
CHARTER OF HISTORIC CULTURAL LANDSCAPES (CHCL) – PROPOSAL

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ABSTRACT: Observation and research of the dynamic processes taking place in the cultural landscape, threatening its historic values, as well as the conviction that the provisions of the European Landscape Convention must be fully implemented in the field of planning, management, as well as landscape policy, inspired the development of a proposal for a “Charter for Historic Cultural Landscapes” (CHCL). The principles outlined in the CHCL are aimed at counteracting the loss and adverse changes in Poland's historic cultural landscapes through their identification, valorization, diagnosis, including the identification of threats, and promotion of values. It was stated that it is not possible to protect cultural landscapes without taking into account their dynamic nature and variability over time. It was suggested that the protection of the values of historic cultural landscapes will be facilitated by their identification and the preservation of their representative features and distinguishing marks in management and planning processes. It also pointed out the need for interdisciplinary cooperation of representatives of all stakeholders in the formulation of conservation landscape policy. The purpose of the Charter is to recommend a balanced relationship between the economic, social, cultural and natural aspects of landscapes, in the processes of their protection, management and planning, taking into account all stakeholders, while ensuring a leading role for the conservation community in issues concerning the historic values of landscapes. The charter was created within the framework of the Conservation Theory Commission of Polish National Committee of ICOMOS.

KEY WORDS: historic cultural landscape, monument preservation, landscape values, doctrinal documents, landscape distinguishing mark

1. Introduction

The landscape, including the cultural landscape, is dynamic, subject to constant processes and changes, while at the same time the stories and ideas of past eras are recorded in it. This feature affects the transformation of its historic values, the pool of which is not fixed - it is variable over time, growing and evolving with each new generation. Any activity related to the cultural landscape requires an understanding of its dynamic nature, and in its formation a holistic approach and cooperation of a number of specialists and the participation of many stakeholders is necessary¹. The dynamics of the processes that threaten the historic values of cultural landscapes has recently been gaining momentum, and the existing forms of protection covering complexes, areas, landscapes are increasingly ineffective. At the same time, it should be said that the protection of cultural landscapes is a much more difficult and complicated task than the point protection of individual, unrelated historic buildings, for which context is important. "Just as a context devoid of a monument becomes a mere place, an object devoid of a context turns into an alienated exhibit"². In the case of an ensemble, or landscape more broadly, context plays an even greater role, being a record of bygone times, thoughts, ideas of its past creators, including residents. Historical view axes, silhouettes of villages, spatial arrangements with view openings, dominants or accents are often downplayed at the stage of planning and construction works, which leads to disharmony and chaos in the landscape³. In Poland, there is no requirement to perform multifaceted landscape analyses prior to the construction of new investments, taking into account spatial and cultural values, including visual ones, despite the fact that scientific circles have been pointing out such a necessity for years, conducting interdisciplinary research, developing diagnoses and proposals for changes in Polish law⁴. Currently, even if landscape analyses are included in mandatory environmental impact assessments, their subject matter is mainly natural values, such as species protection issues, and visual-spatial, historical and monumental aspects are ignored. Some types of landscapes today are particularly vulnerable to rapid and irreversible transformation. We can mention, among others, the post-industrial landscape, the manor landscape (Fig. 6, 7), the landscape of historic tracts⁵. This group also

¹ Raszeja E. et al. (2022). *Ochrona i kształtowanie krajobrazu kulturowego w zintegrowanym planowaniu rozwoju*, Poznań: Bogucki Wydawnictwo Naukowe (p. 85); Zachariasz A. (2022). Greenery design in areas under heritage conservation, on the example of selected Krakow sites. *Space & Form/Przestrzeń i Forma* (50) (pp. 289-314); Myga-Piątek U. (2012). *Krajobrazy kulturowe. Aspekty ewolucyjne i typologiczne*. Katowice: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Śląskiego (pp. 9-10).

² Bogdanowska M. (2024). System w działaniu. *Wiadomości z pierwszej linii frontu. Protection of Cultural Heritage* (19), (p. 90).

³ Sikora D., Kaczyńska M. (2022). The Cultural Ecosystem Services as an Element Supporting Manor Landscape Protection. *Sustainability* 14 (13), (pp. 1-33).

⁴ Forczek-Brataniec U. (2018). *Przestrzeń widziana. Analiza widokowa w planowaniu i projektowaniu krajobrazu*. Kraków: Wydawnictwo Politechniki Krakowskiej; Ozimek A. (2019). *Miara krajobrazu: obiektywizacja oceny widoków i panoram wspomagana narzędziami komputerowymi*. Kraków: Wydawnictwo Politechniki Krakowskiej.

⁵ Sikora D., Kaczyńska M. (2021). Landscape in transition: the case of the Royal Axis in Wilanów. *Journal of Urban Design* 26 (4), (p. 468).

includes historical urban and rural layouts. Given the significant increase in the level of urbanization, the issue of protection and proper management of the historic urban landscape seems particularly important here. A requirement to develop comprehensive landscape plans for historic cities could become a good practice, supporting the above activities. This type of good planning and design practice has been implemented in German cities, such as Berlin. The landscape plan there, aimed primarily at protecting and shaping the image of the city, includes both natural and cultural value analyses. Such an approach to the landscape makes possible holistic, strategic planning that takes into account all landscape conditions, including those arising from the historic character of the city⁶.

Our country also lacks a strategic, holistic approach to the protection and shaping of the rural landscape. Various attempts are being made, as is the case in Warmia and Masuria, where a number of projects aimed at identifying the specifics of the regional architecture and landscape of the area are being implemented⁷. Similar activities were undertaken in 2009-2015 in the Opole region, where there was an Advisory Team for the Preservation of Rural Cultural Heritage and Protection of Rural Landscape, functioning under the Opole voivode⁸. Yet another example of this type of activity was the attempt to realize a nationwide Network of the Most Interesting Villages⁹. It should be added that in various studies of villages, their landscape is often treated marginally. Only in 2022, in the biennial Reports on the State of the Countryside¹⁰, there was a chapter devoted to the landscape identity of the Polish countryside¹¹, but already in the next edition of the Report, which was a summary of 20 years of Poland's presence in the European Union, the topic of rural landscape was again omitted¹².

⁶ Kochel L. (2023). *Planowanie krajobrazu Berlina*. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe SCHOLAR.

⁷ The research is compacted in a series of publications “Nowe życie pod starymi dachami” (2003-2007) edited by Liżewska I. Also implemented since 2010 project of the National Heritage Institute called “Twój dom – dialog z tradycją”. *Architektura regionalna rzeczywistość czy iluzja?* (2022). Liżewska I. ed., Warszawa: Narodowy Instytut Dziedzictwa.

