

## FAREWELL

This text has been overseen by the xct Board of Members that agrees with its open communication.

For 11 years, since its birth on March 6th 2003, I have acted as Director of xct (Xarxa de Custòdia del Territori – Land Stewardship Network in Catalonia). Before that I had the chance to be one of the few people who brought the concept of Land Stewardship to Catalonia and named it “*Custòdia del Territori*” until we arrived to the vision that was the Montesquiu Declaration on Land Stewardship (2000), a kick-off for the creation of xct.

All this time I have been working with two very clear objectives, boost and scale-up Land Stewardship, and promote and facilitate the engagement of landowners, land stewardship organisations, xct member organisations, and a wide and diverse array of people, organisations and institutions that have contributed to stewardship in a myriad of ways. I am not to evaluate my own performance, but I am glad of what I have done, which, by the way, it is not a merit of mine, but a result of a large number of people and organisations, lead by xct staff team and board of members. It is thus, and I insist, a merit of many people, without whom xct and Land Stewardship in Catalonia, Spain and, in recent years, throughout Europe, would not be what it is today.

The board of members is now bringing in a new focus to the task and the structure of xct, one where my function as director has no meaning, and this is why I have accepted its proposal to end my professional career at xct. As I have said a number of times, my last wish at xct is to let it actively evolve on the hands of other persons, because that is the clearest prove that this project, that some of us started, has become a global value of many, stronger and more important year after year. This time has come and I must now thank xct and all of you for all I have received here, and wish the best to Sergi Marí ([smari@custodiaterritori.org](mailto:smari@custodiaterritori.org)) and the staff team that will continue the task of xct, jointly with its members and partners.

I hope to meet you again in future projects and professional circles on nature conservation and the environment.

Jordi Pietx i Colom,

Vic, 3rd March 2014

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