

Fact sheet for planning levels



Facts: Spatial Development Strategy (Raumkonzept) & Mobility Strategy (Mobilitätskonzept)

Initial situation

Due to its dispersed settlement structure and economic strength – Liechtenstein has roughly the same number of jobs as it has inhabitants – the country has faced multiple challenges when it comes to traffic congestion and soil sealing. These challenges have been amplified by the weak legal status of the national level as well as a number of public votes that rejected a spatial planning law in 2002 and the expansion of the railway network in 2020. Within an ever-expanding public discussion about the future of spatial development in Liechtenstein – a discussion that focuses very much on topics of mobility – the government and the former Office for Building and Infrastructure (now the Office for Building Construction and Spatial Planning) developed the Spatial Development Strategy (Raumkonzept) and the Mobility Strategy (Mobilitätskonzept). Arguably inspired by similar strategic development frameworks in neighbouring Swiss cantons and the Austrian federal province of Vorarlberg, the principality held participatory processes to develop these papers for the first time.

Legal basis

• Both strategies are informal in character, however article 32(1) of the Building Law states that the government is responsible for national planning.

Competences

• The government of the Principality of Liechtenstein is responsible for national planning. Both strategies were developed in close cooperation with the municipalities and other interest groups.

Binding force

No binding force.

Tasks and content

• While both documents are informal and legally non-binding they have elicited strong responses in the media and the pressure to deliver sustainable, innovative projects. The Spatial Development Strategy (Raumkonzept) specifies seven goals for the future development of the country for different settlement types (e.g. urban cores, dense settlements, rural settlements) with specific strategies. The Spatial Development Strategy is furthermore a strategic framework for the development of the new Landesrichtplan, which is a legally binding instrument for authorities. The Mobility Strategy specifically deals with the problem of traffic congestion in the country, which is increasingly seen as detrimental for the economy. The strategy defines ten measures and projects to improve the traffic situation and public transport in the principality as well as the relevant stakeholders for their implementation.

Process and history

- The Mobility Strategy has a longer history than the Spatial Development Strategy, since it builds on older strategies, analyses and studies dating back to the beginning of the 2000s. The existing strategy was decreed by parliament in 2020 and builds on a survey and updated analysis of the development of mobility in Liechtenstein which were mainly conducted from 2016 onwards. In 2018 and 2019 an extensive public consultation took place in which many of the ideas that were being discussed in the media and promoted by specific interest groups were evaluated and included in the final strategy.
- The Spatial Development Strategy has a comparatively short history. It is, however, a form of evaluation of the existing *Landesrichtplan* and forms a conceptual foundation for its updating in a new version.

Duration of validity

The strategies cover the period up to 2030.



Notes and links

Regierung des Fürstentums Liechtenstein - Ministerium für Infrastruktur und Justiz (2022): Mobilitätskonzept 2030. Available at: https://www.mobilitaet2030.li/ (09 April 2023)

Landesverwaltung Fürstentum Liechtenstein (2022): Amt für Bau und Infrastruktur. Available at: https://www.llv.li/inhalt/1706/amtsstellen/amt-fur-bau-und-infrastruktur (09 April 2023)