



# The Alpine Convention

Alpine Space Programme  
Seminar, Salzburg, 24 July 2026  
*Thomas Bunel*



# **Structure**

- 1. Overview**
- 2. Topics and Working Bodies**
- 3. Partners and networks**
- 4. PSAC Missions**



# 1. Overview

**Do you know what the Alpine Convention is?**



<https://www.menti.com/al2kk3gwq5ih>

**Access code 3577 4246**

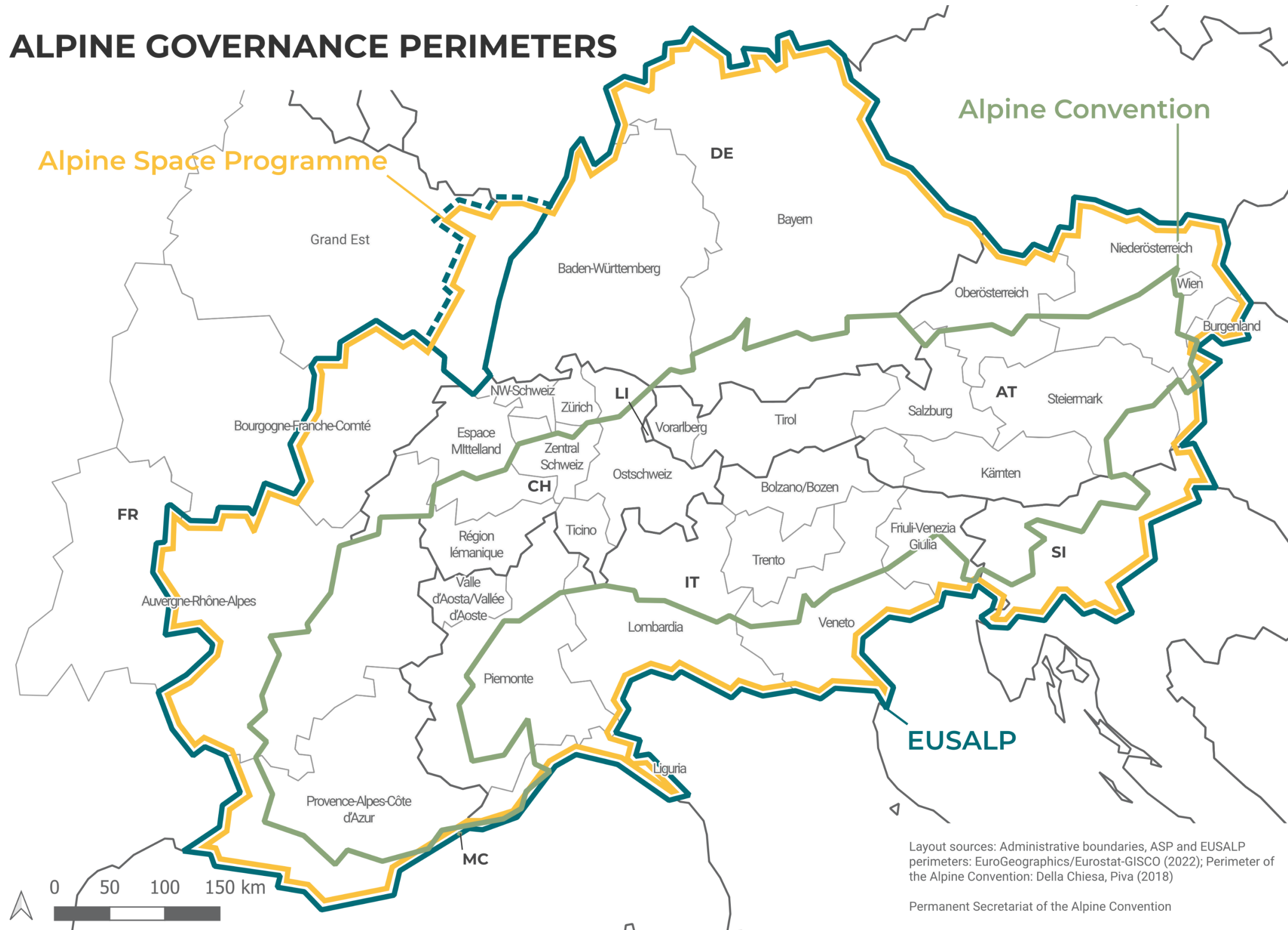
## The Alpine Convention is:

