, objectives that go beyond individual interests.

This is particularly important when establishing the link between landscape and local participatory democracy

Implementation local participatory democracy principles



The Congress of the Council of Europe decided to dedicate the 2014 Edition of the European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) to participatory democracy and adopted a new slogan : "Participatory democracy: sharing, proposing, deciding".



The 2014 World Forum for Democracy (3-5 November 2014) will concentrate on the same theme.



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