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EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION
CONVENTION EUROPEENNE DU PAYSAGE

Strasbourg, 19 November 2008

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**EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION
– Florence Convention –**

**PRESENTATION OF THE
STATUS OF LANDSCAPE POLICIES IN
THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
- 2007-2008 -**

Document by the Secretariat General prepared by the Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Spatial Planning Division

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The articles mentioned refer to the European Landscape Convention

1. State : Republic of Slovenia

2. Has the European Landscape Convention been signed or ratified?

Slovenia signed the European Landscape Convention on 7 March 2001 and ratified it on 25 September 2003.

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4. Division of responsibilities

“Each Party shall implement this Convention, in particular Articles 5 and 6, according to its own division of powers, in conformity with its constitutional principles and administrative arrangements, and respecting the principle of subsidiarity, taking into account the European Charter of Local Self-government. Without derogating from the provisions of this Convention, each Party shall harmonise the implementation of this convention with its own policies.”(article 4)

4.1. Which ministry/administration is in charge of landscape?

Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning

4.2. Is this ministry/administration vested with other responsibilities?

Yes, the responsibilities of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning are in the field of environment and in the field of spatial planning. With regard to environment, the Ministry is responsible for protection of the environment, including water management, waste treatment, noise pollution, conservation of natural heritage and management of biological and landscape diversity, renewal energy resources, nuclear safety and SEA and EIA. With regard to spatial planning, the Ministry is responsible for national strategic spatial planning documents, for conducting the preparation of detailed plans for the spatial arrangements of national significance, for approval of local spatial planning documents, for issuing the construction permits for objects of national importance, for housing policy and for geodetic data.

4.3. Is this ministry/administration provided with a specific landscape policy document?

No, there is no specific landscape policy document. The themes are partly incorporated into other policy documents (spatial planning, nature conservation, cultural heritage conservation, Rural Development program). There are three documents include landscape issues on the policy level. The first one is the Spatial Management Policy of the Republic of Slovenia, adopted by the Slovenian Government in 2001. One of the objectives of the Spatial Management Policy is preserving significant features of rural landscapes. It includes guidelines for harmonious development of rural areas and preservation of agricultural areas and active protection of cultural landscape. The second one is the Spatial Development Strategy of the Republic of Slovenia, adopted by the Slovenian Parliament in 2004, which defines spatial development through three interrelated segments, namely settlement, infrastructure and landscape. It defines landscape quality parameters, national landscape areas, guidelines for sectoral use of landscape and guidelines for local spatial planning. The third document is Biodiversity Conservation Strategy of Slovenia. It defines the characteristics of biological and landscape diversity in Slovenia, sets the conservation aims and provides general guidelines for achieving them.

4.4. Are regional and local authorities empowered in respect of landscape? Although there are no regional authorities in Slovenia, there are 12 statistical (functional) regions, which represent the basis for the implementation of national “balanced regional development policy”. They prepare regional development programmes which have to be confirmed by the governmental office responsible for regional development. These programmes must be prepared on the basis of partnership principle and need to get broad public endorsement in the regions and localities, which makes them one of important policy tools for the implementation of development policy of Slovenia. It is desired, yet not obligatory that the regional plans are harmonized with spatial development plans, prepared on local level because the investments in regional development have to be reconciled with spatial development objectives set in the spatial development documents. Regional development programmes include also a reference to landscape, mostly in relation to touristic orientation or/and as a part of life quality objectives.

The responsibilities of the local level, i.e. municipalities are numerous. In the field of spatial planning, the municipality has a responsibility for spatial planning and management on its territory. Spatial development is regulated through spatial planning documents which include landscape, following the guidelines from policy documents and guidelines of national institutions which collaborate in the process of preparation of municipals’ spatial planning documents as stakeholders. In praxis, on the basis of request from the municipality the guidelines for specific spatial planning document are provided by Directorate for Spatial Planning, Natural conservation office, Cultural heritage office.

4.5. Is there a framework for consultation between ministries on territorial and/or landscape matters (territorial conference, landscape council, other structure)? There is no permanent framework for consultation between ministries on territorial and landscape matters.

4.6. Is there a consultation procedure for decision-making on territorial policy between the national and the regional levels?