1. European Union cooperation programme funding projects in 7 Alpine states
2. European Union macro-regional strategy aimed at strengthening cohesion among 7 Alpine states in specific areas
3. International cooperation binding treaty between the 8 Alpine states and the European Union for environmental protection and sustainable development in the Alps

# Cooperation with Alpine organisations



## ALPINE GOVERNANCE PERIMETERS



1991

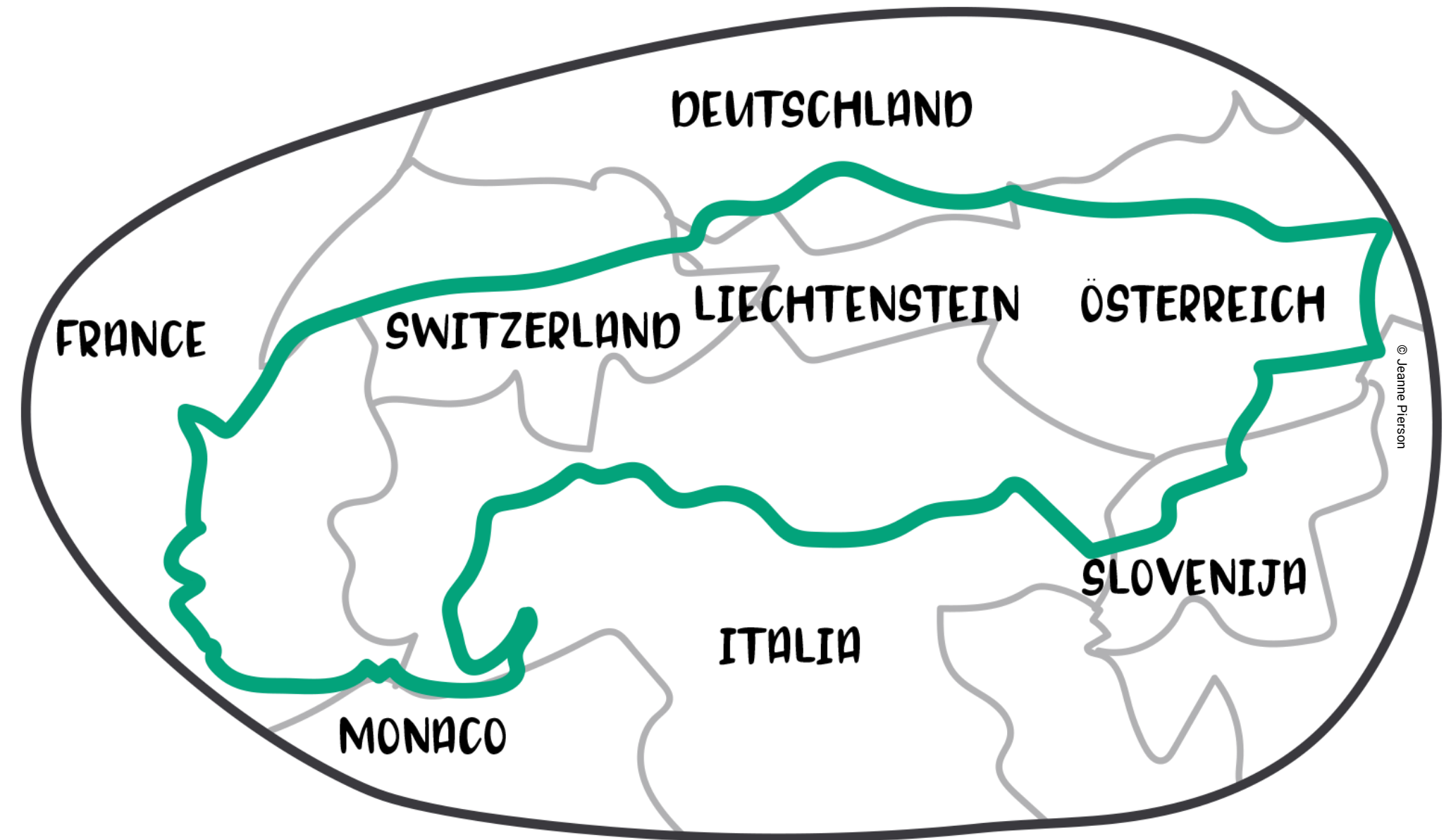
Vision to reality

9

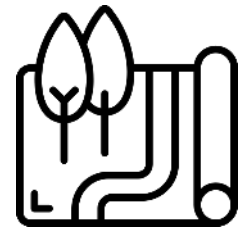
Contracting Parties

15

Observers



## Framework Convention and Protocols



Spatial planning  
& sustainable  
development



Mountain  
farming



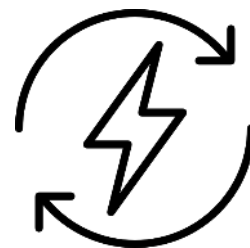
Nature protection  
& landscape  
conservation