⁸ The team included, among others, representatives of the Opole branch of the National Heritage Institute [Narodowy Instytut Dziedzictwa], the Provincial Conservator of Monuments, scientists from the Wrocław University of Life Sciences, Wrocław University, Opole University of Technology, the State Higher Vocational School in Nysa, departments of the Marshal's Office and the Opole Village Museum and the Opole Silesia Museum. The result was an analysis of the village resource and an assessment of the resource and historical-landscape values of 108 selected villages, [in:] *Waloryzacja zabytkowego zasobu wsi województwa opolskiego cele, metody, praktyka* https://ksow.pl/files/Bazy/Biblioteka/files/OPOLSKIE-WALORYZACJA_WSI.pdf, access date: 2.06.2024.

⁹ The Polish initiative is inspired by the French network Le plus Beaux Village de France. The first call was made in 2013-2015. In: <http://siecnajciekawszychwsi.pl/12/2/o-sieci.html>, access date 2.06.2024.

¹⁰ The multi-author “Raporty o stanie wsi” is a series initiated and funded since 2000 by the Foundation for the Development of Polish Agriculture (FDPA).

¹¹ Raszeja E. (2022). Chapter 11. Tożsamość krajobrazowa i przestrzenna polskiej wsi - koncepcja i rzeczywistość, [in:] *Polska Wieś 2022. Raport o stanie wsi*. (Eds.) Wilkin J., Hałasiewicz A. (pp. 187-203): Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe SCHOLAR.

¹² *Polska Wieś 2024. Raport o stanie wsi. 20 lat w Unii Europejskiej*. (2024). (Eds.) Poczta W., Hałasiewicz A., Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe SCHOLAR.

Some hopes for preserving the cultural values of Polish landscapes were associated with landscape audits, which were introduced as mandatory procedures in 2015 with the so-called Landscape Act¹³. However, to date, they have been completed in only a few provinces and include priority landscapes, the selection of which was determined primarily by natural values, with the result that the recognition of cultural values of landscapes in the provinces is still not complete¹⁴.

It should also be noted that the transformation and development of cultural landscapes is now greatly influenced by economic and social aspects, and the related goals do not always coincide with the goals of protecting the historic values of landscapes. Sometimes they are even contradictory, and the protection of historic values does not fit into contemporary visions of transformation (Fig. 1, 2).



Fig. 1 Restored Oppersdorf palace in Wrocław overwhelmed by office complex, photo by I. Niedźwiecka-Filipiak, 2024

¹³ Ustawa z dnia 24 kwietnia 2015 r. o zmianie niektórych ustaw w związku ze wzmocnieniem narzędzi ochrony krajobrazu Dz. U. 2015 poz. 774 ze zm. [Law on Amending Certain Laws in Connection with Strengthening Landscape Protection Tools], introduced into the 2003 Law on Planning and Spatial Development the obligation to conduct a landscape audit every 20 years.

¹⁴ For example, this is evidenced by the experience of landscape audits in the Lower Silesian, Greater Poland and Kuyavian-Pomeranian provinces, familiar to the authors of this article.



Fig. 2 “Disneyland” in the village of Plawna Gorna, with the historical buildings of the village in the background, photo by I. Niedźwiecka-Filipiak, 2014

For many years the conservation community has had reservations about the effectiveness of the provisions of the law in force in Poland in the field of protection and care of monuments¹⁵. Similar reservations are signaled in other countries such as Spain¹⁶ and England¹⁷. As David Jacques notes, the protection of cultural landscape also appears rather late in doctrinal documents on the protection of world heritage. According to him, cultural landscape is not such a systematized and specified concept as, for example, “sacred architecture”, it combines many threads, hence it is so difficult to manage and protect¹⁸. In light of the above considerations, the question arises whether the role of conservation services in shaping and protecting the cultural landscape can be

¹⁵ Bogdanowska M., (2024). System... op. cit.; Szmygin B. (2020) System ochrony zabytków w Polsce – próba diagnozy [in:] *System ochrony zabytków w Polsce – analiza, diagnoza, propozycje*. (pp. 7-16): Warszawa, Lublin: Polski Komitet Narodowy ICOMOS, Biuro Stołecznego Konserwatora Zabytków Urzędu Miasta Stołecznego, Politechnika Lubelska.

¹⁶ Garcia-Esparza J. A. (2022). Urban Scene Protection and Unconventional Practices - Contemporary Landscapes in World Heritage Cities of Spain. *Land* (11), (p. 324), source: <https://doi.org/10.3390/land11030324>, access date: 5.06.2024.

¹⁷ Blandford C. (2023). 35 years of World Heritage in the UK – challenges and opportunities. *Protection of Cultural Heritage* 1(17), (pp. 1–16). <https://doi.org/10.35784/odk.5436> access date: 5.06.2024

¹⁸ Jacques D. (2023). Changing the game: the case of cultural landscapes. *Protection of Cultural Heritage* 1(17), (p. 97). <https://doi.org/10.35784/odk.5503>, access date: 5.06.2024

strengthened, and whether it is possible to determine today which contemporary elements of the cultural landscape will become monuments in the future, and which will disappear irretrievably, despite all efforts?

2. Doctrinal documents in the face of threats to historic cultural landscapes

Cultural landscapes are structures whose main shaping factor is culture, which gives them their characteristics. However, contemporary patterns of cultural behavior are the main source of landscape degradation of space. Degradation of such complex structures, shaped over generations, is hardly noticeable until the limit of their internal stability and authenticity is exceeded. The long-term impact of negative socio-economic phenomena on them, decisions hitting their smallest elements and units of the landscape, pose a serious threat to cultural landscapes. Today's massiveness and scale of new developments, together with the weakness of the spatial planning system, lead to a loss of their authenticity and ultimately to their degradation¹⁹. A degraded cultural landscape is the result of the disruption of spatial management processes, their interruption in a place where the legacy of generations should be taken over and continued in new conditions or shaped with elements that bind it to the works of modernity.

A proposal for the directions of action that should be taken to reduce these adverse phenomena is provided by modern conservation doctrine, based on a number of charters, conventions, declarations and other documents of international scope, relating to the subject of monuments and cultural heritage, including cultural landscapes (Fig. 3). Discussed below are those that particularly inspired the authors in creating the proposal for a Charter for Historic Cultural Landscapes.

Conservationist thought related to the protection of areas and the processes taking place in them has a long tradition, beginning with the Athens Charter (1931). This document recommended respecting the character and physiognomy (face) of the city when erecting new buildings in the vicinity of historic ones, as well as protecting certain perspectives by preserving them²⁰. Another milestone in the development of conservation doctrine was the Venice Charter (1962)²¹. In the context of this article, it should be considered particularly important that this document prescribes the preservation of the value of monuments and historic places for future generations, emphasizes the importance of the value of authenticity (Preamble), and, defining the concept of a monument, mentions, among other things, urban complexes, rural complexes and places

¹⁹ Woźniak Ł., Woźniak A. (2021). *Analiza wartości zabytkowych terenu Parku Kulturowego ulicy Piotrkowskiej w Łodzi. Opracowanie identyfikujące i waloryzujące elementy krajobrazu kulturowego*, unpublished material [in:] archives of the Architect of the City of Lodz.