No, please, see the answer under 4.4.

4.7. What are the human and financial resources devoted to putting landscape policies in place:

4.7.1. At national level?

Human and financial resources regarding landscape issues are scattered among different ministries according to the division of tasks and adopted documents as described in 4.3.

4.7.2. At regional level?

None, please see the answer under 4.4.

5. General measures

“Each Party undertakes 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;” (article 5. a)

5.1. How is the term “landscape” defined in your language?

The term “landscape” in Slovene language is “krajina”. Landscape is defined in “Dictionary of Slovene literary language” as: “Krajina je manjše ali večje ozemlje glede na oblikovanost, obraslost, urejenost. “ Landscape is smaller or larger piece of land with regard to its form, land cover and spatial order.

5.2. Is there a legal definition of the term “landscape”?

There is a legal definition of the term landscape in legislation. The term “landscape” is defined in three laws. In the Spatial planning Act it is defined as: “Landscape” is part of the physical space, characterized by a prevailing presence of natural components and is the result of the interaction and influence of natural and human activity.”

The Cultural Heritage Protection Act defines term cultural landscapes as open space including natural and artificially made components, whose structure, development and functions are chiefly controlled by human operations and activities.

In the Nature Conservation Act the landscape is defined as: Landscape shall be a spatially explicit part of nature with specific distribution of landscape components resulting from the characteristics of living and non-living nature and human activity.

5.3. Is landscape the subject of one or more articles of the constitution or the basic law?

The landscape is not defined in the Constitution and it is not a subject of the basic law.

5.4. Is landscape the subject of a specific law or is it embodied in other laws?

The Landscape is not a subject of specific law, but it is partly embodied in other laws. These are:

- Spatial Planning Act (2007),
- Nature Conservation Act (2004),
- Culture Heritage Protection Act (2008),
- Agricultural Land Act (2003),
- Environment Protection Act (2008).

Spatial Planning Act does not have special provisions on landscape, except for definition of terms. Landscape development is regulated through spatial planning documents at national (Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia (2004), Spatial Planning Order of Slovenia (2004)) and local level.

The Ministry of Culture is responsible for regulating matters in the sphere of culture which are of public interest. These include protection of the cultural heritage where including cultural landscapes. Cultural landscapes are recognised as: (1) designed landscape, which includes structures and areas of historic garden and park design, and (2) cultural landscape, which includes special (topographically) delimited parts of the landscape which have been created through the interaction of human and natural factors and which illustrate the development of human society in time and space. The National Programme for Culture 2008–2011 among others promotes construction which will be coordinated with the appearance of landscape and its historical and spiritual image. This type of our environment also includes the cultural heritage segment, which cannot be self-willingly »renewed«, because it is in its different forms a irreplaceable part of the landscape mosaic and settlements and gives them their identity, characteristic of Slovenian territory. Means should be provided to ensure that cultural and also natural heritage become a key constituent part of development, for which the preservation of unspoiled nature, a source of well-being and a challenge for modern creativity at all levels, from the landscape to the regional one, is important. Economic activity which uses cultural heritage as a material resource must develop the cultural potentials of the environment and must not harm its values.

The landscape can be designated as a landscape diversity or value according to Nature Conservation Act. The Nature Conservation Act further defines:

- Landscape diversity and those landscape features which are important for biodiversity conservation shall be conserved, developed and restored. Landscape diversity shall be a spatial composition of natural and anthropogenic landscape elements. Activities affecting the physical space shall be planned and carried out in such a way that the conservation of landscape features referred to in the preceding paragraph and of landscape diversity are given priority. The Government shall specify the landscape features and landscape diversity important for biodiversity conservation and the guidelines for conserving biodiversity in a landscape which have to be taken into account in the spatial planning and use of natural assets.

- Valuable natural features shall include all natural heritage in the territory of the Republic of Slovenia. In addition to a rare, valuable or well-known natural phenomenon, a valuable natural feature shall be any other valuable phenomenon; component or part of the living or non-living nature; nature area or part thereof; an ecosystem; landscape; or designed landscape. Valuable natural features referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be in particular geological phenomena; minerals and fossils and mineral and

fossil sites; surface and subsurface Karst features; caves; gorges and other geomorphologic phenomena; glaciers and glacial forms; springs; waterfalls; rapids; lakes; bogs; brooks and rivers with banks; seashore; plant and animal species and exceptional specimens and habitats thereof; ecosystems; landscape; and designed landscape.