Mountain  
forests



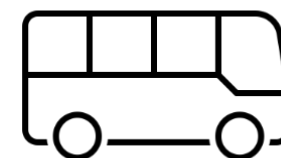
Tourism



Energy



Soil conservation



Transport

## Declarations



Population & culture



Climate change



Sustainable economy



Climate-neutral &  
climate-resilient Alps



Sustainable water  
management



Mountain biodiversity



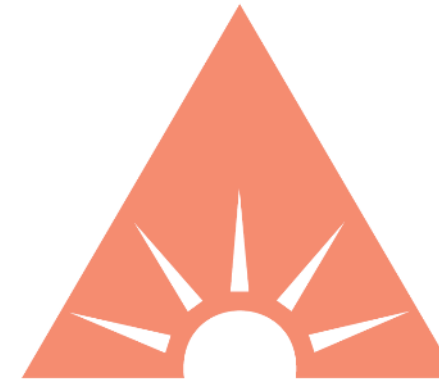
© Simon Reubula

## 2. Topics / Working Bodies





Priority area 1:  
Conserving and valuing Alpine  
biodiversity and ecosystems



Priority area 2:  
Taking ambitious climate  
action

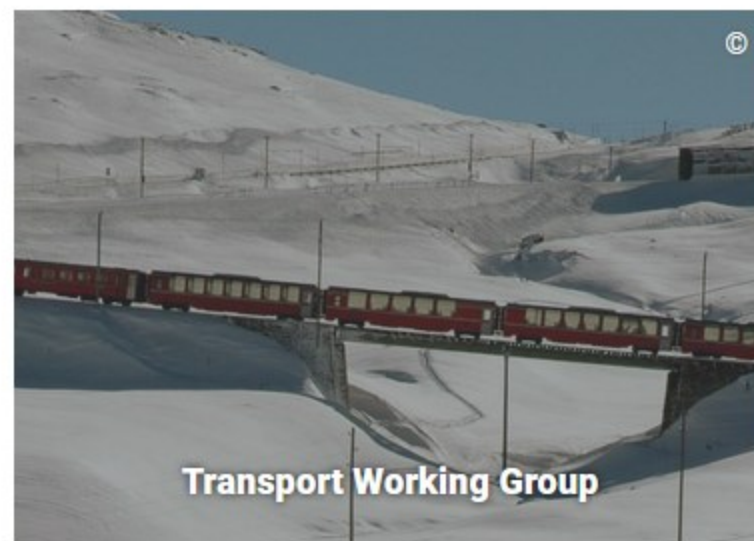
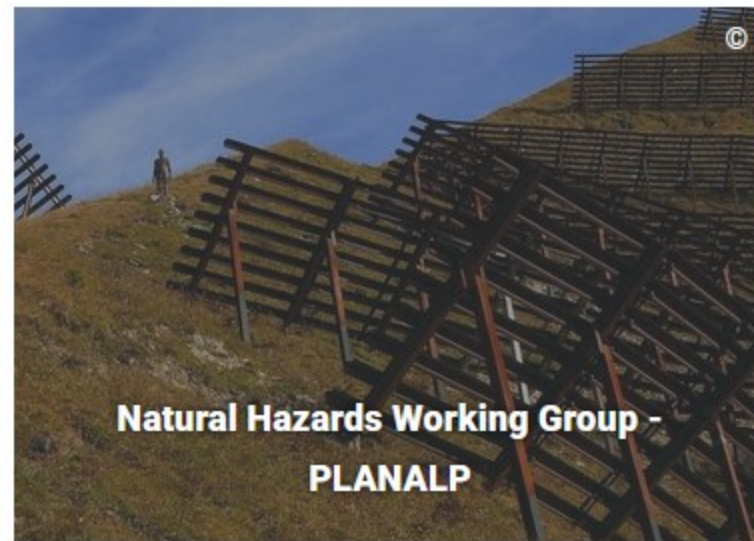
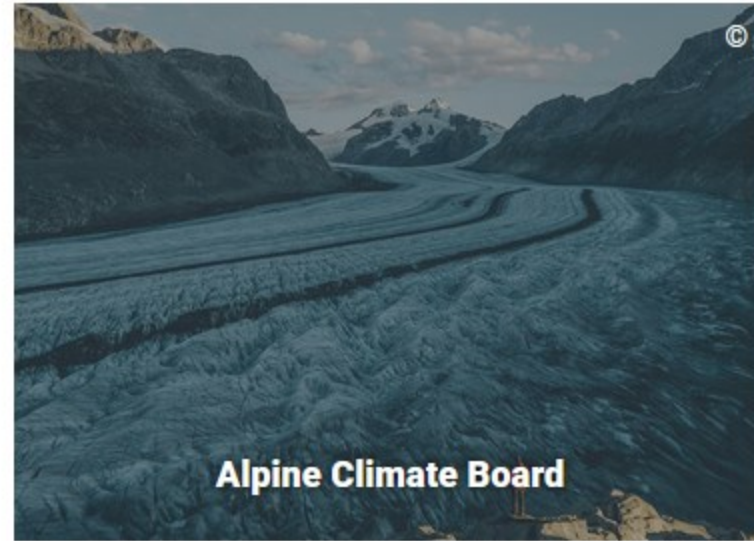
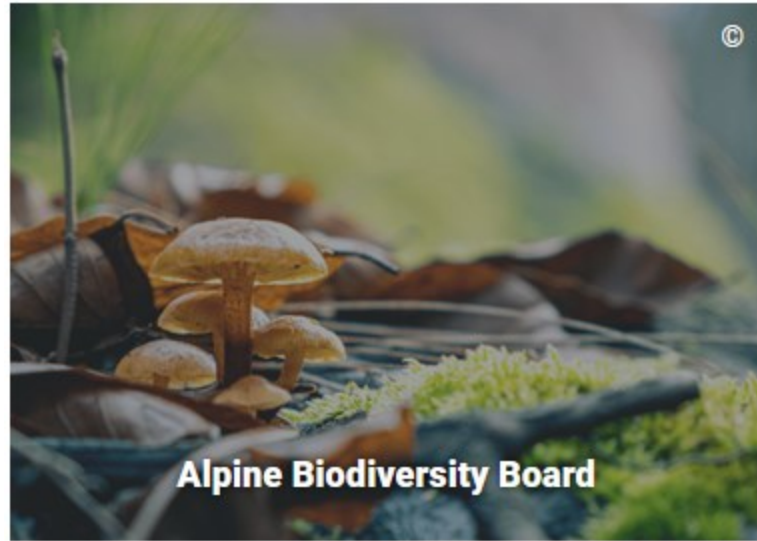