²⁰ Karta Ateńska. Postanowienia konferencji w Atenach w 1931 r., III. Uwypuklenie wartości Zabytków [Athens Charter], [in:] *Vademecum Konserwatora Zabytków*, Międzynarodowe Normy Ochrony Dziedzictwa Kultury, (Ed.) Szmygin B. (2015). (pp. 27 - 30): Warszawa: Polski Komitet Narodowy ICOMOS.

²¹ Postanowienia i Uchwały II Międzynarodowego Kongresu Architektów i Techników Zabytków w Wenecji w 1964 r. so-called: Karta Wenecka 1964. [International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (The Venice Charter- 1964)].

significant for particular civilizations. When describing conservation processes, it notes the need to take into account the monument's surroundings (Art. 6, 7), as well as the monument's relationship with the “surrounding environment” (Art. 13).

A turning point for the protection of cultural landscapes came when the focus shifted from the concept of monument to cultural heritage, which contributed to the development of a number of new regulations and doctrines. The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972) became a fundamental document, introducing, among other things, the concept of cultural heritage itself²². The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, which are a development of the Convention, refer explicitly to the definition of cultural landscapes, (Article 1 of the Convention). They draw attention to the issue of the evolution of societies and forms of settlement over time, which is evident in cultural landscapes²³. A continuation of this type of approach is the Amsterdam Declaration (1975), introducing, among other things, the concept of integrated protection²⁴. It emphasized the need for multifaceted cooperation, both at the local, national and international levels. Taking into account society as a stakeholder in cultural heritage and the necessity of shaping patterns of its behavior in relation to cultural heritage and the landscape more broadly gained expression in the Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (2005) or the so-called Faro Convention²⁵, ratified by Poland in 2022²⁶.

Before the extension of the concept of monument i.e. to include cultural landscape, the seeds of landscape thinking had already appeared in some doctrinal documents. For example, the

²² *Konwencja w sprawie ochrony światowego dziedzictwa kulturalnego i naturalnego* (1972) (Dz. U. z 1976 r. nr 32 poz. 190), I. Definicja dziedzictwa kulturalnego i naturalnego, Art. 1. [The World Heritage Convention, formally the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage].

²³ *Wytyczne operacyjne do realizacji Konwencji Światowego Dziedzictwa* (2012) [*The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention*], II. A. 47. Definicje światowego dziedzictwa. Krajobrazy kulturowe. In: https://www.unesco.pl/fileadmin/user_upload/pdf/Konwencje__deklaracje_raporty/Wytyczne_Operacyjne_do_realizacji_Konwencji_Swiatowego_Dziedzictwa_UNESCO_-_2012_1_.pdf, access date: 18.08.2024.

²⁴ Deklaracja Amsterdamska, Kongres w Sprawie Europejskiego Dziedzictwa Architektonicznego (1975) [The Declaration of Amsterdam - Congress on the European Architectural Heritage], [in:] *Vademecum Konserwatora Zabytków*, Międzynarodowe Normy Ochrony Dziedzictwa Kultury, (2015). (Ed.) Szmygin B, Warszawa: Polski Komitet Narodowy ICOMOS.

²⁵ Woźniak Ł. (2018). Znaczenie architektonicznego i urbanistycznego dziedzictwa dla społeczeństwa [in:] *Samorząd terytorialny, architektura, dzieła sztuki, prawo*. (Eds.) Dobosz P., Górny W., Mazur A., Mazurek B., Kozień A. (pp. 279 – 299): Kraków: Studio Cubus.

²⁶ Ustawa z dnia 12 maja 2022 r. o ratyfikacji Konwencji ramowej Rady Europy o wartości dziedzictwa kulturowego dla społeczeństwa, sporządzonej w Faro dnia 27 października 2005 r., (Dz. U. 2022 poz. 1288) [Law on ratification of the Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro Convention, 2005)].

Florence Charter²⁷, signed in 1981 and dedicated to historic greenery, mandated its protection in conjunction with the surrounding landscape (Art. 7) and defined the concept of a historic place (area) as a landscape with exceptional historical values (Art. 9). In turn, the need to protect urban areas was discussed in the so-called Washington Charter (1987). The postulates contained therein are part of the ongoing process of searching for solutions to protect urban assumptions, in the situation of diagnosing their massive destruction and uncontrolled transformation. An important message of this document was to indicate that the protection of cities and historic districts should be an integral part of the overall development policy at every level of spatial planning²⁸. Attention was also paid to the interdependence between the historic district or city and the surrounding natural and cultural environment²⁹, which is the basis of the landscape approach.

Due to the expanding scope of the concept of cultural heritage, contemporary conservation guidelines are subject to increasing specialization. Individual conservation circles are preparing doctrinal texts within the scope of their competence, a process in which methods of operation are adapted to the specifics of heritage groups³⁰. An example is the Charter for the Preservation of Fortifications³¹. Awareness of the prosperity resulting from the protection, planning and management of cultural landscapes has been recognized in Europe, in the context of diagnosed negative landscape changes and their adverse impact on societies and economies. Identity consciousness represents a common understanding of the value of the common good. The cultural landscape can be a source of prosperity for a community society that is able to prohibit the appropriation of landscape values by the most powerful actors in the market, in favor of the value of the common good.

The 1980s and 1990s saw an increase in interest and understanding of cultural landscapes in heritage discourse, no longer treated simply as a cultural product, but as a cultural process. A number of discussions resulted in successive doctrinal documents, and the definition of the

²⁷ Karta Florencka, Międzynarodowa Karta Ogródów, (1981) [The Florence Charter] [in:] *Vademecum Konserwatora Zabytków*, Międzynarodowe Normy Ochrony Dziedzictwa Kultury (2015). (Ed.) Szmygin B. (p. 81): Warszawa: Polski Komitet Narodowy ICOMOS.

²⁸ *Międzynarodowa Karta Ochrony Miast Historycznych*, Waszyngton 1987, so-called: *Karta Waszyngtońska*, [Charter for the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (Washington Charter 1987)]. Zasady i cele. Pkt. 1. <https://www.icomos-poland.org/pl/dokumenty-doktrynalne.html>, access date: 2024.08.24.

²⁹ *Ibidem*: Zasady i cele. Paragraf 2.

³⁰ Szmygin B. (2023). *Międzynarodowe teksty doktrynalne ochrony i konserwacji zabytków*, Lublin-Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Politechniki Lubelskiej, Polski Komitet Naukowy Międzynarodowej Rady Ochrony Zabytków ICOMOS Polska, (p. 14).