The Environment Protection Act does not define the landscape as a term but it regulates the SEA and the EIA procedure. Within the SEA procedures the impacts of the planned activities upon landscape as well as upon other environmental components have to be presented.

Slovene rural development programme provides the agricultural measures for stimulating the maintenance of the cultural landscapes for the integrated development of rural areas according to the provisions in the Agricultural Act (2008), Agricultural Land Act (2003) and other sectoral policy documents. Slovene rural development programme is conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food.

5.5. Is there a code that consolidates the applicable texts relating to landscape?

Spatial Order of Slovenia (Official gazette of the RS, 122/2004) sets out the planning rules/principles, which should be considered during planning procedures. They are of two types: general planning rules/principles and specific rules/principles for settlement, for infrastructure and for landscape planning. The list of rules/principles for planning of landscape includes:

- rules/principles for planning in the landscape,
- rules/principles for preserving or creation of landscape quality,
- recognisability of landscape,
- determination of local recognizable areas,
- development and preservation of recognisability of landscapes,
- natural quality areas,
- indication of natural quality areas,
- protected natural quality areas,
- others areas of natural quality,
- rules/principles for planning in natural quality areas,
- planning in the areas with restrictions for development,
- land use planning in the landscape planning,
- planning of green areas and other public open spaces.

“Each Party undertakes 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 mentioned in paragraph b above;” (article 5, c)

5.6. What are the procedures for arranging participation:

5.6.1. by the public?

Preparation of the spatial plan: According to the Spatial Planning Act the public debate has to be organized during the preparation of the spatial planning document. The draft spatial plan, together with its background studies and environmental report, if the plan is subject of SEA, is presented to the public at least for 30 days. Within that time the public debate is organized. The administrative body, responsible for the preparation of the spatial plan prepares the public debate in the local community, where the aims, objectives, spatial proposals and impacts are presented and discussed.

Establishment of protected area: According to the Nature Conservation Act the public debate has to be organized during the establishment of protected area and the preparation of its management document. The establisher shall inform the public of the draft instrument of protection by which a protected area is established at the public presentation. The public presentation shall include public discussion and public presentation of reasons for the protection, of the draft instrument of protection and of the cartographic documents. The public presentation shall last at least 60 days. Within that time the public debate is organized. The administrative body, responsible for the establishment of protected area prepares the public debate in the local community, where the aims, objectives, proposals and impacts are presented and discussed.

According to the Culture Heritage Proclamation Act the public debate has to be organized during the establishment protected area of cultural heritage landscape. The administrative body, responsible for the establishment protected area prepares the public debate in the local community, where the aims, objectives, reasons for the protection, draft instrument of protection and the cartographic documents are presented and discussed.

5.6.2. by local and regional authorities?

Spatial planning procedure, nature conservation procedure and cultural heritage proclamation procedure on local level follows the same procedure as described in answer 5.6.1.

5.6.3. by other players with an interest in the framing and implementation of landscape policies?

There are no other players with such interests.

“Each Party undertakes to integrate landscape into its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape” (article 5 , d)

5.7. Which instruments allow the integration of landscape into:

5.7.1. regional planning policies?

See the answer 4.4.

5.7.2. town planning policies?

The landscape matters are integrated through spatial planning documents of different types, prepared at national and local levels. The town planning includes the definition, preservation of existing “green systems” and creation of new ones as systems of green and other open spaces in the urban areas. Landscape is included among eight priorities of Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia. Beside that, guidelines for planning of landscape on national and local level is dealt with in a separate chapter.

Following is a description of the priority and the guidelines for landscape development and preservation:

1. Among priorities, the priority Enhancing the Recognizability of Valuable Natural and Cultural Landscape Characteristics accounts of:

- Conservation and high-quality management in areas with recognizable natural and cultural values shall be encouraged in association with the economic opportunities provided by these features.
- Individual qualities shall be determined in spatial planning procedures at the regional and local levels, and included in spatial development.