Priority area 3:  
Enabling a good quality of life  
for the people in the Alps

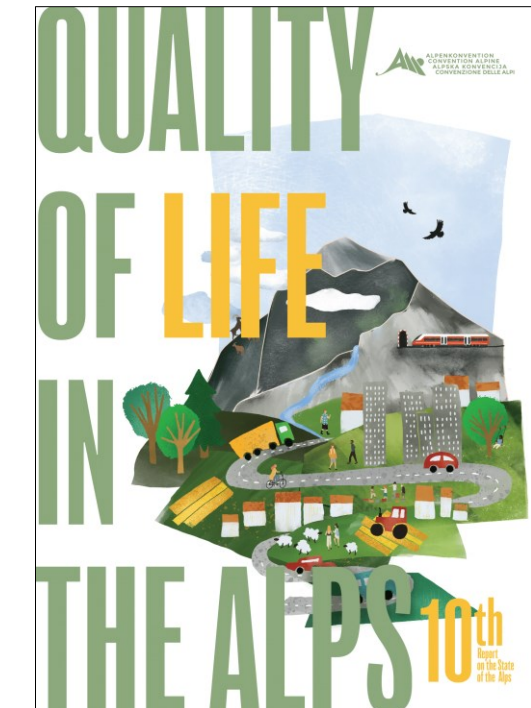
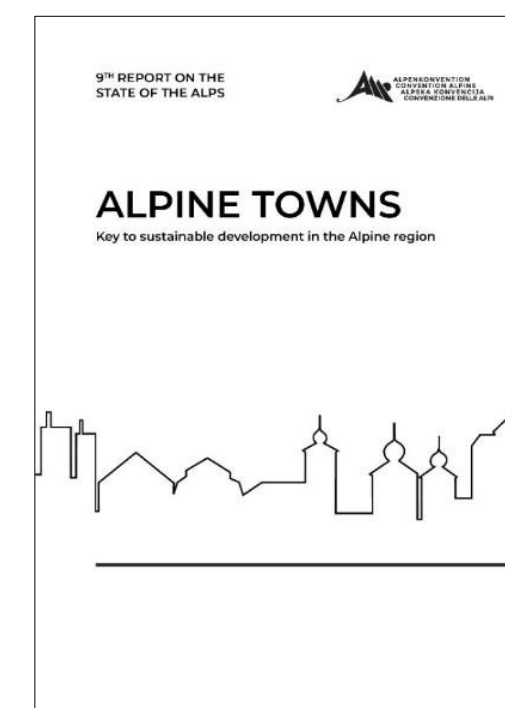
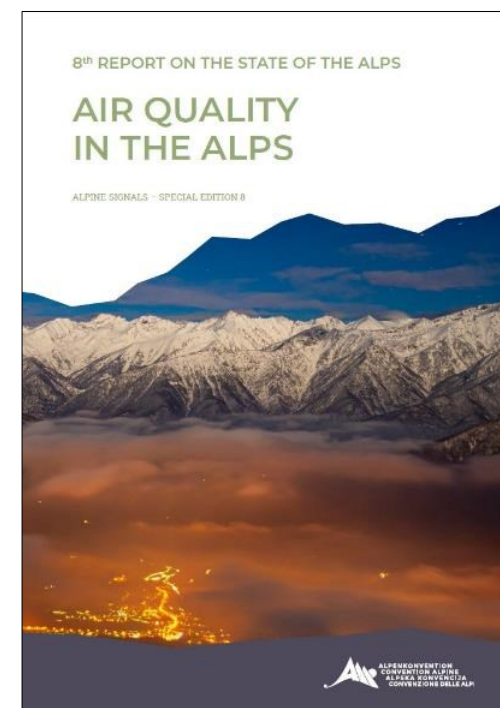
