



**POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO**



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI TORINO**

**SEMINAR**  
**LANDSCAPE IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN EUROPE**  
**LAS PALMAS DECLARATION**

*13 February 2019*  
*Castello del Valentino, Sala Vigliano*  
*h. 16:00-17:30*



**UNISCAPE is the European Network of Universities for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.** It was created in Florence in January 2008 as a result of the joint initiative of 23 European Universities. Founding members of UNISCAPE are 42 universities from Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Belgium, Slovakia and France.

Currently the Network is composed of 56 Universities members from 15 European Countries and 2 private Foundations promoting landscape studies and research.

The aim of UNISCAPE is to support and reinforce scientific interdisciplinary co-operation among European universities regarding landscape issues, especially in the areas of research and teaching. UNISCAPE promotes the principles and the objectives of the European Landscape Convention. Concerning research activities, UNISCAPE promotes study and experimentation activities relating to landscapes, their evolution and transformations. UNISCAPE encourages and assists its members to provide each other technical and scientific assistance in landscape matters through exchange of experience and the results of research projects; to promote the exchange of landscape specialists, in particular for training and information purposes; to exchange information on all matters covered by the European Landscape Convention requirements.



# UNISCAPE - NETWORK OF EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION



12

**3rd General Assembly** of UNISCAPE 16-17 October 2010, Turin, Allara Hall,  
Administrative Headquarters - University of Turin (Italy)

# UNISCAPE En-Route International Seminar



**"LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORIES IN EUROPE"**

***Torino, Castello del Valentino, 22-23 September 2014***



# CHARTER OF TORINO

*for the*

## PROMOTION AND DISSEMINATION OF THE LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORIES IN EUROPE



*Foto Tommaso Zanaica*

### *The* **UNDERSIGNED**

on the occasion of the first UNISCAPE En-Route *International Seminar*

**"LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORIES IN EUROPE II"**

which took place in Turin, Castello del Valentino , on 22-23 September 2014,

## *The* **UNDERSIGNED**

on the occasion of the first UNISCAPE En-Route *International Seminar*

### **"LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORIES IN EUROPE II"**

which took place in Turin, Castello del Valentino , on 22-23 September 2014,

- considering that the Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec (2008)3 identifies Landscape Observatories as a useful approach for application in all Member States of the principles of the European Landscape Convention;
- considering that the participation of European citizens in the decisions concerning landscape is a priority for their proper and effective protection, management and enhancement;
- being aware that the Landscape Observatories may be the appropriate platform of democratic debate for participatory policies and planning of the landscape;

## **ADDRESS**

the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to organise a special conference to exchange experiences and best practices in order to support efforts on establishment of Landscape Observatories in the different countries. This to be achieved through the preliminary constitution of European Coordination between all those existing LO on the basis of studies and activities already carried out by the three European networks UNISCAPE, RECEPE-ENELC and CIVILSCAPE and others.

Signed in Turin, *23 September 2014*

# LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORY DOCUMENTATION

[Home](#)[The LOD Project](#)[Landscape Observatories, Centres, Institutes](#)[Documentation](#)[News and initiatives](#)[Credits, Participants, Contacts](#)[Home](#)

## Landscape Observatory Documentation

"Landscape observatories, centres and institutes" (LO) are one of the recommended instruments for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (ELC).

Their mission is to study and monitor the dynamics of the landscapes, and to facilitate the collection, production and exchange of information and study protocols between states and local communities.

(See the Recommendation on the Guidelines for the implementation of the ELC, CM/Rec (2008)3 Appendix 1, 10; II.3.3)

The existing situation presents centres for landscape observation, at various territorial levels, established by institutional bodies, as much as by civil society. The LOD Project promotes the scientific cooperation among the existing LO, aiming at reducing the fragmentation of the local initiatives and coordinate their potentials.

