

Publication alert - Journal of European Landscapes

25 years of European Landscape Convention

The [European Landscape Convention](#) (ELC) has been shaping policy and practice for 25 years. But how has this overarching European framework influenced landscapes and daily life across the continent? What tangible changes have occurred for people—whether walking city streets, living near forests, working farms, or traveling as tourists? How has this European-scale policy been reflected in local communities? Are there noticeable links between the Convention's broad ambitions and its real-world impact? How can landscape be used as a mediator between the physical environmental challenges and the societal ones?



The [Journal of European Landscapes](#) presents, under the patronage of UNISCAPE, a publication that dives into the ELC's past, present and future. Guest editor [prof. Saša Dobričić](#) and JEL editor [dr. Arjan Conijn](#) brought together a collection of papers, project descriptions and an interview exploring what the ELC has brought us so far and where we can find its potential.

Among the discussed themes we find:

- The European Landscape Convention's shift over 25 years from static policy to dynamic, community-driven landscape governance in various case studies.
- Landscape quality emerging from ongoing dialogue and co-creation among citizens, planners, and researchers.
- The landscape perspective linking environmental, cultural, and social policies to challenges like climate resilience and local identity, with public participation as a core principle.
- Community participation as essential for democratic landscape planning, requiring strong institutional support for lasting engagement.
- Recognition of subjective experiences—such as personal perception and memory—as central to shaping landscape values and governance.

The first 11 papers are open access on the [website](#), and the full collection of papers will be published in hardcopy later in 2025. For more information on buying this, please contact JEL editor [dr. Arjan Conijn](#).