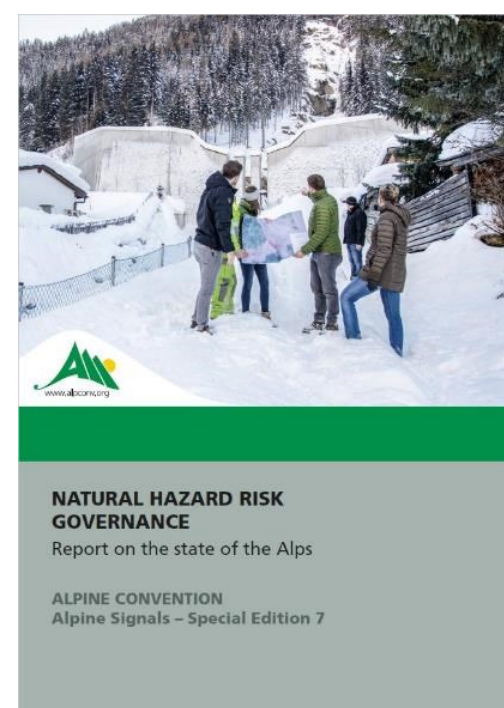
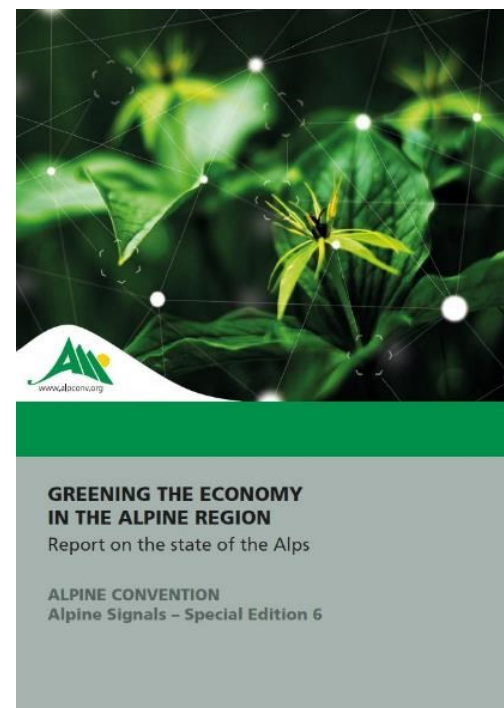
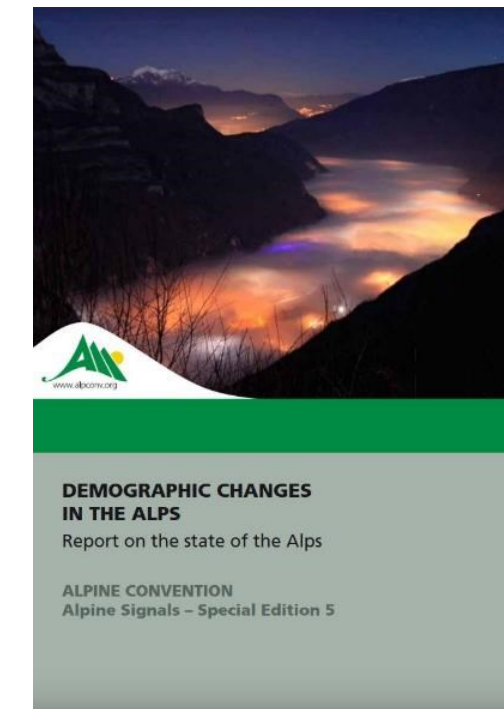
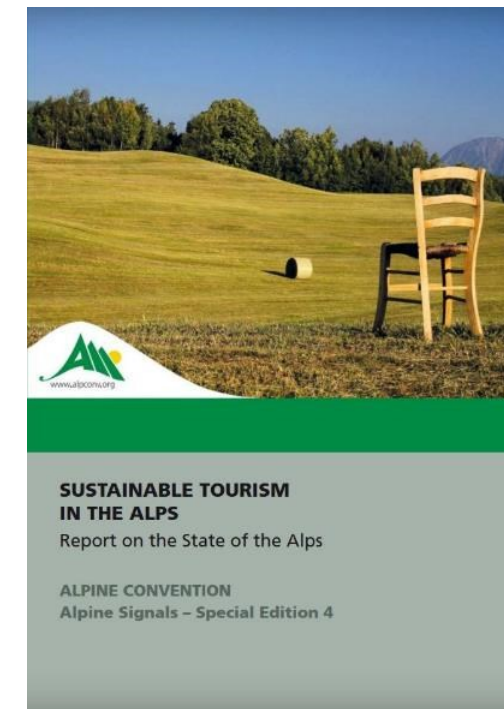