³¹ *Karta Ochrony Fortyfikacji* (2021) [Fortification Protection Charter], <https://www.icomos-poland.org/pl/struktura-organizacyjna/komisja-architektury-militarnej/359-karta-ochrony-fortyfikacji-18-maja-2021-r.html>, access date: 25.08. 2024. It is supplemented by the study of: Molski P., Głuszek C., Klupsz L., Narębski, L., Pałubska K., Środulska-Wielgus J., Wielgus K. (2021). *Dzieła budownictwa obronnego – wytyczne*, <https://nid.pl/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Dzieła-budownictwa-obronnego-wytyczne.pdf>, access data: 25.08. 2024.

identity of societies began to be linked to the cultural processes taking place in landscapes³². Under these circumstances, the first document devoted entirely to landscapes - the European Landscape Convention (ELC) - was created in 2000. It set as its goal the achievement of certain standards of landscape quality, among other things, through the introduction of issues of landscape protection and shaping into spatial and strategic planning³³. The document was ratified by Poland in 2004, and its provisions became effective in 2005. However, legislative changes were only initiated by the so-called Landscape Act³⁴, which was designed to strengthen landscape protection tools by introducing into Polish law (to the Law on Planning and Spatial Development) the definition of the term landscape and indicated the obligation to draw up landscape audits within the provinces, aimed at designating priority landscapes and establishing guidelines for their protection in the regional and local spatial planning system. Unfortunately, to date, other tools for the protection of cultural landscapes derived from the ELC and implemented concepts such as “landscape planning” and “landscape management”, as well as “landscape policy” have not been introduced into Polish law. Only their implementation, and the consequent clarification of the related scopes of activities and tasks, as well as the rights and obligations for the stakeholders in these processes (including the conservation community), will create the possibility of ensuring real protection of the landscape, including its historic values. Without the creation of general requirements for protection, there is no possibility of introducing, much needed, detailed solutions at the investment level. The state of degradation and, in particular, fragmentation of Polish cultural landscapes, the lack of actual protection of the surroundings of monuments, including the possibility of shaping their protective zones, make it clear what a huge threat is posed by socio-economic investments, implemented in a free market process that does not take into account the need and necessity of protection, management and planning of the common good, which are also historic cultural landscapes.

In Poland, an important voice on landscape protection is the Krakow Charter (2000), indicating, among other things, the need to protect landscape heritage. It contains, among other things, a fundamental finding for understanding the basis of protection of area monuments: “landscapes are

³² Taylor K., Lennon J. (2012). *Managing Cultural Landscapes*. London, New York: Routledge. Francis and Taylor Group.

³³ Jaranowska (Woźniak) A., Woźniak Ł. (2014). Ochrona i kształtowanie układów urbanistycznych i ruralistycznych w terenach nadrzecznych, położonych w Obszarach Chronionego Krajobrazu, na przykładzie wsi Spicymierz w gminie Uniejów, województwo łódzkie, [in:] *Współczesne uwarunkowania gospodarowania przestrzenią – szanse i zagrożenia dla zrównoważonego rozwoju*, Gospodarka Przestrzenna, seria Monografii Naukowych, Vol. III. (Ed.) Maciejewska A. (p. 247): Warszawa: Oficyna Wydawnicza Politechniki Warszawskiej.

³⁴ Ustawa z dnia 24 kwietnia 2015 r. o zmianie ... op. cit. [Law on Amending Certain Laws in Connection with Strengthening Landscape Protection Tools].

testimony to the evolutionary relationship of the individual and society with the environment³⁵.

The discourse presented concludes with the UNESCO Recommendations on Historic Urban Landscapes (HUL, 2011), charting a new approach to area monuments. The document proposes the use of a so-called landscape approach, aimed at properly identifying, protecting and managing historic areas within the broader context of the city. It also addresses the issue of interdependence between material forms, spatial organization, natural features and the broader landscape context, as well as social, cultural and economic values, which, according to the document's authors, makes up the landscape approach to historic areas³⁶.

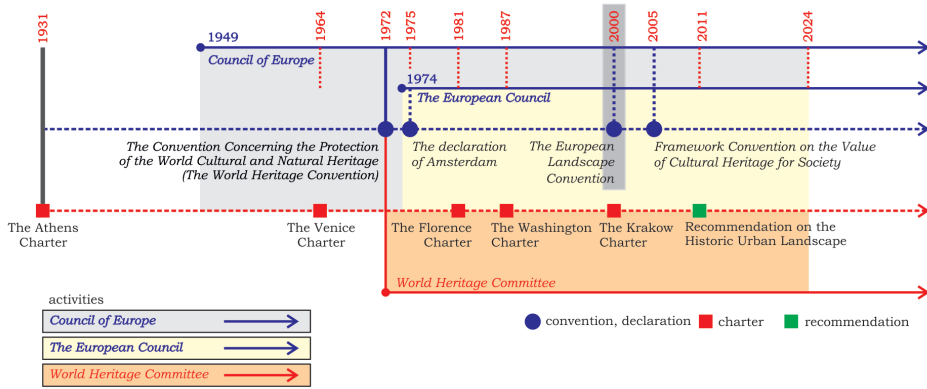


Fig. 3 Key conventions, declarations and charters with content on cultural landscapes - timeline diagram, compiled by A. Wozniak, L. Wozniak, 2024

From the doctrinal documents analyzed, it is clear that the contemporary shaping of the cultural landscape is increasingly seen as a process that includes its protection, management and planning, with measures for its regeneration and restoration of identity (Fig. 3). The ability to set and implement goals to achieve the assumed quality of the landscape is becoming a key issue³⁷. In these processes, the role of the monument protection service is also changing, as the protection of area monuments cannot be implemented in isolation from other sectoral policies. It must be an integral part of them and together with them affect the quality of the surrounding landscape.

³⁵ Karta Krakowska. *Principia konserwacji i restauracji dziedzictwa architektoniczno-urbanistycznego*, Różne rodzaje dziedzictwa architektoniczno-urbanistycznego, [The Krakow Charter. Principles of Conservation and Restoration of Architectural and Urban Heritage, Different Types of Architectural and Urban Heritage] pt. 9. *Krajobrazy* [in:] *Międzynarodowe teksty doktrynalne ochrony i konserwacji zabytków* (2023). (Ed.) Szmygin B. (p. 176): Lublin - Warszawa: Wyd. Politechniki Lubelskiej, PKN Międzynarodowej Rady Ochrony Zabytków ICOMOS Polska.

³⁶ *Zalecenia UNESCO w sprawie historycznego Krajobrazu Miejskiego* (2011). [*Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape*] pt. 5, https://www.unesco.pl/fileadmin/user_upload/pdf/Rekomendacje/Zalecenie_w_sprawie_krajobrazu_miejskiego.pdf, access date: 2024.08.24.

³⁷ *Europejska Konwencja Krajobrazowa* (2000) [*The European Landscape Convention*], Art.1. pkt. c (Dz. U. z 2006 r. nr 14 poz. 98).

3. Landscape distinguishing mark

A cultural landscape consists of many elements that testify to its characteristics and identity. Those elements that identify it, serve to define resources and distinguish it from other landscapes are landscape distinguishing mark³⁸. Monuments are part of the material distinguishing marks of the landscape, understood as carriers of characteristic features, typical of the particular landscape, or unique, individual features (Fig. 4)³⁹. For example, a landscape distinguishing mark may be a half-timbered building, and its representatives⁴⁰ can be found in individual localities. A unique one may, for example, be a palace, associated uniquely with the place where it is located.

