

PLACES FOR PEOPLE: ESPON PEER-LEARNING WORKSHOP
ARCHITECTURAL POLICY: FROM THEORY TO IMPLEMENTATION

Thursday, 19th February 2026

Amphitheatre of the Department of Town Planning and Housing, Nicosia, Cyprus

ESPON – the European Observation Network for Territorial Development and Cohesion – in cooperation with the Cyprus Ministry of the Interior, Department of Town Planning and Housing, promotes a Peer-Learning Workshop on Cyprus's first national policy on architecture.

The aim of the workshop is to bring leading national policy experts on architectural and design policies from selected European Member States together with policymakers, public officials and stakeholders from Cyprus, to provide a better understanding of architectural policies in the EU, showcasing best practices and facilitating exchange of experiences and knowledge.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

- 9:00 Introduction by the Department of Town Planning and Housing
- 9:10 Presentation by the Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber & the Cyprus Architects Association

SESSION I – LEARNING FROM PEERS

- 9:30 Architectural policies in Europe: an overview (Dr. João Bento)
- 9:45 National Architecture and Landscape Policy in Portugal (Ms. Marta Rodrigues)
- 10:15 Learning from the Netherlands (Dr. Kirsten Schipper & Ms. Nicoline Kok-den Exter)
- 10:45 **Coffee break**
- 11:15 National architecture policy in Finland (Ms. Katarina Siltavuori & Mr. Aleksi Lohtaja - online presentation)
- 11:45 National architecture policy in Spain (Ms. Maite Verdú & Mr. José Antonio Tallón Iglesias - online presentation)
- 12:15 Moderated discussion
- 12:45 **Lunch break**

SESSION II – PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

- 13:30
- 15:00 **Coffee break**

PLENARY SESSION

- 15:30 Presentations of outcomes of workshops
- 16:00 Conclusions