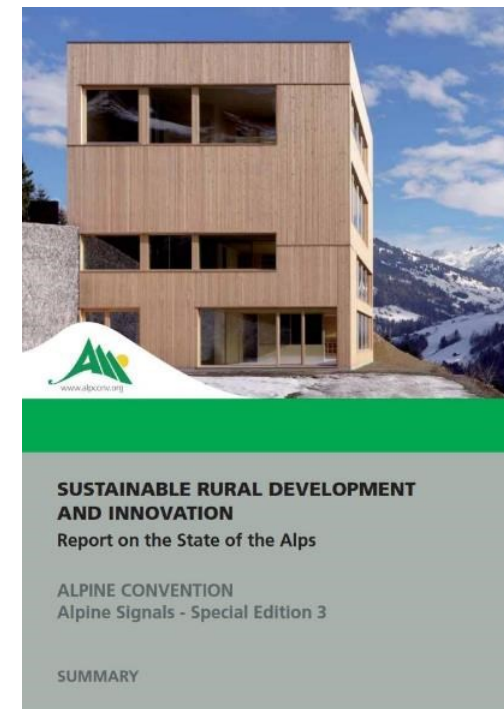
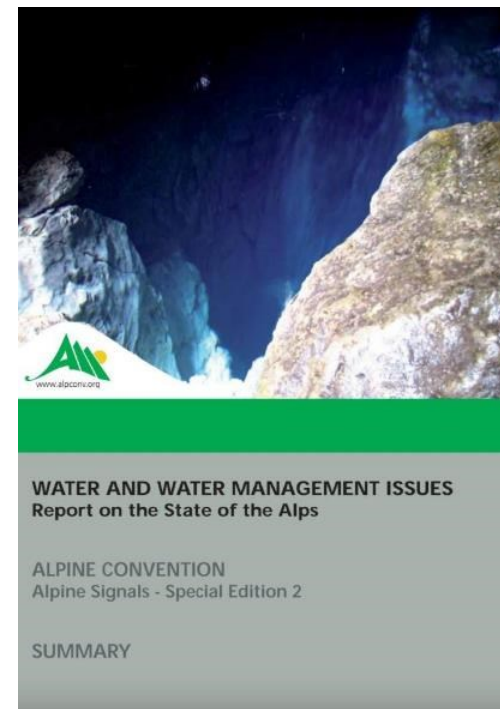
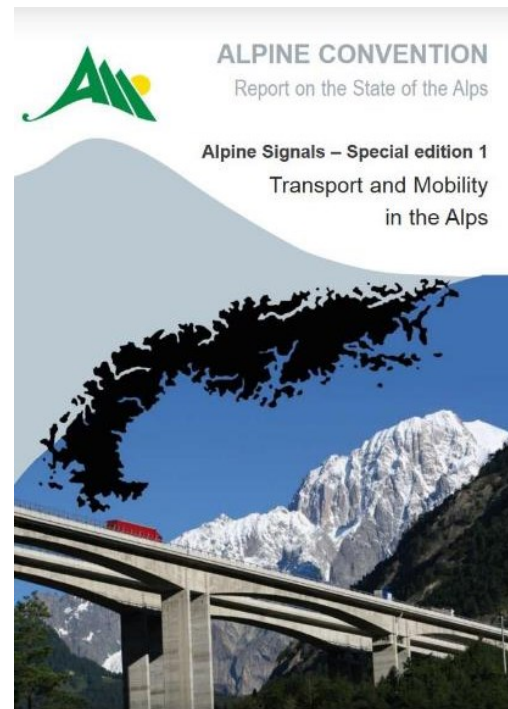
## Which ones of the Working Groups of the Alpine Convention don't exist currently ?