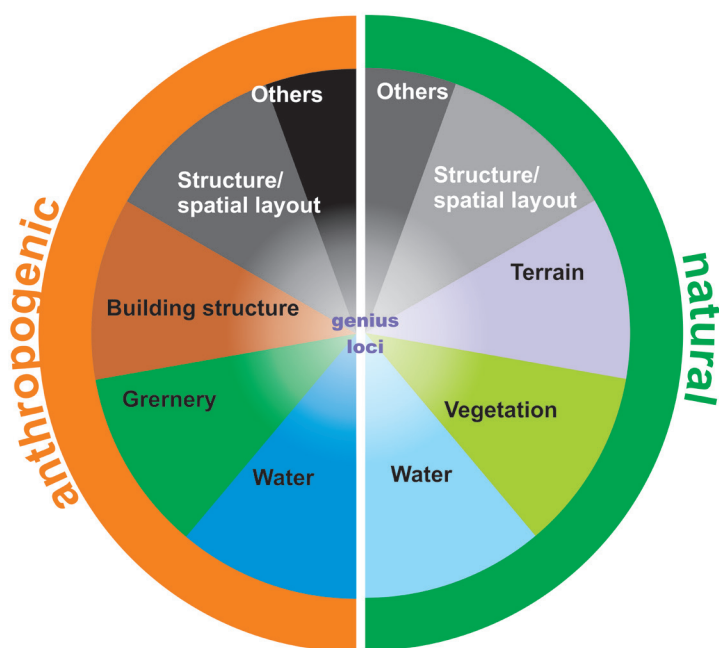


Fig. 4 Diagram of the types of material distinguishing marks that are products of nature or man, source: Niedźwiecka-Filipiak et al, 2019

³⁸ Niedźwiecka-Filipiak I. (2009). *Wyróżniki krajobrazu Polski południowo-zachodniej*. Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Przyrodniczego we Wrocławiu. (p. 52).

³⁹ Material distinguishing marks of the landscape - a set of material elements of the landscape, which have characteristics of a specific landscape unit or which are based on dissimilarity and/or contrast also in terms of uniqueness, [in:] Niedźwiecka-Filipiak I., Ozimek P., Akincza M., Kochel L., Krug D., Sobota M., Tokarczyk-Dorociak K. (2019). *Rekomendacje w zakresie prowadzenia analiz krajobrazowych na potrzeby wyznaczania stref ochrony krajobrazu*. Warszawa: Generalna Dyrekcja Ochrony Środowiska.

⁴⁰ Representative of the distinguishing mark of the landscape - a recurring landscape element that has all the characteristics of the specified distinguishing mark of the landscape. The representative of the distinguishing mark appears at this point, when the distinguishing mark specified by the experts is a characteristic element of the landscape. Niedźwiecka-Filipiak et al., (2019). *Ibidem*.

The diagram (Fig. 5) illustrates the variability of distinguishing marks of the cultural landscape, which is the result of changes in their rank. Some of the historical objects or assumptions are being modified, and new objects with new features are appearing, which, with the passage of time, become distinguishing marks and carriers of characteristic or unique features. This scheme was created during the analysis of the landscape and traditional architecture of Lower Silesia, in connection with the landscape audit conducted there. In the course of the work, the authors of the audit⁴¹ found that many of the objects described in the literature do not exist, while others, previously overlooked, are now worthy of protection because of their values, which had previously gone unnoticed.

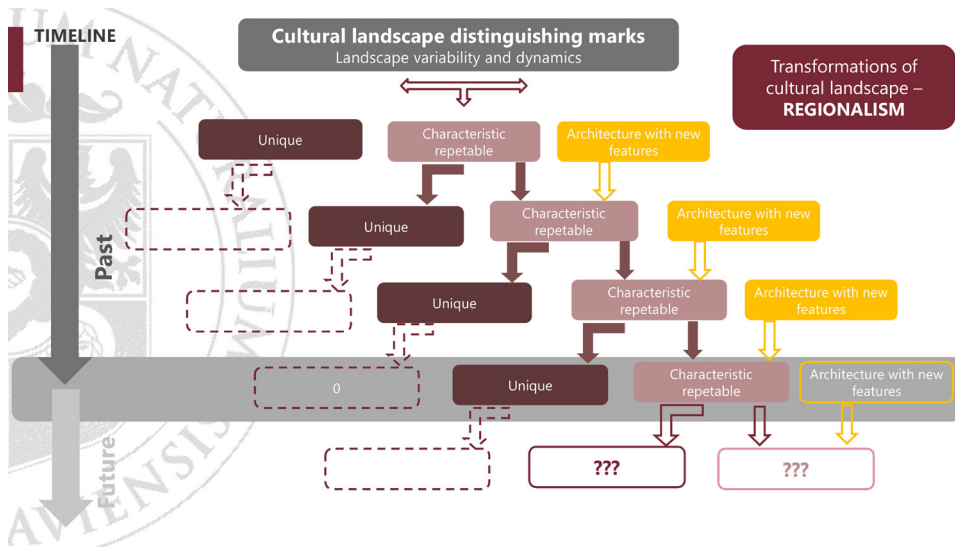


Fig. 5 Variability of cultural landscape distinguishing marks over time, source: Niedźwiecka-Filipiak, 2024

These transformations are accompanied by a change in the set of distinguishing mark as carriers of regional architecture characteristics. For example, the pool of distinguishing marks can now include buildings representing the urban architecture of the 1970s.

⁴¹ The audit for the Lower Silesian province was developed by the Institute for Territorial Development (IRT). A consortium of two universities, the University of Life Sciences in Wrocław (UPWr) as Leader and the Cracow University of Technology (PK) as Partner, performed the “Opracowanie analiz krajobrazowych na obszarze województwa dolnośląskiego” commissioned by the IRT in 2023, which is part of the development of this audit. The manager of the entire task, and the part performed by UPWR, was I. Niedźwiecka-Filipiak, the manager of the part performed by PK was P. Ozimek.

4. The idea of the Charter of Historic Cultural Landscapes (CHCL)⁴²

In response to the dynamic processes taking place in the cultural landscape, which can threaten its historic values, including the obliteration or complete destruction of its distinguishing marks, the idea of the Charter for Historic Cultural Landscapes (CHCL) was created. A proposal for its provisions was presented on June 14, 2024 at the ICOMOS conference “Theoretical Foundations of Historic Preservation - 60 Years of the Venice Charter.” Subsequently, the Charter, in its current form, was made public on the ICOMOS Poland⁴³ website and discussed in the conservation community. The postulates contained therein are aimed at preventing losses and adverse changes in historic cultural landscapes. Thus, the authors indicate those areas where, in their opinion, work should be urgently undertaken to strengthen the protection of the value of historic cultural landscapes by preserving, revealing and exposing their historically developed representative features, elements and distinguishing marks. This is to be served, among other things, by their identification, valorization, diagnosis, including the identification of threats and promotion of values. The Charter also aims to recommend balanced relations between the economic, social, cultural and natural aspects of landscapes, in the processes of their protection, management and planning⁴⁴, taking into account all stakeholders, while ensuring a leading role for conservation circles in issues concerning the historic values of landscapes.

