

European Regional Mountain Initiatives

Workshop “Towards a EU Strategy for the Carpathian
Region

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Committee of the Regions, Brussels, Belgium

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Mountains & SD

Chapter 13 – Agenda 21

"Mountains are important sources of water, energy, minerals, forest and agricultural products and areas of recreation. They are storehouses of biological diversity, home to endangered species and an essential part of the global ecosystem".

Global Agenda Mountains & SD



The Future That We Want (Rio+20)

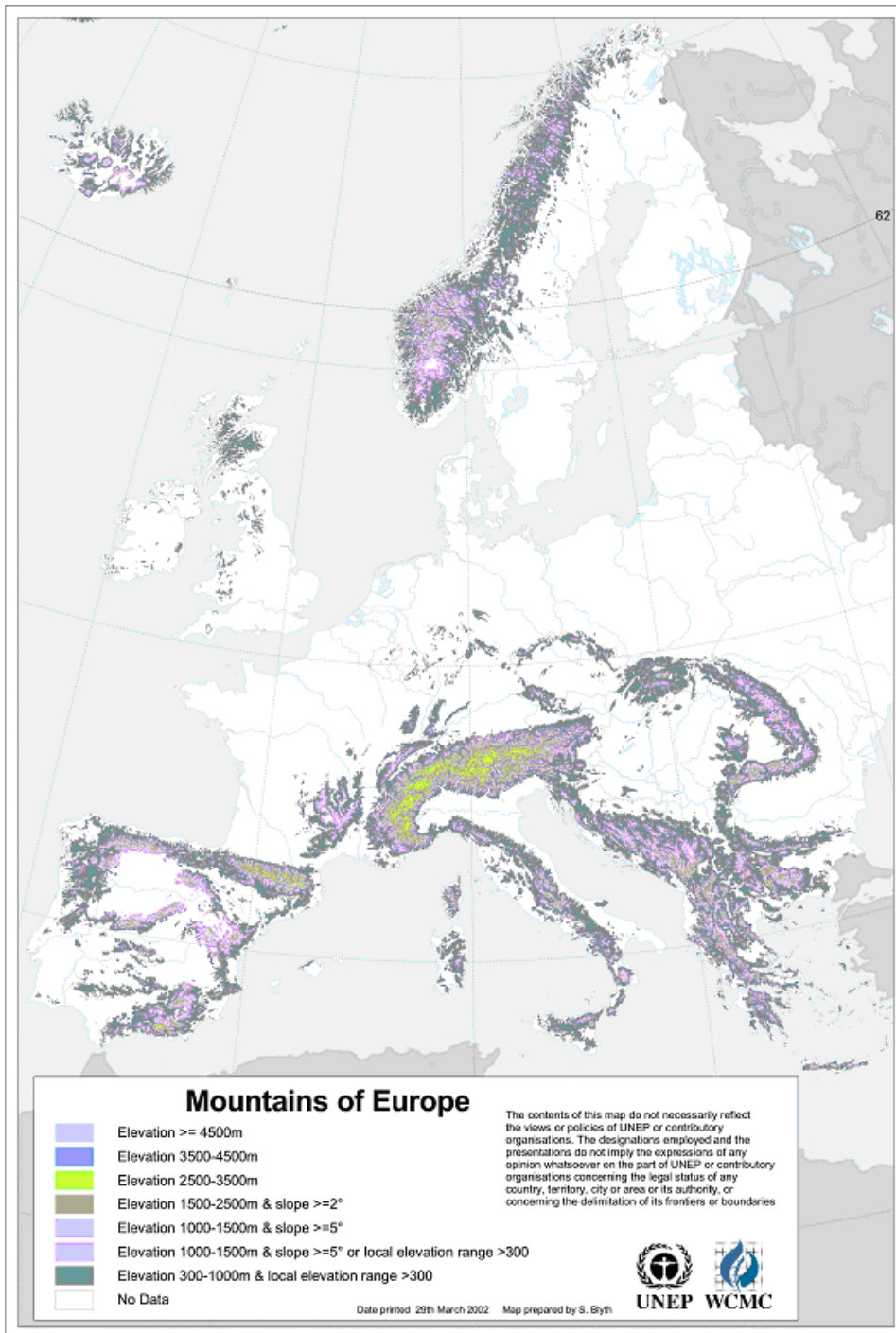
210. "We recognize that the benefits derived from mountain regions are essential for sustainable development..."

211. We further recognize that mountains are often home to communities, including indigenous peoples and local communities, who have developed sustainable uses of mountain resources..."

212. We call for greater efforts towards the conservation of mountain ecosystems..."

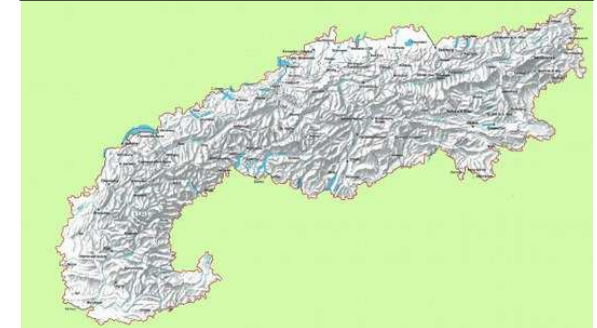
Europe

- Handicaps & Assets
- Lisbon Treaty: article 174 (strengthening of its economic, social & territorial cohesion).



Cooperation Beyond the Mountain Ridge

"*Pyrenaei montes* ; mountains of Europe at the borders of France and Spain, they are separating. They have always been deemed the natural marker of these two states" (*Encyclopedia of Diderot et d'Alembert, 1751-1772*).