2. Instruments:

- Landscape areas of importance at the national level: The Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia consist of list of recognizable areas which are representative parts of the Slovenian landscape.
- Landscape areas of importance at the local level: The municipalities includes such landscape areas in the municipal spatial plan.
- Guidelines for landscape development at national and local level.

5.7.3. cultural policies?

The Cultural Heritage Protection Act (CHPA-1)

The Resolution of the National Programme for culture 2008–2011 (ReNPK0811)

The recognized sites of heritage landscapes are registered in the Heritage Register, included into preparation of the spatial plans and if cultural landscape is of special meaning or interest into cultural heritage proclamation procedure (see also Answer 5.6.1.)

5.7.4. environmental policies?

The landscape matters are integrated through nature conservation documents of different types, prepared at national and local levels. In this way, biodiversity conservation is contributing to the maintaining of typical landscapes through specific management of the area that is preserving specific habitat types (e. g.

meadows) and species. Landscape is included among objectives and directions of Biodiversity Conservation Strategy of Slovenia and of Protected areas of nature conservation with a view that a specific human activity is required in order to achieve biodiversity and landscape conservation targets.

1. The basic guidelines for landscape development and preservation are:

- To conserve the traditional low intensity and sustainable land use forms that maintain the high level of biodiversity, and the diversity and cultural identity of landscapes
- To reduce the harmful impacts of activities on the landscape and its valuable natural and cultural features through spatial planning and control over the unsuitable development.

2. Instruments:

- Protected areas of nature conservation : The protected areas of Slovenia could be: a natural monument, strict nature reserve, nature reserve and a national, regional and landscape park. A landscape park is an area with emphasised, high-quality and long-term interaction of people and nature and with a high ecological, biotic and landscape value. The national and regional park could include landscape areas that are culturally or naturally important.

- Ecological important areas and Natura 2000 sites : Another way of integrating landscape concerns are ecological important areas and Natura 2000 sites. In many cases the reason for designation of ecological important areas and Natura 2000 sites are seminatural areas which are part of the traditional landscape. Beyond that, Natura 2000 is aiming for a coherent ecological network which requires functional corridor areas which can be greatly achieved in a traditionally maintained landscape.

- A protected area management plan: Is a programme document by which the development orientations, the manner of protection, use and management of the protected area and the detailed orientations for the protection of valuable natural features in the protected area are laid down while taking into account the development needs of the local community. In the protected area it is usually prohibited to carry out activities affecting nature in a manner that might worsen the state of a valuable natural feature or change, damage or destroy it and to change the conditions or status so that the valuable natural feature is changed, damaged or destroyed or that its aesthetic value is reduced.

5.7.5. agricultural policies?

Agriculture plays an important role in the habitat, biodiversity and landscape conservation. The most important policy document in this regard is: Rural Development Programme of the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 (RDP). It consists of 4 axes.

Above all axis 2 measures of the RDP put emphasis on landscape conservation with the aim of preventing farming abandonment in marginal and in less favoured areas and curbing intensification of agricultural production. The measure compensatory allowances for less favoured areas are thus meant to prevent the agricultural land abandonment and the corresponding negative consequences. Moreover compensatory allowances shall contribute to the maintenance of the cultural landscape. Preservation of cultural landscape is also one of the main goals of agri-environmental payments. Agri-environmental payments support agriculture in its environmental function and, by means of sustainable farming methods, contribute towards the reduction of environmental pollution, the conservation of biodiversity and specific values of Slovenian countryside, such as traditional farming methods and the conservation of cultural heritage and typical Slovenian landscapes related thereto. In this regard the following submeasures are of great importance: mountain pastures, steep slopes mowing, humpy meadows mowing, meadow orchards, rearing of autochthonous and traditional domestic breeds, production of autochthonous and traditional agricultural plant varieties, sustainable rearing of domestic animals and extensive grassland maintenance. Another contributor to the conservation of landscape features and areas intended for biotope development are those agri-environmental payments intended for submeasures supporting protection areas (water reserves, national and landscape parks, natural reserves, natural heritage sites and ecologically important areas), such as animal husbandry in central areas of appearance of large carnivores, preservation of special grassland habitats, preservation of grassland habitats of butterflies, preservation of litter meadows, bird conservation in humid extensive meadows in Natura 2000 sites and permanent green cover in water protection areas.

