Landscape policies – the incontestable elements of a territory development

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Abstract In recent decades landscape began to insert in the speech of political and and professionals factors as an important component of a territory construction, such as a component of framework for quality life construction. The landscape requires a harmonious and equilibrated construction between the two structures which define a territory: anthropogenic and natural environment. These arguments of landscape discourse find their support in landscape policies as local regulation elements. Thus by adopting the European Landscape Convention the landscape policies can be found at the level of territory to prevent the depreciation, the trivialization of the of European landscape and even the loss of local identity.

Landscape policies are aimed to strengthen the local image by sustaining traditions and natural elements. The two models of landscape policies shown in the article will expose two different approaches of the landscape. In the French Regional Natural Park, the landscape policies are used to expose the dynamic development of the territory, they represent one of the key points of the territorial valorisation. In Romanian Natural Park, we find a landscape approach directed to conservation and protection of natural and human environment within the protected area. Through these two models we will have a clear approach of landscape policies seen from two different angles: one refers to the progressive elements that stimulates a territory, and the other at the Romanian case, where in the absence of a landscape legislation the landscape is seen as a conservative component.

Nowadays there is more and more talk about local development using the landscape. In the last decade the landscape has been one of the basics elements which helped building the territory. With the help of the landscape a region is defined compared to other regions and with the help of landscape it manages to shape its own identity. In recent decades in the evolution of international documents (World Heritage Convention1) which talk about protection and preservation there are included also the principles of cultural landscape preservation. This enlargement of acceptance of landscape complexity we also encounter in the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) classification in class V (terrestrial and aquatic landscape protection). This enlargement of acceptance of landscape complexity encounter in the IUCN classification in class V (terrestrial and aquatic landscape protection). All these steps that have been taken regarding the landscape have determined a reassessment of the value of landscapes and a change of attitude by increasing the global importance of landscape (7). At the European level, the concern about the alterations to the landscape led to the adoption of the European Landscape Convention (ELC) in Florence in 2000, as a sustainable solution to socio-economic development of the European continent (7).

The discourse on the landscape at European level has been enriched with the introduction of political role of the landscape by establishing, following the ELC, the landscape policies as the engine of territorial development; the new definition of landscape is seen as an interaction between humans and nature (7). Landscape policies have acquired a dominant role for both territories that are subject to protection rules and for the territories with ordinary landscapes. It is gradually noticed an evolution regarding the perception of the landscape from protected item to a dynamic element influencing the socio-economic life. The article will analyse the policies of landscape seen from

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1 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
the perspective of two spatial models which aim preservation, conservation, and dynamic planning.

Materials and Methods

Landscape in the current context can be defined as a stable and permanent element (although it is submitted of societal transformation) conducted on a natural support, but transformed in a social construction, to be exploited for economic purpose (3). This article examines two models of implementation of landscape policies in protected areas: Regional Natural Park (PNR) in France and Natural Park (NP) in Romania. The two example will present two ways of implementing landscape policies approached from different angles. On one hand the NRP landscape policy puts into practice the principles of landscape included in the ELC, and on the other hand PN exhibits a landscape policy directed to conservation and landscape protection, with a strong tendency towards a natural landscapes, and based on management strategy of international conventions to preserve biodiversity. The materials used in the article are those which refer to ELC as the main document of enouncement the landscape policies in the European countries that signed the Convention, and also the documentation behind the establishment of the two natural parks. Territorial management and planning today is based on an increasing role of landscape, which has become an important issue for public policy in the last decade. With the help of landscape, the discourse of political and social stakeholders has been enriched, the landscape today is inserting to the different scales of planning from local to international level, through the elaboration of landscape policy (4).

Established in Florence in 2000, ELC opens the way to a new expression of the landscape, through the introduction of the legal and political instrument in perfecting territories. ELP presents landscape as a territorial advantage by harmonizing patrimonial with environmental policies. Thus is realised a document that refers in a global context to the landscape and its involvement in planning and territory policy management in a unified and balanced form (3).

By ELP landscape is defined in a complex form, which includes natural and cultural elements without trying their dissociation, wanting to talk about "space seen in its totality" (3). The landscape is through the powers given to it by the Convention "a political issue of general interest" which involves in the elaboration of local policy the population and other stakeholders directly interested in building territory (4).

And because in the definition and construction of landscape take part a mosaic of stakeholders, public policies involved in creating a landscape area will have to include all facets of landscape as defined by each group of actors who participate in defining the territory.

It tends towards a concerted management planning (4). As a signatory country of the ELP, France harmonized national legislation with the Convention principles by creating innovative tools. In protected areas these innovative tools find their application in the new local level of action of PNR. With the adoption of law landscape in 1993, in France, new leverages were opened at national level to introduce into public policy the landscape by considering it in building premises or planning documentation of Regional Natural Parks (3).