## Search

## NEWS

- Landscape Observatories Networks: a present-day challenge. Ancona, 13 November 2015
- Main on-going activities
- Main projects realized



# THE LAS PALMAS DECLARATION OF THE UNIVERSITY RECTORS FOR LANDSCAPE HIGHER EDUCATION IN EUROPE

*Extraordinary General Assembly and first meeting of the Rectors of the Network on 23 November 2018, hosted at the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria*

*Las Palmas de Gran Canaria*



**UNI  
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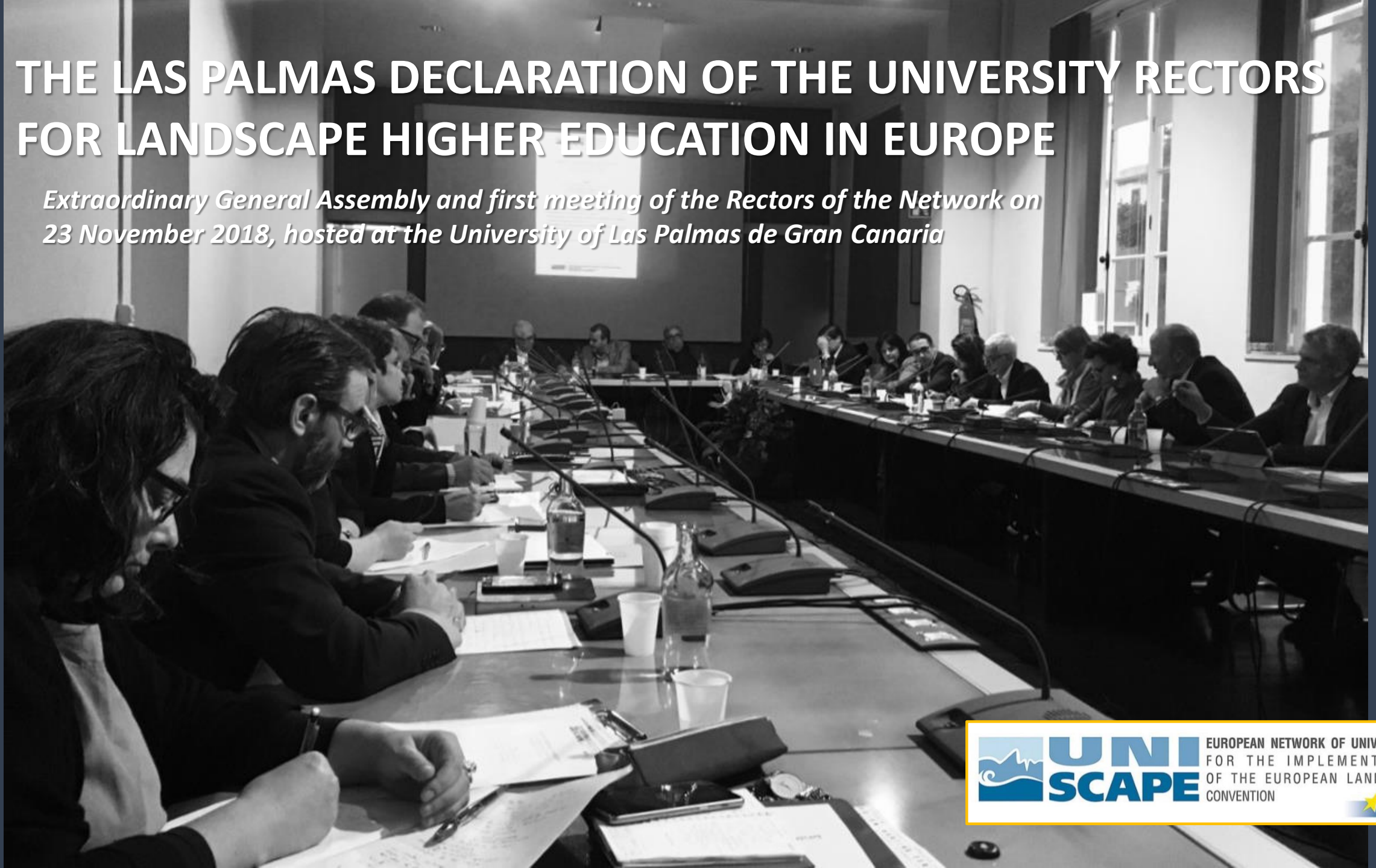
EUROPEAN NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES  
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE  
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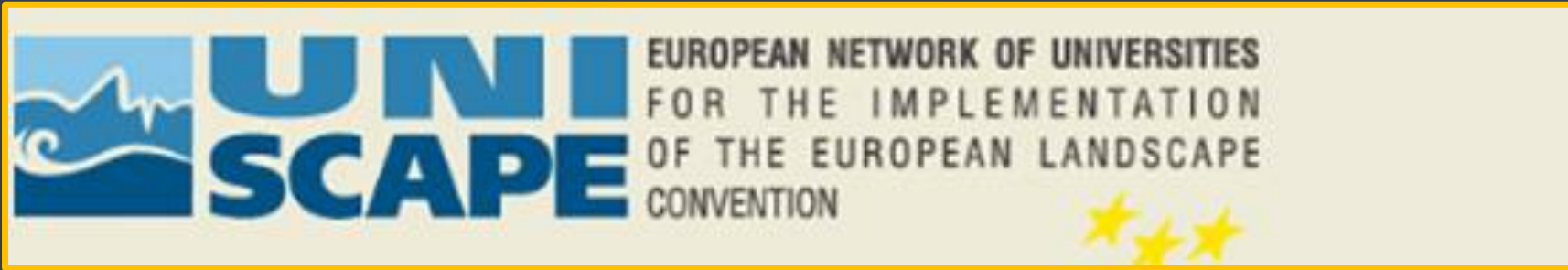