Indirect measures for landscape management in the rural development programme:

- Through agro-environmental measures used for management of different types of habitats, steep meadows etc.
- Through the measures of axis 3 and LEADER. helps to sustain better living in the rural areas, which has also indirectly positive implications for the landscape.

5.7.6. social and economic policies? There are no instruments that would allow the integration of landscape into social and economic policies.

5.7.7. into such other policies as may have a direct or indirect effect on landscape? None.

“Awareness-raising : Each Party undertakes to increase awareness among the civil society, private organisations, and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them.” (article 6, A)

6. Specific measures

6.1. Which measures have been taken to increase awareness:

At the end of 2008 Ministry of environment published a brochure about implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Slovenia in Slovene language. In the first part the contents and meaning of the convention is presented , while the second part shows the activities and possibilities for its implementation in Slovenia. The brochure is part of the awareness raising activities. It was (has been) sent to all the municipalities, universities, ministries, non governmental organizations and several experts and other individuals, who are active in the field of conservation, planning and management of landscape in Slovenia. Available also at the internet:

http://www.mop.gov.si/fileadmin/mop.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/drugo/ekk_izvajanje_v_sloveniji.pdf

6.1.1. in civil society (landscape-related events, celebrations, festivals, etc.)

6.1.1.1. at national level?

Slovenian Association of Landscape Architects (SALA) is a professional association of landscape architects. It was founded in 1992 and operates as a non-governmental organisation. In the course of the 14 year long operation of the association, SALA has organised a series of national and international conferences, which were always documented in the thematic publications. SALA has managed to organise 11 professional conferences addressing various topics of interest accompanied by publications, a survey exhibition of SALA members' works – “Writings in the Landscape”, and set up an educational and awareness-raising project which met with a wide response from the public – the project "We are Making our Landscape". The purpose of the project “We are Making our Landscape” was to disseminate knowledge about the landscape to the general public (children and adults), and especially to present better the Slovenian landscapes.

Main activities carried out in the Slovenian Association of Landscape Architects Professional conferences and publications:

- The Profession of Landscape Architecture at Present (Lendava, 1994)
- Landscape Degradations (Topolščica, 1995)
- Planning of the Open Space in Urban Environments (Ljubljana, 1996)
- Environmental Impact Assessment as a Planning Tool in the Environmental Protection (Ljubljana, 1997)
- Water: Use and Protection, Design (Čatež, 1998)
- Cultural Landscape - Development and Conservation Dynamics (Portorož, 1999)
- Nature in the City / between Planned and Spontaneous (Ljubljana, 2000)
- The Ethics of Spatial Planning (Rogaška Slatina, 2001)
- Globalscape – Landscape Planning in the Era of Globalisation (Portorož, 2002)
- Landscape Architecture Today and Tomorrow (Ljubljana, 2004)
- Professional Bases for Spatial Plans (Ljubljana, 2005)
- Survey exhibition of SALA members' works: Writings in the Landscape (Ljubljana, 2004)
- Educational and awareness-raising project for the public: "We are Making our Landscape" (Ljubljana, October 2004- May 2005)

- In May 2008 the Slovenian Association of Landscape Architects organized international conference “Public open space” and accompanying exhibition. The exhibition of landscape arrangements of parks, squares, cemeteries, playgrounds, areas along rivers or roads, sport grounds, green city systems gained interest of local communities which makes the exhibition travel around Slovenia. SALA also organized a few polemical discussions related to different planning operations in landscape.
- Survey exhibition of SALA members' works: Public Open Space (Novo mesto and Bled, 2008; Ribnica, 2009)

6.1.1.2. at regional level? /

6.1.2. among private organisations? /

6.1.3. on the part of the public authorities?