The Charter concerns Polish cultural landscapes with historically shaped features and the artistic, historical and scientific values attributed to them today, i.e. cultural landscapes in need of protection and conservation care. Therefore, for the purposes of CHCL, it was proposed to introduce the term: “historic cultural landscape”, which is the subject of the formulated postulates:

A historic cultural landscape is a space perceived by people, containing natural elements and products of civilization, historically formed as a result of natural factors and human activity, which is a testimony of a bygone era or event, the preservation of which is in the public interest due to its historic values (the Charter authors' own definition).

⁴² The idea of the Charter as a doctrinal document for cultural landscapes was proposed at the meeting of the CONSERVATION THEORY COMMISSION of PKN ICOMOS in May 2021. A team was appointed to work on the preliminary assumptions of this document: I. Niedźwiecka-Filipiak, D. Sikora, Ł. Wozniak, then A. Wozniak joined the team. Many hours of discussions, as well as constructive disputes resolving doubts resulted in successive versions of the text.

⁴³ <https://www.icomos-poland.org/pl/struktura-organizacyjna/komisja-teorii-konserwatorskiej/500-konsultacje-karta-zabytkowych-krajobrazow-kulturowych.html>, access date: 2024.08.10.

⁴⁴ Terms taken from the European Landscape Convention, op. cit.

This concept fits into the existing definitions of landscape⁴⁵, cultural landscape⁴⁶ and monument⁴⁷, clarifying the area of application of this Charter⁴⁸. At the same time, it should be emphasized that the limitation of unfavorable transformations of historic cultural landscapes, involves the need to normalize the management and planning activities undertaken in them. Thus, the provisions of the CHCL can ultimately support the creation of a national landscape policy that takes into account the historic values of the cultural landscape. Therefore, the authors postulate that, referring to the provisions of the European Landscape Convention, including the concepts introduced by it such as “landscape planning” and “landscape management”, as well as “landscape policy”, the concept of “conservation landscape policy” should be introduced, a proposed definition of which is provided below:

Conservation landscape policy - is the formulation and implementation by the relevant public authorities of principles, strategies and guidelines that will enable stakeholders of the historic cultural landscape to undertake actions aimed at its protection, management and planning, with respect for historic values (the Charter authors' own definition).

5. Diagnosis

The starting point for the formulation of the principles and courses of action contained in the Charter was the preliminary identification of conditions that specifically affect the current state of historic cultural landscapes. Due to the limited volume of the article, they are discussed briefly, based on our own experience, selected literature on the subject, normative acts and comments that were collected after the preliminary version of the Charter was made public. However, it should be clearly emphasized at this point that this topic requires further, very extensive, in-depth, interdisciplinary research⁴⁹. It should also be noted that at the moment there is no entity

⁴⁵ *Landscape* - space perceived by people, containing natural elements or products of civilization, formed as a result of natural factors or human activity, Art. 2, pkt 16e ustawy z dnia 27 marca 2003 r. o planowaniu i zagospodarowaniu przestrzennym (Dz. U. z 2024 r. poz. 1130.).

⁴⁶ *Cultural landscape* - a space perceived by people, containing natural elements and products of civilization, historically formed as a result of natural factors and human activity, Art. 3, pkt 14 ustawy z dnia 23 lipca 2023 r. o ochronie zabytków i opiece nad zabytkami (Dz. U. 2023 Nr 162 poz. 1568 ze zm.) [Law on Protection and Care of Monuments].

⁴⁷ *Monument* - an immovable or movable property, a part or complex thereof, being a work of man or related to his activities and constituting a testimony of a bygone era or event, the preservation of which is in the public interest due to its historical, artistic or scientific value, Art. 3, pkt. 1 ustawy z dnia 23 lipca 2023 r. o ochronie zabytków i opiece nad zabytkami (Dz. U. 2023 Nr 162 poz. 1568 ze zm.) [Law on Protection and Care of Monuments].

⁴⁸ The term “historic cultural landscape” also refers to the name of the Center for the Historic Landscape Protection - an institution that in the past significantly contributed to the development of the idea of protecting the cultural values of landscapes, as well as to the name of the 1995 - 1998 program “Protection and conservation of the historic cultural landscape of Poland”.

⁴⁹ Research on the cultural landscape and its historic values is carried out independently in many institutions and scientific centers, but it is not centrally coordinated, and there is no uniform methodology and approach, making it difficult to merge or compare results.

on behalf of the state to conduct a coherent conservation landscape policy at the national level⁵⁰. Attention is also drawn to the fact that there is no current identification of the stock of historic cultural landscapes on a national scale, despite the fact that there have been attempts to do so in the past, the largest scope of which was the program “Protection and conservation of the historic cultural landscape of Poland” implemented in 1995 -1998⁵¹. However, none of the programs has ever succeeded in obtaining complete data for the entire country. A landscape audit is currently underway, but, as noted in the introduction, it too is unlikely to yield complete information on Poland's historic cultural landscapes and their threats. Comments submitted to the article's authors from various parts of the country⁵² show that in many cases the current audit methodology contributes to the fact that landscapes distinguished by their primarily natural values are considered a priority, while their cultural values are often treated marginally, and thus many valuable historic cultural landscapes may be thus overlooked.

Historic cultural landscapes are also not uniformly documented, and sometimes not documented at all. The basic form of their documentation are the record cards of architectural and construction monuments (the so-called White Cards and Green Cards) and the record cards of the immovable monument not listed in the register of monuments⁵³. For some landscapes, especially for historic towns and villages, historical-urban/rural studies or other documentation of an analytical nature are performed. Much of this documentation needs to be updated: the oldest White Cards and Green Cards for historic urban and rural complexes date back to the 1950s⁵⁴. This documentation often does not cover many culturally valuable areas, extending far beyond the boundaries of areas covered by buildings. Examples include multi-mile-long scenic axes (Fig. 10) and foregrounds (Fig. 8, 9, 11), characteristic landforms or reservoirs and watercourses, which are rarely included in such documentation, and which have significantly influenced the shape of the local settlement network.

There is also a lack of a systemic diagnosis of threats to Poland's historic cultural landscapes, which are gaining momentum in these days of intense urbanization and climate change (Fig. 6, 7). Provisions for the protection of cultural values of landscapes are also imperfect and scattered

⁵⁰ The establishment of such a task force or institution has been advocated by, among others: Myczkowski Z., Marcinek R., Siwek A. (2017). *Park kulturowy jako forma ochrony krajobrazu kulturowego (historycznego)*. Kraków: OT NID, (p. 61), <https://samorzad.nid.pl/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/park-kulturowy-jako-forma-ochrony-krajobrazu-kulturowego.pdf>, access date: 10.08.2024.

