

The Alpine Convention: from a political protocol to the implementation of projects



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X European Mountain Convention:

Mountains' vulnerability to climate change:

how can people and territories adapt and mitigate its effects?

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The Alpine Convention



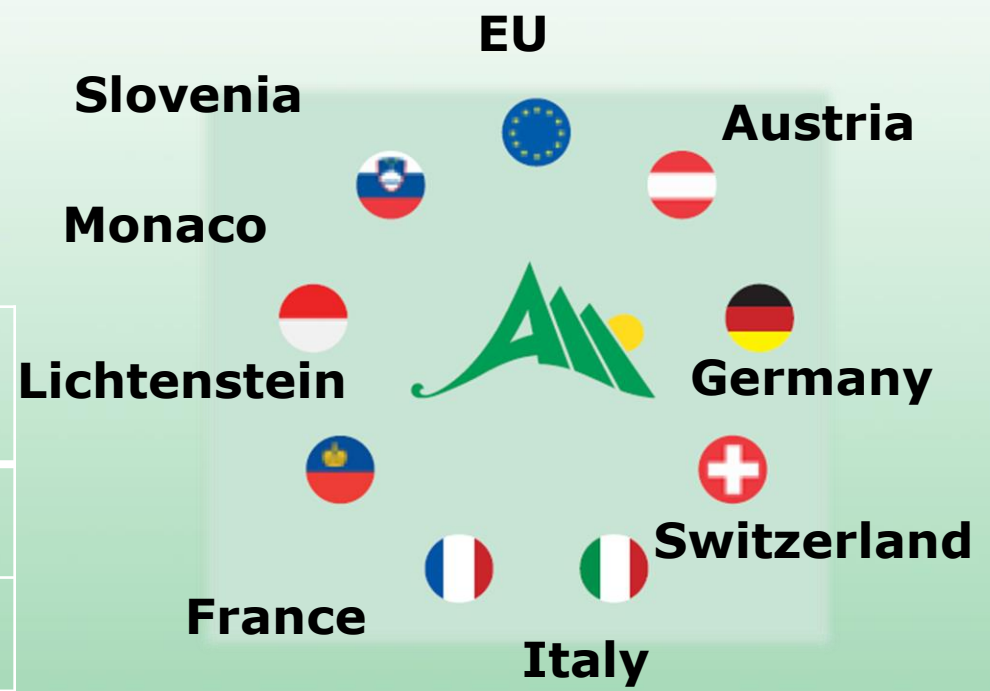
First international treaty for the protection and sustainable development of a mountain range

A small history



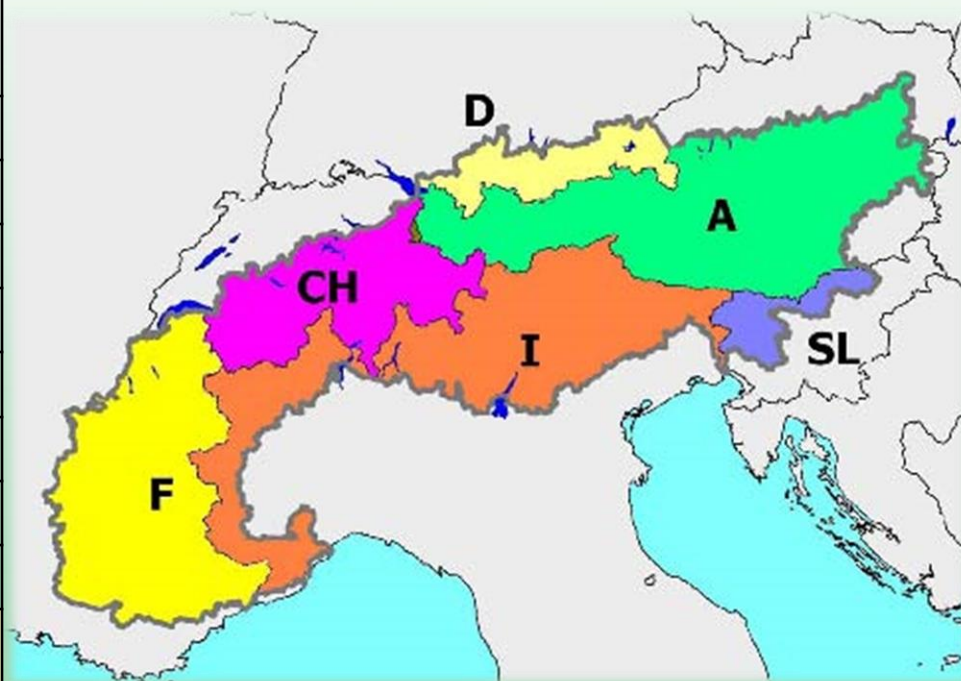
1991	The Convention on the protection of the Alps was signed.
1995	The Convention entered into force
2002	The 8 Protocols entered into force
2003	The Permanent Secretariat was established