Public awareness is raised also through public consultation conducted by public authorities within various procedures. The public consultation in accordance with Article 5.c in the case of protection of the cultural heritage landscape is included into:

1. Procedure of preparing the spatial planning acts: the public during the public exhibition and public debate is invited to express its opinion and observations concerning spatial planning proposal relating to the preservation, maintenance and conservation of the landscape. This activity must be assured by the preparer of the spatial planning document (during the 30 – day presentations and public hearings) . The preparer shall consider all the proposals and suggestions given orally or in writing as a basis for an amended spatial planning document.
2. With in the procedure on the proclamation of a cultural monument. When a site of cultural landscape has elements which prove the continuity or an individual stage of cultural and civilizational development, or which represent a quality achievement of creativity, it can obtain the status of national or local cultural monument. An act on the proclamation of a monument of local importance is adopted by the local community; an act on the proclamation of a monument of national importance is adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. The proclamation of an immovable monument shall be noted in the land register. The owner must preserve the monument at his own expense, allow it to be researched and provide access to it in accordance with its purpose of use and the protection regime, and use it in such a way that its cultural function is consistently taken into account. The owner is entitled to compensation if the protection regime adversely affects conditions for the commercial exploitation of the monument and this cannot be substituted by another activity within the framework of the protection regime. If maintenance or interventions necessary to protect or restore the monument require extraordinary costs which exceed the economic benefit and the usual costs of maintenance, the state or local community may contribute public funds to this end.
3. With presentations of the value of heritage landscapes, their role, changes and possibilities of their conservation at local workshops on different themes like rural development, education, conservation, development of infrastructure, identity, tourism.
4. By preparing and supporting special research on topic themes – for example: Guidelines for integrated conservation of heritage landscapes (2005)
5. By preparing the brochure for raising awareness on implementation of the convention among local authorities, sectors and planning practitioners (2008).

“Training and education: Each Party undertakes to promote training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations” (article 6, B, a)

6.2. Which measures have been taken to promote training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations (setting up specialist courses, recognition of landscape engineering diplomas, etc.)?

There are two levels of recognition of landscape engineering diplomas. First one is a formal process of accreditation for university LA programs. A national body for accreditation of university programs has recently accredited a renewed program of landscape architecture studies (BSC and MSC level) according to so called “Bologna requirements” (3+2).

Second level is recognition of landscape architecture diplomas for professionals according to requirements of Chamber of Architecture and Spatial Planning of Slovenia. Landscape architects in Slovenia can become members of chamber if they graduated at the above mentioned university program and after they fulfil other requirements (experience, professional/licence exam).

“Each Party undertakes to promote multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors and for associations concerned; (article 6, B, b)

6.3. Which measures have been taken to promote the introduction of multidisciplinary training programmes:

6.3.1. for professionals in the private sector? /.

6.3.2. for professionals in the public sector? /.

6.3.3. for associations concerned? /.

“Each Party 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.” (article 6 ,B, c)

6.4. Which measures have been taken to promote landscape-related training and education as part of the curriculum in:

6.4.1. primary education? /

6.4.2. secondary education? /

6.4.3. tertiary education?

Slovenia has introduced the study of landscape architecture in **1972**.

1. University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical faculty, Department of Landscape Architecture.

The study of landscape architecture is running **at** University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical faculty, Department of Landscape Architecture.

One of the guiding principles is the conservation and protection of nature and environment. With other principles, such as landscape and urban design, the study program at the Department of Landscape Architecture contributes to more balanced education of professionals who will deal with spatial development in their professional life. One of important working areas of Slovene landscape architects is also a reclamation of derelict landscapes that are result of landscape changes such as: constructions of residential areas, industries, roads, power plants and other infrastructural objects. The activities performed by Landscape Architecture profession comprise, among others, the management of the landscape in residential areas, city parks, traffic greenery, surroundings of public buildings, recreational and sports areas, cemeteries, school gardens, etc.

The renewed programme enables students at the MSc level to choose between two specialisations: in landscape design and in environmental (landscape) planning. While the first one gives competencies in project elaboration the second one develops skills in planning, mostly connected to municipality planning and SEA and EIA elaboration. There are 30 students every year enrolled in BSc programme – 3 years (the number of enrolled students is limited and an admission exam is required in order to reduce the number of candidates each year). The MSc level – 2 years is also limited to 30 students, approximately with equal division between designers and planners (15 + 15). In average there is about 5 students per year who take part in doctoral studies of biotechnical and life sciences – filed: landscape

architecture, also provided at the Biotechnical Faculty. There are some summer courses and refreshment seminars organised by The Department of Landscape Architecture for working professionals (and other interested public).

