





Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

The Policy and Legal Context Set by the Carpathian Convention, CITES, the EU and National Level

Conference on Large Carnivores' Protection in the Carpathians

Ing. Jan Šíma

Department of Species
Protection and Implementation
of International Commitments,
Ministry of the Environment of
the Czech Republic

19/10/2016

Rožnov pod Radhoštěm



International Conventions

- **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)**
 - As regards large carnivores species within Central Europe, the Annex A to the Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97 includes grey wolf, brown bear and Eurasian lynx
- **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention)**
 - Wolf and brown bear listed in Appendix II (special protection requirement)
 - Eurasian lynx listed in Appendix III (requirement to keep the populations out of danger)
 - Recommendation No. 100 (2003) on conservation of large carnivores in the Carpathians; Recommendation No. 137 (2008) on population level management of large carnivore populations; Recommendation No. 128 (2007) on the European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity
 - Wolf, bear and lynx action plans



Carpathian Convention

- Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians
 - Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity (Art. 4)
- Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity
 - Parties shall harmonise and coordinate their efforts and cooperate on (...) conservation of endangered or endemic species and large carnivores. (Art. 1)
 - Strategic Action Plan implementing the Protocol (particularly Objective 3 and 4)
- WG Biodiversity
- Strengthened cooperation on issues related to landscape conservation, ecological connectivity and green infrastructure at local, regional and international levels as one of the priorities of the Czech Presidency to the Convention