Contracting Parties:



Area and Scope of the Population of the Alpine Convention

COUNTRY	AREA	POPULATION
Italy	27.3%	30.1%
Austria	28.7%	22.9%
France	21.4%	18.5%
Switzerland	13.2%	13.3%
Germany	5.8%	10.2%
Slovenia	3.5%	4.6%
Monaco	0.001%	0.2%
Lichtenstein	0.008%	0.2%
ALPS	190,600 sq km	14.2 million





The Objectives of the Alpine Convention

- aims at the sustainable development of the Alpine region;
- aims to protect the interests of the local population;
- includes the ecological, social, economic and cultural dimension.



Framework Convention and its Protocols

The Convention defines a **framework** by:

- setting basic principles and objectives
- organizing the cooperation

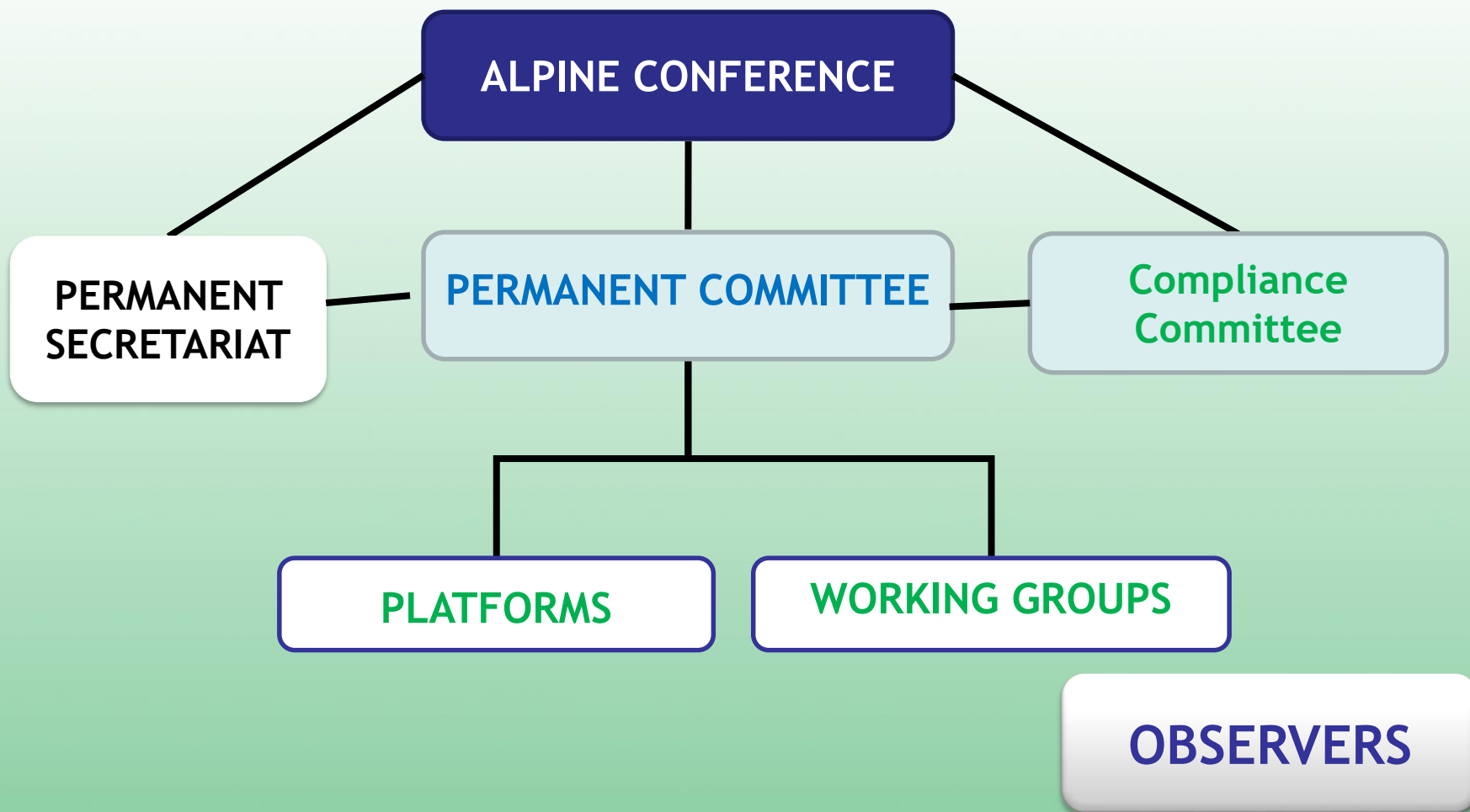
The Protocols regulate **concrete steps** to be taken for the protection and sustainable development of the Alps.