Beside education, the Department of Landscape Architecture carries out research activity as well focusing mostly on Slovenian landscape heritage (inventory, cultural and social context, historical development) and planning (design) methodologies. There are 5 full time and 3 part time teachers employed by the Department of Landscape Architecture, 3 teaching fellows and 3 assistant researchers.

2. University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Geography

The subject Landscape ecology is running on University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Geography. The courses are thought at the level of BSc. The courses given are focusing on geographical, ecological and land use aspects. Within the landscape ecology research programme it is possible to carry out here: MSc and PhD thesis. The aim of the subject is to acquire knowledge needed for the transmission of holistic ecosystem understanding of landscape for the assessment of influences of the planned impacts. In the foreground is the deepening of knowledge needed in order to understand the web connection of all components of the environment, the so called vertical view of the landscape, where individual homogeneous units are understood as a result of co-effect of all components and not only as a sum of their individual characteristics (vertical view).

“Identification and assessment:

1. With the active participation of the interested parties, as stipulated in Article 5.c, and with a view to improving knowledge of its landscapes, each Party undertakes:

a. i) to identify its own landscapes throughout its territory;

ii) to analyse their characteristics and the forces and pressures transforming them;

iii) to take note of changes;

b. to assess the landscapes thus identified, taking into account the particular values assigned to them by the interested parties and the population concerned.

2. These identification and assessment procedures shall be guided by the exchanges of experience and methodology, organised between the Parties at European level pursuant to Article 8”. (article 6, C)

6.5. Which measures have been taken to carry out the identification of landscapes and the analysis of their characteristics (catalogues, atlases, registers of landscapes)

6.5.1. at national level?

1. Regional distribution of Landscape types (Marušič, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical faculty, Department of Landscape Architecture, 1998) – It is an inventory of Slovenia’s landscapes including the criteria for the definition and evaluation of landscape units.

2. Outstanding landscape of Slovenia, Heritage landscapes (including heritage parks and gardens) are identified and evaluated on the basis of knowledge of objectively definable data about the landscape structure, and also on the basis of observation and understanding the place. As a basis for the classification of heritage landscapes a typological classification and list of outstanding landscapes (Ogrin, 1996) was used.

6.5.2. at regional level?./.

“Landscape quality objectives: Each Party undertakes to define landscape quality objectives for the landscapes identified and assessed, after public consultation in accordance with Article 5.c.” (article 6, D)

6.6. Please give two or more examples of experiences conducive to the definition of landscape quality objectives.

The examples presented bellow, do not literally define landscape quality, but they give the indication how the landscape quality is understood.

Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia defines the “landscape areas of national importance”. Landscape areas of importance at the national level consist of areas which include recognizable and representative parts of the Slovenian landscape with well-preserved landscape elements, and which are in particular outstanding landscapes with rare or unique landscape structure patterns, as well as spatially emphasized cultural heritage with high historical or monumental significance, frequently in combination with outstanding shapes of natural media, i.e. natural values.

The landscape identity factors are: structural value denoting the visual quality of a landscape area, degree of harmony between morphological and typological landscape characteristics and land use, landscape structure composition with combination of natural and cultural media forms, complexity within the same structural unit, the authenticity and historical significance of structure, the quality of the location of built structures or their placement patterns, the historic or symbolic meaning of individual parts or of the whole, all of which represent the qualities of personal experience of individual landscape areas.

The Regional Distribution of Landscape Types in Slovenia study (published in 6 volumes) in its first volume includes the chapter on Evaluation of landscape units. The Slovenian landscapes were evaluated in order to rank the vitality (natural and economic), experienced pleasure (“amenity”), and stability (“healthiness”) of the landscape on the evaluation scale defining the reference landscape conditions from the most desired ones to those denoting degradation and reduction of the area’s potentials. Four basic criteria were selected for this purpose: natural preservation – naturalness, diversity, spatial order, harmony.

