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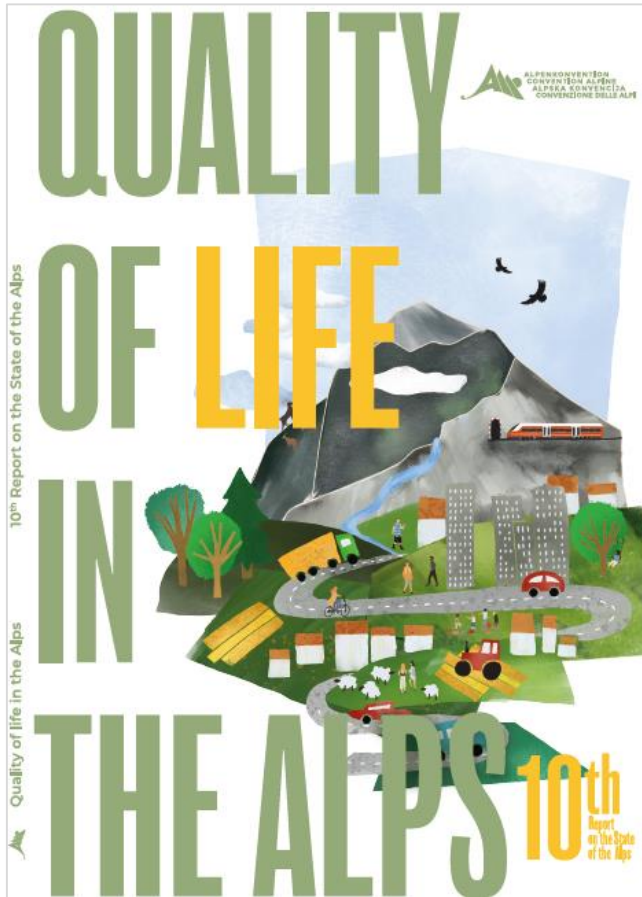
Quality of Life in the Alps: Insights into the 10th Report on the State of the Alps

Webinar Quality of Life & Municipalities

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10th Report on the State of the Alps



KEY MESSAGE






Quality of life is a multidimensional concept that has recently been put on the European agenda. It is either an umbrella policy topic or can be integrated in various sectoral policies. There is no common definition, nor is there a common method of measurement. Five issues were recognised as crucial for the quality of life in the Alps:

- 1) the environment
- 2) infrastructure and services
- 3) work and financial security
- 4) social relations
- 5) governance



CONCEPT OF QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREPARING THE RSA 10



MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK OF QUALITY OF LIFE		GOOD LIFE ENABLERS	LIFE MAINTENANCE	LIFE FLOURISHING
 ENVIRONMENT	ENVIRONMENT	ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY BUILT ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION RESILIENCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION	SUSTAINABLE / ECO-CONSCIOUS SOCIETY	SATISFACTION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
	ENVIRONMENT			
	ENVIRONMENT			
	ENVIRONMENT			
	ENVIRONMENT			
 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES	HOUSING	CONNECTIVITY PUBLIC SERVICES LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES COMMERCIAL SERVICES	HEALTHY, EDUCATED AND LIVELY SOCIETY	SATISFACTION WITH QUALITY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES
	INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES			
	INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES			
	INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES			
	INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES			
 WORK AND FINANCIAL SECURITY	JOB OPPORTUNITIES	WORK CONDITIONS SOCIAL SECURITY INNOVATION CAPACITY AND SUPPORT FOR ECONOMIC TRANSITION	PROSPEROUS SOCIETY	SATISFACTION WITH QUALITY OF WORK AND INCOME
	WORK AND FINANCIAL SECURITY			
	WORK AND FINANCIAL SECURITY			
	WORK AND FINANCIAL SECURITY			
 SOCIAL RELATIONS	SOLIDARITY, INTRAGENERATIONAL AND INCLUSIVE CARE	COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS SAFETY	INCLUSIVE, CARING AND CONNECTED SOCIETY	SATISFACTION WITH QUALITY OF SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS
	SOCIAL RELATIONS			
	SOCIAL RELATIONS			
 GOVERNANCE	PUBLIC POLICIES AND LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES	ENABLING, PROSPEROUS AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION	DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY	SATISFACTION WITH QUALITY OF GOVERNANCE
	GOVERNANCE			
	GOVERNANCE			



Strengths and weaknesses of living in the Alps

less noise seasons stress-free safety mountains
clean water moderate climate
social relations outdoor activities friendly people
sense of freedom **environment** pristine nature
quality of life landscape relaxation lower population density
less pollution lifestyle **landscape** togetheress job opportunities
community forests



RURAL

traffic focus on tourism limited cultural offer high living costs
high housing prices pollution **overtourism** distance to the centres
intensive agriculture weather events accessibility to health care seasonal tourism
remoteness **poor public transport** limited job opportunities
depopulation limited shopping possibilities dependence on car
distance to services reluctance to change poor internet connection
nature degradation policies & governance few educational opportunities urbanisation
infrastructure distance natural hazards