⁵¹ The program “Ochrona i konserwacja zabytkowego krajobrazu kulturowego Polski” was implemented under the leadership of Professor Janusz Bogdanowski, and coordinated by the Center for the Protection of the Historic Landscape, [in:] Myczkowski Z., Marcinek R. (2003). Prof. Janusz Bogdanowski, Ph.D., professor of engineering. *Conservation News* 13/2003, (p. 103).

⁵² Information obtained from the discussion of the proposed Charter of Historic Cultural Landscapes, made public on the ICOMOS Poland website, as well as from the article authors' own experience.

⁵³ The principles of monument registration in Poland are discussed in: Ewidencja zabytków, source: <https://nid.pl/dzialalnosc/gromadzenie-dokumentacji-rejestru-i-ewidencji/ewidencja-zabytkow/>, access date: 10. 08. 2024.

⁵⁴ According to the database of the National Heritage Institute. For example, the record card for the village of Kamieniec dates from 1950, and for the town of Koło from 1951.

in several legal acts. The vast majority of them are contained in the Law of April 16, 2004 on Nature Protection⁵⁵. It is here that the definitions of such terms as landscape protection, scenic axis, vantage point, foreground of exposure, which are key to landscape protection, are found. It is also the entity responsible for the protection of nature, not monuments - the General Directorate of Environmental Protection [Generalna Dyrekcja Ochrony Środowiska], which is responsible for implementing the provisions of the European Landscape Convention in Poland⁵⁶. In this situation, it is not surprising that while the natural values of landscapes are well recognized, the recognition and level of protection of their cultural values is sometimes mediocre. In many situations, the protection of cultural landscapes on the basis of the forms of protection provided by the Law on the Protection and Care of Monuments [Ustawa z dnia 23. 07. 2003 o ochronie zabytków i opiece nad zabytkami] is also problematic⁵⁷ (entry in the register of monuments: urban, rural and other area monuments, entry in the register of monuments of the surroundings of the monument, recognition as a monument of history, the creation of a cultural park, the establishment of protection requirements in the local spatial development plan or in the location decision). A cultural park was to become a tool specifically dedicated to the protection of cultural landscapes with historic features. However, as Z. Myczkowski, R. Marcinek and A. Siwek note, “Despite the benefits of creating a cultural park, few local governments have so far decided to take this step. Often the establishment of a cultural park is met with resistance from the local community, which is confirmed by the consultations conducted, which are mandatory in light of the amended law”⁵⁸.

New circumstances for heritage protection, including the protection of historic cultural landscapes, are created by the increasing participation of the public in decision-making about cultural heritage, including cultural landscapes. As B. Szmygin notes, “Heritage protection is in a period of transformation, which involves, among other things, increasing the influence of stakeholders on the protection, management and use of heritage”⁵⁹. The author also notes that “In recent years there has been increasing pressure from stakeholders - who are not qualified in heritage protection”⁶⁰. In this context, it seems particularly important in society to have a balanced approach to the landscape, taking into account the message of the Venice Charter, mandating the preservation and transmission of cultural heritage to future generations in all its authenticity⁶¹. However, the development of such an approach, combining rights and obligations to the historic cultural landscape, treating “future generations” as peculiar stakeholders of the landscape, will

⁵⁵ Ustawa z dnia 16 kwietnia 2004 r. o ochronie przyrody, (Dz. U. 2004 Nr 92 poz. 880 ze zm.).

⁵⁶ Generalna Dyrekcja Ochrony Środowiska, *Europejska Konwencja Krajobrazowa [The European Landscape Convention]*, <https://www.gov.pl/web/gdos/europejska-konwencja-krajobrazowa>, access date: 10. 08. 2024.

⁵⁷ Ustawa z dnia 23 lipca 2003 r. o ochronie zabytków... op. cit. [Law on Protection and Care of Monuments].

⁵⁸ Myczkowski Z., Marcinek R., Siwek A., (2017). Park kulturowy... op. cit., (p. 36).

⁵⁹ Szmygin B., (2020). Ewolucja założeń ochrony zabytków - przykład miast Światowego Dziedzictwa UNESCO. *Ochrona Dziedzictwa Kulturowego* (9), (p. 129).

⁶⁰ *Ibidem*, (p. 130).

⁶¹ *Karta Wenecka* (1964). op. cit., preamble. [*The Venice Charter*- 1964]

not be possible without the intensification of educational and promotional activities in the field of historic cultural landscapes and their values, as well as the creation of a system of financial support and incentives for stakeholders of historic cultural landscapes. The new realities mean that “Further programmatic isolation of preservation is not appropriate or possible (...). It is necessary to create a coherent concept of historic area management that takes into account the three needs: protection, use and transformation”⁶². This postulate, formulated by B. Szmygin in connection with the new challenges in the management of historic cities, fits perfectly with the recommendations of the European Landscape Convention, which considers its protection, management and planning as the essential actions towards the landscape. Preservation of cultural values of landscapes in these processes will not be possible without the active participation of representatives of conservation services.



Fig. 6 Degraded farm landscape in Sztynort, photo by D. Sikora, 2016

62 Szmygin B. (2020). op. cit., (p. 136).



Fig. 7 Modern residential development on the site of the southern part of the Wilanow farm, photo by D. Sikora, 2021



Fig. 8 Dominant, aggressive in form buildings in the immediate vicinity of the historic part of the Solec - Zdrój, photo by D. Sikora, 2018



Fig. 9 Viewing foreground of The Royal Castle in Chęciny, source: Google Maps, accessed 10.04. 2024



Fig. 10 Modern development of the historic Royal Axis in Wilanow, source: Google Maps, accessed 25.08.2024



Fig. 11 Chimneys of the Siekierki thermal power plant in close proximity to the palace and garden complex in Wilanów, photo by D. Sikora, 2021

6. Proposed rules and approaches

With reference to the condition of historic cultural landscapes and their threats sketched above, the following corrective measures are proposed in the Charter for Historic Cultural Landscapes:

A. Identification and diagnosis

1. It is necessary to carry out an identification of the resource of historic cultural landscapes on a national scale, according to the criterion adopted: their possession of historic values. This resource will be formed both by landscapes of local, regional and national significance, representing a wealth of forms, materials, uses, traditions and relationships with the natural environment, constituting a tangible and intangible legacy of the past. It is therefore necessary at the national level to develop and implement a methodology for the identification, valorization and delimitation of historic cultural landscapes, as well as to develop principles for their typology and classification.

2. Documentation of historic cultural landscapes and monitoring of changes in them is the basis for future decision-making processes in their protection, management and planning. It is necessary to develop consistent principles for these activities, taking into account the diversity of landscapes and their transformations over time, as well as the contemporary directions and dynamics of these transformations. It is also recommended to develop a system for collecting information on historic cultural landscapes on a local, regional and national scale. The necessity

of establishing a national conservation register of historic landscapes is also indicated by other researchers⁶³.