“Implementation :To put landscape policies into effect, each Party undertakes to introduce instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.” (article 6, E)

6.7. Which types of instruments have been adopted for protecting, managing and/or planning landscapes (management agreements, contracts, charters, seals of quality ...)?

As explained above: If maintenance or interventions necessary to protect or restore the monument (heritage landscape site) require extraordinary costs which exceed the economic benefit and the usual costs of maintenance, the state or local community may contribute public funds to this end.

7. Mutual assistance and exchange of information

“The Parties undertake to co-operate in order to enhance the effectiveness of measures taken under other articles of this Convention, and in particular:

- a. to render each other technical and scientific assistance in landscape matters through the pooling and exchange of experience, and the results of research projects;*
- b. to promote the exchange of landscape specialists in particular for training and information purposes;*
- c. to exchange information on all matters covered by the provisions of the Convention”.* (article 8)

7.1. Has technical and scientific assistance been conducted with other states and/or regions (pooling and exchange of experience, research work on landscape ...)?

There are many bilateral exchange programmes at the national level. The Department of Landscape Architecture is playing an active role in several of them, at this moment there are exchange programmes with PR of China, Serbia and Utah State University.

7.2. Have there been exchanges of landscape specialists? /..

8. Transfrontier landscapes

*“The Parties shall encourage transfrontier co-operation on local and regional level and, wherever necessary, prepare and implement joint landscape programmes.” (article 9)*8.1. Have actions to encourage transfrontier co-operation been conducted:

8.1.1. between states:

.....

8.1.1.1. at national level?**8.1.1.2. at regional level?****8.1.2. between regions of the state?****8.2. Have programmes of transfrontier co-operation with other states and/or regions been set up?****9. Landscape award of the Council of Europe**

“1. The Landscape award of the Council of Europe is a distinction which may be conferred on local and regional authorities and their groupings that have instituted, as part of the landscape policy of a Party to this Convention, a policy or measures to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape, which have proved lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities in Europe. The distinction may be also conferred on non-governmental organisations having made particularly remarkable contributions to landscape protection, management or planning.

2. Applications for the Landscape award of the Council of Europe shall be submitted to the Committees of Experts mentioned in Article 10 by the Parties. Transfrontier local and regional authorities and groupings of local and regional authorities concerned, may apply provided that they jointly manage the landscape in question.

3. On proposals from the Committees of Experts mentioned in Article 10 the Committee of Ministers shall define and publish the criteria for conferring the Landscape award of the Council of Europe, adopt the relevant rules and confer the Award.

4. The granting of the Landscape award of the Council of Europe is to encourage those receiving the award to ensure the sustainable protection, management and/or planning of the landscape areas concerned.” (article 11).

9.1. Have one or more landscape awards been instituted at national and/or regional level? Do they refer to the European Landscape Convention?**9.1.1. at national level**

In Slovenia we awarded in 2008 the prize so called “The Golden Pencil” for exceptional achievements on the field of spatial planning in category of planning landscape and in category of the gardens. This award does not refer to the European Landscape Convention.

Slovenia organized in 2008 a contest for the selection on the basis of the European Landscape Convention and the Resolution on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, its candidature for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The professional jury has chosen the Slovenian candidature for Landscape Award of the Council of Europe on the basis of the public call for applications. The selection was prepared on the basis of the official criteria for conferring the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The award winner at the national level from Slovenia is the project entitled »The Regional Distribution of Landscape Types in Slovenia«. This is a large-scale project, studying and evaluating landscape types of Slovenia, which has been launched by the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning. The candidature was elaborated and application sent for

candidature on the nationale level by the University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Department for Landscape Architecture.

9.1.2. at regional level: /

10. Major changes since the previous report (T-FLOR (2007) 7 rev.)

In Slovenia, the implementation of European Landscape Convention during 2007 and 2008 was limited due to some reorganizational changes in the Ministry. Major changes in the report since the previous one have been made in question 3 (Correspondent), question 5.4 (general measures), changes referring to new Culture Heritage Protection Act (see under 5.2, 5.4, 5.6, 5.7, 6.1.3). We also added a short description of the brochure (see under 6.1) and explanation on awards which were imparted in Slovenia for exceptional achievements in the field of landscapes planning (see under 9).