RURAL

friendly people lakes quality of life mountains less pollution
pristine nature moderate climate job opportunities
less crowded biodiversity **moderate climate** vegetation
hiking **clean water** landscape outdoor activities
smaller settlements **environment** good food forests
scenery lifestyle accessible services social relations relaxation water resources
safety



INTERMEDIATE

limited cultural offer policies & governance remoteness distance to services
reluctance to change distances to the centres
poor public transport accessibility to health care
limited shopping possibilities noise pollution air pollution
focus on tourism **overtourism** lack of social contacts
climate change high living costs high housing prices dependence on car traffic
cold winters natural hazards distribution of newcomers urbanisation limited job opportunities
distance infrastructure weather events



INTERMEDIATE

moderate climate job opportunities good food
local food outdoor activities landscape biodiversity
safety less pollution quality of life scenery
lakes mountains drinking water relaxation social relations
topography proximity to sea **clean water** water resources less traffic stress-free
vegetation culture **environment** good infrastructure economic safety



URBAN

traffic reluctance to change high housing prices limited job opportunities
noise pollution no one lack of social contacts distance
dependence on car **overtourism** pollution limited cultural offer
urbanisation overpopulation **remoteness** politics & governance air pollution
poor public transport heavy snow nature degradation natural hazards
high living costs infrastructure cold winters weather events
distance to services limited shopping opportunities accessibility to health care



URBAN

hiking quiet job opportunities less pollution pristine nature
moderate climate local food recreational opportunities
lifestyle **nature** vegetation relaxation
forests **air** environment accessible services
outdoor activities good food safety landscape social relations
biodiversity quality of life mountains lower population density
clean water stress-free



ALL

remoteness urbanisation high living costs noise pollution natural hazards
accessibility to services distance to services policies & governance pollution
accessibility to services few educational opportunities dependence on car
poor public transport limited job opportunities limited shopping possibilities seasonal tourism
limited cultural offer high housing prices **overtourism** climate change
infrastructure traffic air pollution reluctance to change lack of social contacts



ALL

Future challenges to securing quality of life in the Alps






KEY MESSAGE

The future challenges related to quality of life in the Alps consist of demographic changes, economic and political instability, climate change, a degraded natural environment, loss of biodiversity, and other global threats. Only with a proactive approach based on preparedness, adaptation, mitigation, solidarity between regions, transnational cooperation, and other measures can the Alps become a resilient region to live in.



SCHEME REPRESENTING THE MAJOR QUALITY OF LIFE CHALLENGES IN THE ALPS

MAJOR CHALLENGES to securing quality of life in the Alps

 ENVIRONMENT	 INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES	 WORK AND FINANCIAL SECURITY	 SOCIAL RELATIONS	 GOVERNANCE
CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURAL HAZARDS	PROVISION OF SERVICES	REGIONAL DISPARITY OF INCOME	RISK OF ISOLATION FOR SPECIAL SOCIAL GROUPS	DISTRUST IN GOVERNANCE
BIODIVERSITY LOSS	MAINTENANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE	WORK-LIFE BALANCE	DEPOPULATION OF RURAL AREAS	NO COMMON UNDERSTANDING NOR MONITORING OF QUALITY OF LIFE
ABANDONMENT OF AGRICULTURE LAND USE	INSUFFICIENT PUBLIC TRANSPORT	LIMITED JOB OPPORTUNITIES	LACK OF COMMUNITY LIFE	LIMITED AVAILABILITY OF DATA ON LOWER TERRITORIAL LEVELS
OVERTOURISM	DEPENDENCE ON CAR	ECONOMIC FOCUS ON TOURISM	SOCIAL CONFLICTS BETWEEN LOCALS AND NEWCOMERS	LIMITED AVAILABILITY OF DATA ON LOWER TERRITORIAL LEVELS
LAND TAKE, SOIL SEALING AND FUTURE WATER SUPPLY	UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING	UNEQUAL POSSIBILITIES FOR TELEWORK	RELUCTANCE TO CHANGE	LACK OF PLACE-SPECIFIC POLICIES
GROWTH OF SECONDARY HOUSING		UNEQUAL DURATION OF PARENTAL LEAVE	LACK OF ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY	

Challenges are interrelated
There is a lack of cross-sectoral and participative approaches to tackle them



7 recommendations to pursue better quality of life in the Alps

R1. Acknowledge quality of life, its specific aspects, and the need for inclusive participation in policymaking.

R2. 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.

R3. Strengthen resilience in the Alps to sustain a good quality of life in the region.

R4. 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 area's ecological capacity.

R5. Support a socially and environmentally responsible Alpine economy.

R6. Foster responsible, sustainable, inclusive, and creative Alpine societies.

R7. Respond to the needs of the local communities in governance processes and encourage the engagement of Alpine people in policymaking and spatial planning.

- Cross-sectoral approach
- Place-based policies
- Public participation



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