3. It is necessary to identify threats to individual types of historic landscapes, including the identification of conflict areas, as well as to identify the types of landscapes particularly vulnerable today to adverse and dynamic transformations. This activity will make it possible to prioritize landscapes in terms of the need to take measures to prevent their further degradation as soon as possible.

4. Recognizing members of the local community as holders of knowledge about historic cultural landscapes will promote their better identification, strengthen local identity and share responsibility for their quality. Methods should be developed for local communities to participate in the collection of data on historic cultural landscapes.

B. Security

1. It is necessary to develop a coherent conservation policy at the national level for the protection of historic cultural landscapes, taking into account the improvement of the effectiveness of existing tools for their protection, expanding them with new methods of protection, adequate to modern threats to this part of cultural heritage.

2. The effective protection of historic cultural landscapes will be facilitated by the consolidation in a single legal act of the provisions concerning them - for example, in the Law on the Protection and Care of Historic Monuments or in a separate legal act dedicated exclusively to cultural landscapes.

3. Protection of the values of historic cultural landscapes will be promoted by their identification and preservation of their representative features and distinguishing marks in management and planning processes.

4. The recommended mandatory identification of representative features and distinguishing marks of historic cultural landscapes should provide the rationale for changes in the system of protection and care of monuments. Representative features and distinguishing marks are the basis for identifying and valorizing landscapes, including historic landscapes, and defining the goals of protection.

5. More effective protection of historic cultural landscapes will be fostered by strengthening public awareness of their value and creating a system of “economic incentives” for their owners and managers, so that the ownership and management of a monument (historic cultural landscape and its components) becomes a privilege, not a nuisance.

⁶³ "It is proposed to combine the results of the landscape audit with the establishment of a conservation inventory of historic landscapes (especially valuable ones). The inventory can be in the form of preliminary analytical documentation to enable the establishment of a cultural park", [in:] Myczkowski Z., Marcinek R., Siwek A., (2017). *Park kulturowy*...op. cit.

C. Sustainable management and planning

1. It is necessary to develop and implement a long-term conservation policy for the management and planning of historic cultural landscapes. The role of conservationists should be not only to protect historic cultural landscapes in their tangible and intangible dimensions, but also to participate in the processes of their management and planning. This is of great importance today for shaping the human living environment in the context, sustainable development, climate change and strengthening community values.

2. Planning and management of cultural landscapes are concepts introduced by the European Landscape Convention ratified by Poland. It is necessary to implement them into Polish law, and thus to define the scope of related activities, as well as the scope of tasks, rights and responsibilities for stakeholders who participate in these processes.

3. It is recommended that strategies and management plans be drawn up for historic cultural landscapes, clarifying visions for their current and future functioning in the context of protecting their cultural values. Appropriate procedures and funding related to the implementation of these strategies and plans should also be implemented. The activities of the various stakeholders of historic cultural landscapes should maintain compatibility with the assumptions of the above strategic documents.

4. Forecasting is an essential stage in the protection, management and planning of historic landscapes. Therefore, it is necessary to expand the “strategic environmental assessment” procedure to include an assessment of the impact on the historic cultural landscape, and to ensure the mandatory participation of conservation services in it⁶⁴. To be able to forecast and assess the impact on the historic cultural landscape, it must first be identified, valorized and diagnosed.

D. Promotion and education

1. Content on the historic cultural landscape should be introduced into the core curriculum at all levels of schooling, taking into account the characteristics and landscape distinguishing marks identified by the local community, including school children.

2. Research programs should be established to encourage the scientific community to expand its knowledge of the historic cultural landscape, its physical characteristics, the manifestations of tangible and intangible heritage present in it, its historical and contemporary transformations, its historical and contemporary perceptions, past and present spatial, cultural, natural, social, economic and functional connections between its basic elements: natural and man-made, tangible and intangible, between its stakeholders.

⁶⁴ The study can be used as reference material here: Court S., Jo E., Mackay R., Murai M., Therivel R. (2023). *Wytuczne i zestaw narzędzi do ocen oddziaływania w kontekście światowego dziedzictwa*. Warszawa: UNESCO, ICOMOS, ICCROM, IUCN, Narodowy Instytut Dziedzictwa.

3. Permanent cooperation should be promoted between public institutions, non-governmental organizations and academic centers, as well as local communities for research, information exchange, technical assistance, coordination and integration of knowledge-building activities on the historic cultural landscape.

E. Stakeholders

1. Formulation of conservation landscape policy requires interdisciplinary cooperation of representatives of all stakeholders, which will promote the preservation of the values of historic cultural landscapes.

2. It should be stated that the protection, planning and management of the historic cultural landscape requires the participation and strengthening of the role of the conservation community in interdisciplinary analytical, planning and design teams.

3. At all stages of the formulation of conservation landscape policy, the participation of local communities should be guaranteed and organized.

7. Summary and conclusions

The provisions contained in the presented proposal of the CHCL are a presentation of corrective measures, which are a response to the problems signaled in the article, concerning historic cultural landscapes, at the current stage of civilization development, with dynamically changing conditions, including in the face of climate change. Here it should be clearly emphasized once again that it is impossible to protect the historic cultural landscape without taking into account its dynamic nature and variability over time. Therefore, it is necessary to manage it in such a way that takes into account the preservation of its key values, despite the changes occurring in it. Hence, it is important to implement into Polish law concepts derived from the European Landscape Convention, such as “landscape planning” and “landscape management”, as well as “landscape policy”, and clarify the related scopes of activities and tasks, as well as rights and obligations for stakeholders in these processes. This will open up the possibility for the conservation community to formulate a “conservation landscape policy” that takes into account the dynamics of landscape processes and the participation of all stakeholders in them. The rightness of undertaking the initiative and work on the KZKK is confirmed by the discussions held by the Authors in the circles interested in the protection of historic cultural landscapes, as well as by the comments sent as part of the consultations proposed by the Presidium of PKN ICOMOS. They pointed out the need to undertake extensive educational activities concerning the value of cultural landscapes, especially directed at local governments. It was also asked whether the implementation of the KZKK would involve "a kind of systemic audit of cultural landscapes", which the Authors believe would be desirable, as well as what organisational unit would ultimately be responsible for implementing the KZKK and monitoring this process. The authors believe that this task should be carried out by provincial conservators of historical monuments, in cooperation with local authorities. They also express the hope that there will be further discussions on the KZKK, in non-conservationist circles only, which will lead to its final shape and, consequently, to actions aimed at developing methods for effective protection of the values of historic cultural landscapes.

Authors' contribution

The authors jointly developed a proposal for a Charter of Historic Cultural Landscapes. Based on it, Irena Niedźwiecka-Filipiak prepared the concept of the article's text and its layout and illuminated the research background, Łukasz Woźniak and Alicja Woźniak performed a review of doctrinal documents, Dorota Sikora presented a diagnosis of the state and the idea of the Charter of Historic Cultural Landscapes.

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