

29TH PECSRL 2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

The 29th Session of the Permanent European Conference for the Study of Rural Landscapes, a biennial international conference, was held online from 27 September to 1 October 2021, hosted by the University of Jaén and the UNIA-Antonio Machado in Spain. The theme of the conference was Living together in European Rural Landscapes. It was attended by Dr. habil. Csaba Centeri, Dr. habil. Eszter T. Kovacs, Alfred Szilagy, and Lyndre Nel from the Institute of Wildlife Management and Nature Conservation at the Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences (MATE), Gödöllő.

Fifteen sessions were hosted that covered research topics associated with landscape-based research, such as sustainable energy transition, sustainability, shared values, agrarian landscape transformations, participatory mapping, ecosystem services, irrigation systems, migration and immigration, tourism, and sustainable living. Dr. habil. Csaba Centeri hosted and chaired Session 9 on Ecosystem service research and assessment across European Landscapes, supported by Dr. habil. Eszter T. Kovacs as co-chair.

Within this session, I presented a poster on ‘Using Ecosystem Service Maps to Improve Environmental Management’ that I co-authored with Alfred Szilagy. The presentation covered ecosystem services modelling and mapping which presents a cost-effective tool that supports decision-making in environmental management by producing visual representations of the spatial distribution of specific ecosystem services across landscapes.

In total, more than 50 oral presentations were given with some special key notes, such as one given by Professor Karl Zimmerer on ‘Connectivity Dynamics among Major Agri-Food Landscapes in Spain: Examining the Strategic Linkages of Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainability’.

The congress was attended by more than 50 researchers that came together from 30 European countries. It was organised by the PECSRL organizing committee and host country officials from the Department of Anthropology, Geography and History and Department of Historical Heritage of the University of Jaén (UJA), International University of Andalucía (UNIA) in Baeza, and the Regional Development Institute (IDR) of the University of Granada.

The next PECSRL Conference will be held next year in Spain from 26 to 30 September 2022.

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