



IFLA EUROPE

THE EUROPEAN REGION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

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OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS*

*LA RÉGION EUROPÉENNE DE LA FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DES ARCHITECTES PAYSAGISTES*

> NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION <

CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

I. GENERAL

- a) IFLA EUROPE, the *European Region of the International Federation of Landscape Architects* (IFLA) is a not-for-profit international organisation constituted by the national/multi-national associations of landscape architects and the individual landscape architects of member countries of the European Union, the European Economic Area and the Council of Europe.

IFLA EUROPE advocates and pursues, through the promotion of landscape architecture, the highest standards on landscape professions, and seeks to protect, conserve and enhance the natural and built environment for the benefit of the public.

- b) IFLA EUROPE places a strong emphasis on the integrity, competence and professionalism of its members, and therefore encourages the member associations to adopt this '*Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct*' and requires all IFLA EUROPE members to conduct themselves in accordance with this Code within their professional and business life.

- c) This Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct should be considered central to the professional life of any IFLA EUROPE landscape professional not only as a source of ethical guidance, but also as a common-sense indicator to principles of good practice.

1. THE CODE

- 1.1 This Code lays down standards of professional conduct and practice expected of all landscape professionals of IFLA EUROPE, whatever their category of membership.

Members are expected to be guided in their professional conduct and work as much by the spirit of the Code as by its express terms. The purpose of the Code is to promote the highest professional standards, rather than constitute a basis for undertaking disciplinary actions.

- 1.2 The fact that a course of conduct is not specifically referred to in this Code does not mean that it cannot form the basis of disciplinary proceedings for the guilty professional(s) by the respective member association(s) or, where appropriate, IFLA EUROPE.

- 1.3 Disciplinary proceedings may be brought in respect of the professional conduct or competence of any IFLA EUROPE member whether or not practising or carrying on business under any name, style or title containing the words *landscape architect, landscape manager, landscape scientist*, etc.

- 1.4 Members guilty of any incorrect/unfair use of public media or social networks shall be reported to the respective member association(s) for possible disciplinary proceedings in accordance with their own professional conduct and practice criteria.

- 1.5 Members guilty of any incorrect/unfair use of IFLA EUROPE social networks shall be immediately expelled from these facilities and reported to the respective member association(s) for further possible disciplinary actions in accordance with their own professional conduct and practice criteria.

2. THE LIMITS OF THE CODE

- 2.1 Not every lack of compliance with the Code or shortcoming on the part of an IFLA EUROPE member will necessarily constitute grounds for disciplinary proceedings, but a failure to follow the guidance of this Code will be taken into account should it be necessary to examine the conduct or competence of a landscape professional.

- 2.2 Disciplinary proceedings may arise if a member of IFLA EUROPE has been convicted of a criminal offence other than an offence which has no material relevance to their fitness to practise as a landscape professional. Such proceedings are



outside the scope of this Code.

- 2.3 The private life of any IFLA EUROPE member cannot be the subject of disciplinary action unless it affects their professional work or brings the profession into disrepute.
- 2.4 A minor transgression of this Code is unlikely to give rise to grounds for disciplinary proceedings unless it forms part of a pattern of unacceptable professional conduct or professional incompetence.

II. THE STANDARDS

- a) The landscape architects members of IFLA EUROPE - through their national or multi-national associations or as individual professionals - recognize the following ethical and behavioural standards towards society, clients, colleagues and the profession, as well as towards the landscape and environment.
- b) This Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct applies within IFLA EUROPE, and its member associations and all individual members are invited to adopt it.

In case an IFLA EUROPE member association is already provided with its own Code of Conduct, this IFLA EUROPE Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct shall be considered as an extension/integration, with the same effectiveness, of its existing professional Code.

PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDES

Standard 1. To promote the highest standard of professional services, and conduct professional duties with honesty and integrity, having regard to the interest of those who may be reasonably expected to use or enjoy the products of their work.

Standard 2. To support continuing professional development.

Standard 3. To uphold the reputation and dignity of profession, IFLA/IFLA EUROPE and their own professional organisations, respecting the resolutions of the respective General Assemblies, Executive Councils, Boards, Committees and Working Groups, as well as their external communications events and social networks.

