

## Gerhard Vittinghoff MRTPI



### **Motivation**

I would like to be a member of Exco to influence the work of ECTP - CEU, to ensure that it provides the best voice for our profession and the appropriate support for our members. I want to ensure that the profession continues to grow, bringing a more diverse and varied range of people into the profession and taking on board all of the new and innovative opportunities available to it.

The planning profession is facing a period of fundamental change in the forthcoming years as a consequence of the CV-19 pandemic. In addition to this, European societies/cities/regions today face many challenges from youth unemployment to ageing populations, climate change, sustainable energy and migration. To preserve the European social model and social cohesion, it is essential to invest in our young people, foster inclusive and sustainable growth, tackle inequalities and manage migration.

In preserving our infinite natural capital, it is crucial to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon, climate resilient, resource efficient and circular economy.

Social inclusion stands for an open society and solidarity, good neighbourly relations, mutual respect and acceptance. Social pluralism and diversity should be viewed as an opportunity. This calls for a corresponding action at all levels. Social and political participation of all population groups is therefore vital.

More comprehensive solutions are therefore necessary to meet these challenges and we as a profession are at the forefront facing these challenges.

As Planners, we need to address these challenges and our actions should be directed towards offering sustainable strategies addressing these issues.

I therefore, believe this is a key moment in planning and I would be delighted to be actively involved in future discussions around these issues to help shape ECTP - CEUs agenda.

### **Working experience**

I am a qualified town planner with over 25 years postgraduate experience in planning covering a wide range of issues and in the past, I collaborated with local authorities and other stakeholders. My experience and expertise is in plan making (on Local Plans, sub-regional and regional spatial plans, Neighbourhood Planning) and urban design (policy, masterplan, design recommendations). A short exert of my working experience is as follows:

Developing Spatial Guidelines/Framework for the City of Graz. The research focuses on the available land reserves, as well as the existing and possible railway infrastructural

development in such municipalities. The five settlement corridors branching out of Graz metropolitan region, encompassing railway connections have been selected.

Spatial Planning and Energy for Communities In All Landscapes (SPECIAL) Planners across Europe are at the forefront of the creation of a low carbon future. On a provincial Level (Styria) Guidelines were formulated.

City of Leoben – Structure Plan to accommodate future growth in the City. The City is a major industrial hub in Styria and die Plan provided mayor strategies dealing with this growth.

Smart City “Reinighausgründe” – Graz, developing a Framework plan „Smart City Graz 2050” for future growth. The development aria consists of 50 Ha making space for 7.000 inhabitants.

### **Education**

1983 - 1987: Master Program Spatial Planning, Technical University Vienna (TU Wien)

### **Professional Affiliations**

2001 to date Member of the Austrian Chamber of Architects and Chartered Engineers

1993 to date Royal Town Planning Institute (Corporate member)

### **Voluntary Service**

Local Branch of the Federal chamber of chartered engineering consultants

Vice President to the Special planning committee

Local Branch of Federal chamber of chartered engineering consultants

Working member on the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) committee

Federal chamber of chartered engineering consultants

Working member on the Spatial planning committee

Delegate to ECTP -CEU



Gerhard Vittinghoff

Graz on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2021