



0063/2016

4.7.2016

WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on ecomuseums to protect natural areas in Europe that are particularly rich in history and culture

Mara Bizzotto (ENF), Matteo Salvini (ENF), Mario Borghezio (ENF), Salvatore Cicu (PPE), Dominique Bilde (ENF), Dominique Martin (ENF), Mireille D'Ornano (ENF), Raffaele Fitto (ECR), Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF), Hannu Takkula (ALDE), Edouard Ferrand (ENF)

Lapse date: 4.10.2016

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on ecomuseums to protect natural areas in Europe that are particularly rich in history and culture¹

1. Article 1(a) of the European Landscape Convention, which entered into force in 2004, states that “[l]andscape” means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors’.
2. Ecomuseums, a model of sustainable development which has been spreading from France to the rest of Europe since the 1960s, are a tangible expression of the historic and cultural identity of an area; there are 12 ecomuseums in Italy.
3. In Europe, the establishment of ecomuseums ensures that local environments and culture in a specific area are safeguarded, by promoting that area’s agriculture, handicrafts and rural tourism, and, as a result, the economic development and social welfare of its people.
4. The Commission and the Council are therefore called upon to:
 - a. promote the establishment of new ecomuseums in natural areas of the EU that are particularly rich in history and culture;
 - b. support existing European ecomuseums by providing incentives for entire communities to manage their own territory responsibly.
5. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.