Standard 4. To actively and positively promote the standards set out in this Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

Standard 5. To be fully acquainted with the Statutes and Regulations of IFLA EUROPE and their own professional association(s), and be willing to cooperate – in any possible way and with the due dedication and independence of judgment - in achieving the aims and objectives of their respec-

tive Strategic and associated Action Plan(s).

Standard 6. To observe all laws and regulations related to the professional activities of landscape architecture in their respective countries.

Standard 7. To act at all times with integrity and avoid any action or situations which are inconsistent with their professional obligations.

Standard 8. To be fair and impartial in all dealings with clients' contractors, and at any level of arbitration and project evaluation.

Standard 9. To make full disclosure to the client or employer of any financial or other interest relevant to the service or project. In particular, IFLA EUROPE members who have economic interests in construction companies or suppliers of the proposed works shall be obliged to inform their clients and obtain the corresponding authorisations.

Standard 10. To refuse to take charge of tasks or projects in conflict of rights/interests or in conditions of incompatibility, especially in case they are state employees or hold any positions at public bodies, as established by the current civil legislation of the involved country(ies).

Standard 11. To refuse to accept equivocal positions that could jeopardise their righteousness or independence in properly carrying out the profession.

Standard 12. To avoid participating in competitions for which they accepted to serve as members of the Panel of Judges or helped define terms and requirements, or where there are anyhow involved people with whom they have family or business relationships.

Standard 13. To undertake public service in local governance and environment to improve public appreciation and understanding of the profession and environmental systems.

PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCES

Standard 14. To undertake only professional work for which they are able to provide proper professional and technical competence and resources.

Standard 15. To maintain qualified professional competence in areas relevant to their own professional work, and carry out their profession work with care, conscientiously and with proper regard to the specific technical and professional standards.

PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Standard 16. To organise and manage their professional work responsibly and with integrity, having constant regard to the interests of their clients.

Standard 17. To promote their professional services



in a truthful and responsible manner, without misleading or deceptive claims discreditable to the profession or the work of other professionals.

Standard 18. To uphold maximum respect for the colleagues of their own and any other member association, its representatives and boards, avoiding making statements personally offensive to their peers or to the profession.

Standard 19. To provide, in a timely fashion, all information, explanations, documents or reports they might be asked for by IFLA EUROPE or their own professional association(s).

Standard 20. To promote the exchange, discussion and debate in IFLA EUROPE - live or by means of its social networks - in a truthful and responsible manner, without deceptive claims to, or bringing discredit on, or insulting the IFLA/IFLA EUROPE organisations, officers, member associations, representatives and members of any membership category, as well as any other professional whether working or not as landscape architect.

Standard 21. To inform IFLA EUROPE and the respective national association(s) of any breach of professional duties or misconduct they might be aware of.

Standard 22. To ensure local culture and place are recognised by working in conjunction with a local colleague when undertaking work in a foreign country.

Standard 23. To act in support of other landscape architects, colleagues and partners in their own and other disciplines. Where another landscape architect is known to have undertaken work for which the member is approached by a client, to notify the professional colleague before accepting such commission.

Standard 24. To provide educational and training support to less experienced members or students of the profession over whom they have a professional or employment responsibility.

Standard 25. To manage their personal and professional finances prudently and to preserve the security of monies entrusted to their care in the course of practice or business.

Standard 26. To respect the fee regulations of the profession in countries where such regulations exist.

Standard 27. To participate only in planning or design competitions which are in accordance with the approved competition principles and guidelines of IFLA/IFLA EUROPE, or of IFLA/IFLA EUROPE member organisation in the respective country.

Standard 28. To have an adequate and appropriate Professional Indemnity Insurance.

Standard 29. To deal with any complaints concerning their professional work or practice promptly and appropriately.

LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT

Standard 30. To recognize and protect the cultural and historical context and the ecosystem to which the landscape belongs when generating design, planning and management proposals.

Standard 31. To develop, use and specify materials, products and processes which exemplify the principles of sustainable management and landscape regeneration.

Standard 32. To advocate values that support human health, environmental protection and biodiversity.

This Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct
have been approved by the
General Assembly at its meeting held in
Oslo, Norway on October 19th, 2014

Under the signature of

IFLA Europe President

Ana LUENGO AÑON

IFLA Europe Secretary General

Marina CERVERA ALONSO Y DE MEDINA