Signed and ratified Protocols are legally binding in the Contracting party.





Alpine Convention Organogram





Implementation on different levels

- Activities of the Working Groups and Platforms
- Multilateral projects of the Contracting Parties
- Cooperation with networks, regions and other partners
- Activities of the Permanent Secretariat
 - information and communication
 - observation and information system for the Alps (SOIA)
 - cooperation
 - exchange of experiences
- European macrostrategy for the Alpine region – EUSALP



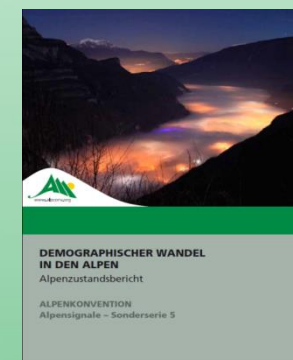
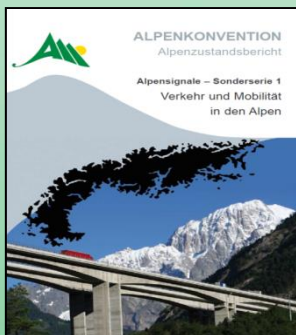
Activities of the Working Groups and Platforms

- In the biannual 2015-2016:11 Working groups and Platforms active:
 - Working Group Transport
 - [Natural Hazards Platform - PLANALP](#)
 - Ecological Network Platform
 - [Water Management Platform in the Alps](#)
 - Large Carnivores, Wild Ungulates and Society Platform - WISO
 - [Working Group Macro-regional strategy for the Alps](#)
 - Mountain Farming Platform Working Group
 - Mountain Forests Working Group
 - Sustainable Tourism
 - Ad hoc working group for the preparation of MAP 2017-2022
 - [Ad hoc expert group for the preparation of RSA6](#)
- Representatives of Contracting Parties and Observers
- Experts for the topic
- Preparing guidelines, recommendation, action plans for different topics



Reports on the state of the Alps

- Produced every 2 years on 1 specific topic
 - RSA1: Transport and Mobility
 - RSA2: Water Management
 - RSA3: Sustainable rural development
 - RSA4: Sustainable tourism in the Alps
 - RSA5: Demographic change in the Alps
 - RSA6: Greening the Economy (in preparation)
- Coordinated by an ad-hoc Working Group
- Experts by Contracting parties and observers
- In-depth research of one specific topic of importance for the Alps
- Concussions – policy recommendations, implementation in practice





Project

- Project for implementation and dissemination of the Alpine Convention are carried out by contracting parties (also bilaterally), observers and other stakeholders – to mention just a few:
 - Cross-border cooperation (upcoming conference on the Karawanks)
 - Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention
 - Day of the Alpine Convention
- The Permanent Secretariat carries out several project for the promotion and implementation of the Alpine Convention, to mention just one – the **We are Alps tour**





- A week long travel across the Alps for a group of journalists
- Different topic every year (Family Farming, Climate Change, Green Economy)
- Different route every year
- **Organized in close cooperation with local partners**
- Showing good practice examples from the territory





EU level / EUSALP

- EU is a Contracting party of the Alpine Convention
- Protocols of the Alpine Convention are part of EU law
- Alpine Convention was one of the drivers of EUSALP
 - Decision and Declaration of the XI. Alpine Conference in Brdo on Alpine Strategy for the Alps
 - Contribution of the Alpine Convention to the process towards a Macro-regional Strategy for the Alps (an “Input paper”)
 - Closely followed the process of developing EUSALP
- Alpine Convention observer role in the EUSALP General Assembly and Executive Board
- Co-lead Action Group 6;
- Involvement in other AGs, especially 7, 8 and 9, attention to AG4



Action Group 6

LAND  KÄRNTEN

„To preserve and valorize natural resources, including water and cultural resources “

- 3 sub-topics:
 - Spatial planning and soil conservation
 - Future oriented farming and forestry (nature protection, socio-economic aspects)
 - Integrated and sustainable water management



EUSALP





Thank you for your
attention!

www.alpconv.org



Alpine Convention



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