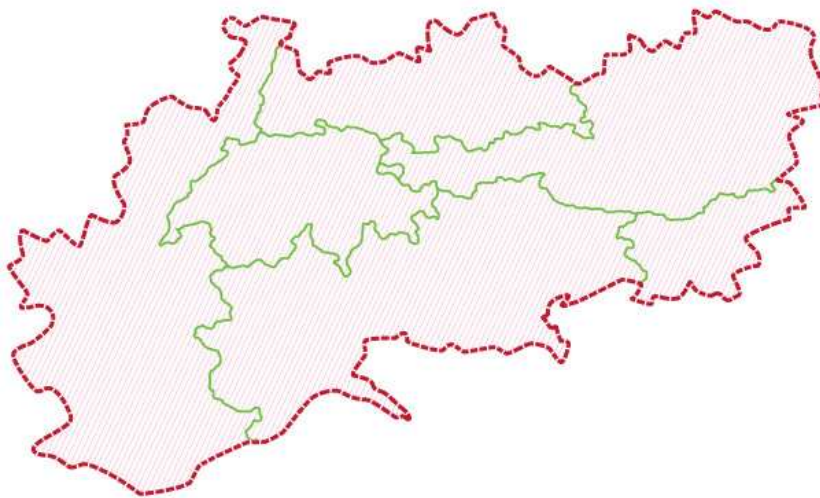
Case studies (6)

- Pyrenees
- Alps (1991)
- Jura
- Carpathians
- Balkans & Dinaric Arc
- Caucasus

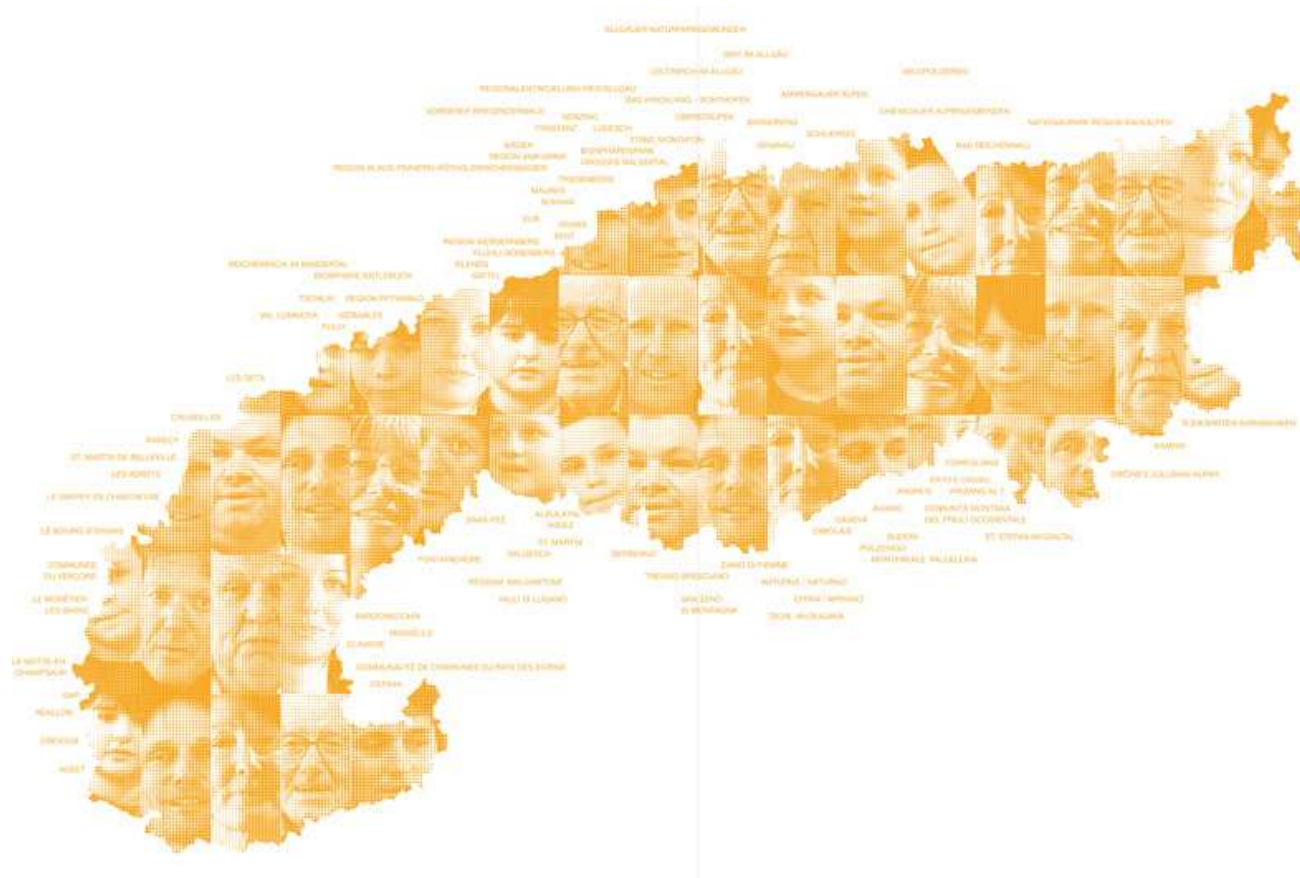
Politics of scale

Scale “is not simply an external fact awaiting discovery but a way of framing conceptions of reality” (Delaney and Leitner, 1997: 94-95).

"Believes that the geographical scope of a strategy for the Alps must focus on the territory covered by the Alpine Convention, thereby distinguishing it from the extra-Alpine region, with its larger cities and centres of industry"
(21 May 2013, European Parliament resolution on a macro-regional strategy for the Alps(2013/2549(RSP))



Collective action



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