1. Biodiversity
2. Climate
3. Sustainable tourism
4. Large Carnivores, Wild Ungulates and Society
5. Mountain Agriculture and Mountain Forestry
6. Natural Hazards
7. Soil Protection
8. Circular Economy
9. Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development
10. Transport

# Thematic Working Bodies



# Reports on the State of the Alps



*In preparation: RSA 11 on Alpine glaciers, permafrost, and the water cycle*

## Five topics:

1. Environment
2. Infrastructure and services
3. Work and financial security
4. Social relations
5. Governance



## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Acknowledge quality of life, its specific aspects, and the need for inclusive participation in policymaking.
- 2 Address the data gaps in the quality-of-life topic and further pursue research on quality of life in the Alps to support better policy and decision-making.
- 3 Strengthen resilience in the Alps to sustain a good quality of life in the region.
- 4 Ensure the provision of high-quality infrastructure and services to best meet people's needs and the territorial specifics of the Alps while respecting the areas' ecological capacity.
- 5 Support a socially and environmentally responsible Alpine economy.
- 6 Foster responsible, sustainable, inclusive, and creative Alpine societies.
- 7 Respond to the needs of the local communities in governance processes and encourage the engagement of Alpine people in policymaking and spatial planning.



ENVIRONMENT



INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES



WORK AND FINANCIAL SECURITY



SOCIAL RELATIONS



GOVERNANCE



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# 3. Partners and networks



# Observers



- 15 transnational public and private bodies
- Participate in formal meetings
- Implement the Alpine Convention on the ground



# Global cooperation



Andean Mountain Initiative Annual meeting, Bogotá (2024)



Convention on Biological Diversity COP 16, Cali (2024)



Sagarmatha Sambaad, Kathmandu (2025)



UNFCCC dialogue on mountains and climate change, Bonn (2026)



United Nations  
Climate Change



Convention on  
Biological Diversity





# 4. PSAC Missions



## **Do you know what the missions of the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention are ?**

1. Administrative and technical support to the bodies of the Alpine Convention
2. Communicating and disseminating information about the Convention, its Protocols, and their achievements
3. Translation of Alpine Convention documents
4. Supporting Alpine networks and stakeholders in their projects
5. Research on Alpine-relevant issues

# Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention



# The Alpine Convention: Leading the way for sustainable life in the Alps