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***After 10 years since the beginning of the activities of the UNISCAPE Network in support of the principles of the European landscape Convention, the academic institutions at the higher level engaged themselves to start a process leading to the **presentation of a common declaration**, with the aim to encourage greater attention to the **societal importance of Landscape in Higher Education in Europe** and to emphasize their firm commitment to a coordinated trans-disciplinary approach to **Landscape research and education.*****



COUNCIL  
OF EUROPE      CONSEIL  
DE L'EUROPE

*European Treaty Series - No. 176*

# EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

*Florence, 20 October 2000*



## ARTICLE 6 – SPECIFIC MEASURES

### ***A - 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.*

### ***B - Training and education***

*Each Party undertakes to promote:*

*a) training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations;*

*b) multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors and for associations concerned;*

*c) 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.*

# BASIC PRINCIPLES AND REQUIREMENTS IN LANDSCAPE EDUCATION

*(from Landscape in Higher Education. A UNISCAPE proposal for CoE recommendation, 2015)*

*On this basis, we, the Rectors, Vice-Rectors and delegates intend to reiterate here three basic founding principles of Higher Education in Landscape proposed by UNISCAPE and based on the European Landscape Convention and reference documents:*

1. **TRANSDISCIPLINARITY**
2. **INTEGRATION** OF DEDUCTIVE AND NORMATIVE APPROACHES
3. **LANDSCAPE BASED COLLECTIVE**



*We also suggest that Landscape Education and Training respond to the following Requirements:*

- 1) A comprehension among the teaching staff of the challenges of teaching landscape in **an integrated way** is a first prerequisite of properly addressing the challenges of future;*
- 2) LANDSCAPE TEACHINGS should be based on proper **observation of the natural and cultural landscape features** in the field, and study of the perceived values. This should preferably be practiced in real life examples of concrete landscape interpretations and projects, including analysis, diagnosis, landscape quality objectives definition, vision development, design and management guidelines (ELC, Art. 6);*
- 3. LANDSCAPE EDUCATION implies putting forward a perceptive, sensorial and existential **reading and interpretation of landscape** along with **geographical, economical, ecological, morphological and historic-cultural landscape analysis**, and synthesising the results of these approaches into a suitably site-specific forward looking project to protect, transform or manage it, in an effective and sustainable way.*

4. LANDSCAPE TEACHINGS *in higher education should start from the premise that the **landscape is a basic element contributing to the sense of belonging**, to people's identity. The pursuit of this identity concept allows identification of the competences to use the cultural dimension of the landscape as a key element in the construction of a collective vision of landscape futures.*

5. LANDSCAPE EDUCATION AND TRAINING *should enhance the requirements of **sustainable development and ecological soundness**, integrating abiotic, biotic and cultural functions for the sake of biological and cultural diversity, in the natural, rural urban, periurban areas, in the land, inland water and marine areas, and along the coasts (ELC, Art.2).*

6. THE EDUCATION *in assessing **“intangible” landscape values historically sedimented** and recently perceived is crucial to define the identity of the landscape.*

7. LANDSCAPE EDUCATION *should pay due attention to the **notion of collective space**, and to the debate about landscape as a common good, accommodating both public and private ownership of the land. Methods and work forms should be promoted to create landscapes allowing a sense of “living together”.*

## WE, THEREFORE, AGREE TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTION:

1. **INTEGRATE** Landscape issues and the dimension of Landscape into each field and discipline of Higher Education in our Universities;
2. **ENCOURAGE** all Universities in our Countries to engage in Landscape Higher education and training;
3. **COLLABORATE** in fostering national awareness of Landscape topics in University networks and Councils of Rectors.