An important moment is the adoption of CEP which will clarify the gaps in French internal legislation regarding the clear definition of landscape (3). Although there were tools for the regulation of protected natural areas by creating the Park Charter where the landscape component was introduced as an element of territorial development, with the advent ELP landscape are assigned new cultural, patrimonial and economic values.

Charter park occupies the role of a juridical document that regulates the development actions of the communities who live inside the NRP (3). The NRP Charter plays an important role in implementing the preservation of built and natural heritage. NRP are tools thought to protect natural areas and ecological interest, containing human communities that preserve a traditional lifestyle. NRP territorial gains in time new values (3), by encouraging local economic life, becoming a model of territorial development. NRP build harmonious forms of protection of the landscape with innovative actions to recover the built and natural heritage. Remarkable natural areas are combined harmoniously with sustainable agricultural and sustainable tourism activities. We notice that the landscape serves as the basis for turning the traditional local elements, which are using the local economy, most of them base their strategy on exploitation PNR elements of rurality and natural landscape areas (3).

The second model for the management is the Romanian Natural Parks based on protection and conservation of these areas, in which the landscape component is approached from an ecological perspective. The Romania legislation in this domain defines habitat of these areas as natural protected areas (8). Natural parks (which are placed in the category of protected natural areas) base their strategies on international documentation of biodiversity being classified under IUCN category V. The role of PN in the territory is to maintain the area's natural and cultural elements in a form least possible altered by the accelerated economic activities of the territory.

As example of defining the actions of such protected areas, the purpose of PN Bucegi "is the preservation of the landscape, including all types of habitats and their integrated species (with special emphasis on those mentioned in the Habitats Directive, Birds Directive, Bern Convention and the Ramsar Convention) and terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems in close connection with local community activities and recreational

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2 The Council of Europe, 2000
opportunities for tourists.

This landscape policies are directed towards conservation strategies and landscape protection, landscape is seen, “as a result of the harmonious combination of the diversity of geological, geomorphological, flora, fauna and water and the presence of many endemic plants and animals, rare or endangered species and habitats of high conservation value(...)”.

In PN documentation has not been introduced yet the active and dynamic role of the cultural and antropic landscape as its seen in ELP, although the declared purpose of such natural protected areas is to preserve and highlight the natural landscape and cultural ensembles.

Results and Discussions

Following the brief presentations, discussions should focus on the difference of action for two models of protected areas. For example French NRP has an active role in dynamics of a territory by combining the principles of ELP with national legislation. NRP is a tool which by its definition is meant to interfere in fragile areas of economic, found in regional stall and have a rich natural and cultural heritage. Finding the formula for economic revival of the territory supports the local community through appropriate policies in each territory. In addition to valuing and protecting the landscape, PNR policies are turning to new forms of tourism, more authentic and closer to nature (6).

Translation into practice of ELP is an example of territorial development which offers easy access and democratic decision-making involving all stakeholders. Therefore the evolution of development planning is done in a manner transparent as possible and in keeping with the principles of sustainable development by ensuring a harmonious life framework and individual and collective welfare. NRP identify and encourage cultural and natural diversity by recognizing local values, by highlighting them with the help of social and political will. Local identity built and shaped by the landscape, is one of value factors of the territory in which NRP based its development strategy.

In pararel with the French model of protected natural area, the Romanian model is still in the area of latent environmental conservation policies. This is determined by the lack of a clear Romanian legislation to regulate the landscape defined as a global and complex value. Because of this policy remains stuck in the landscape ecology. Although Romanian legislation provides protected areas for Natural Parks of natural elements combined capitalization of flora and fauna with local human elements, appearance of ossified structures of the territory is the lack of strategies regarding landscape recovery. In these conditions, ecological and environmental components prevail. This policies are viewed in terms of landscape protection and nature conservation. Dynamic components, the evolution of the territory are marginalized and we think there is a tendency by these regulations to tighten the lan. Valuing natural and antropic landscape for NP should play the role of model sustainable development (8). Preservation component of local cultural and natural elements that define the components of identity and territory.

Conclusions

Landscape policies should be the fruit of the ideas stakeholders have on their local landscape and local development. We notice in this article a different conception in the notion of natural park, just as are represented different landscape policies in countries signatory to the European Landscape Convention. Note that the structures that protected areas of landscape policies are applied and understood differently. If the landscape in French policy is seen as an opening to a territorial cohesion of all local stakeholders, in the Romanian NP, it remains a protected area, the landscape is understood as an ecological component. It is a natural element to be protected, preserved even in a certain state. It tends towards protected areas such museification (1) of space, the dynamic landscape component is not yet included in the management strategies.

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