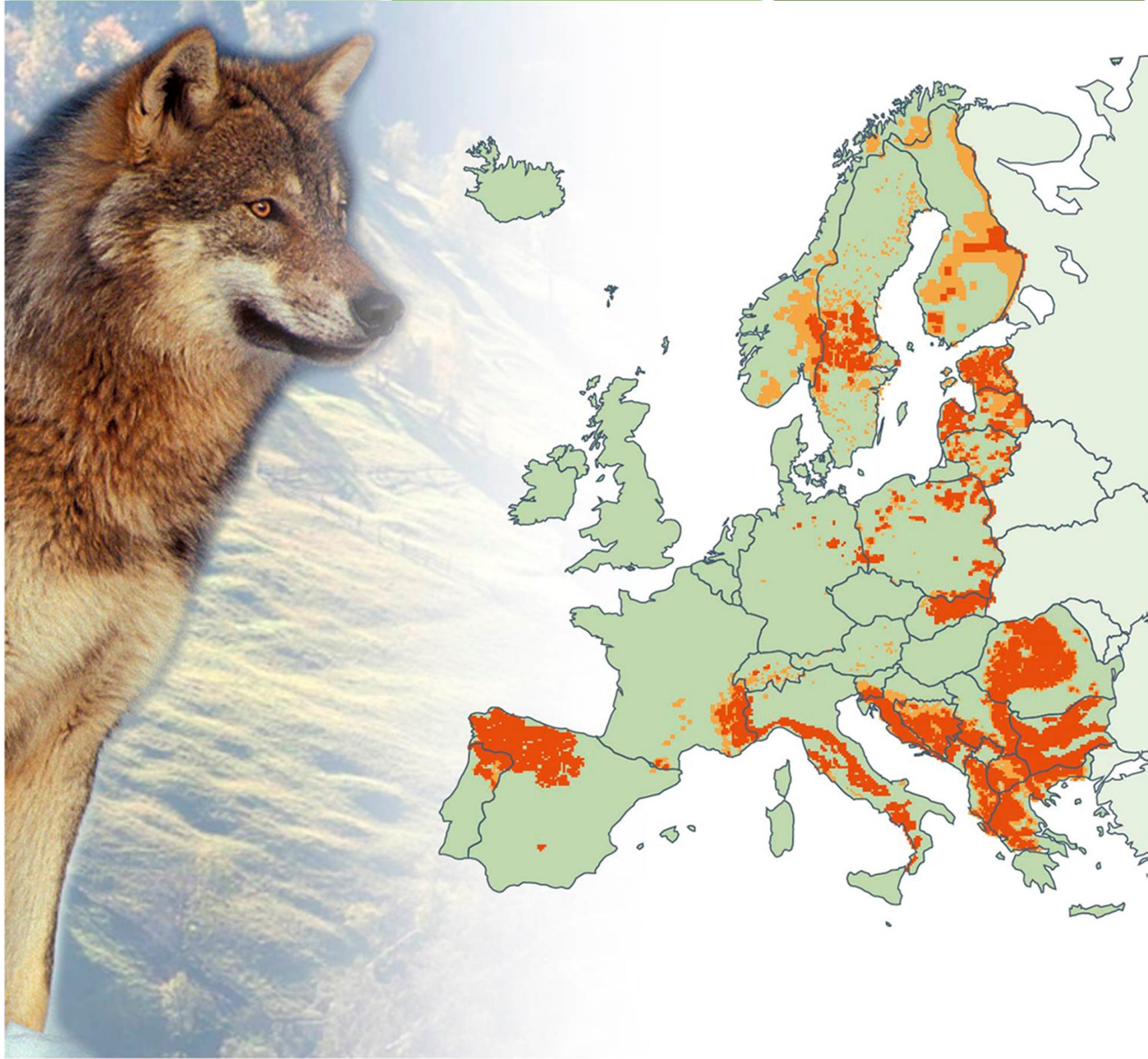
EU Level

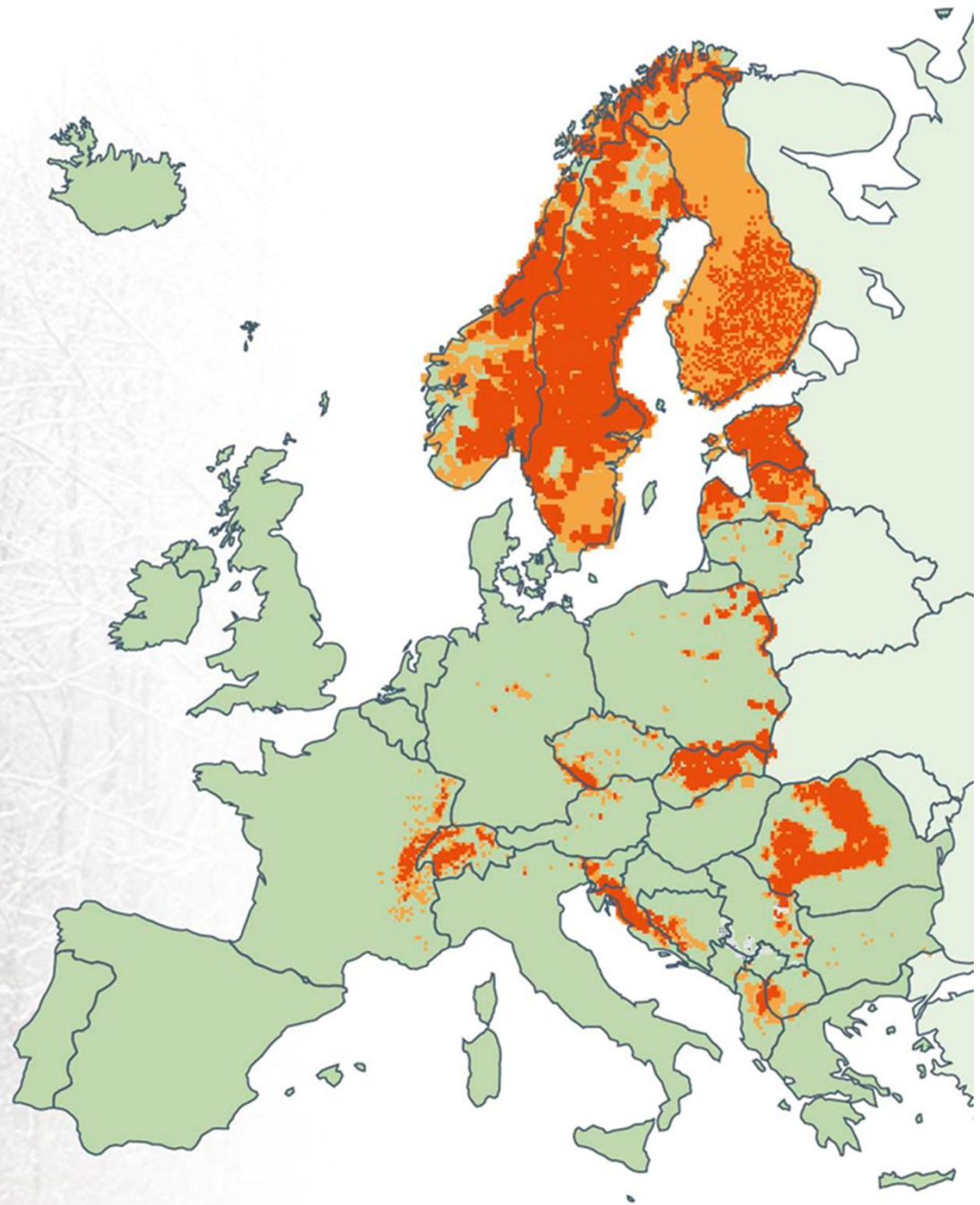
- status of Large Carnivores in the EU

- Positive trend in case of some populations (increase in numbers of bear and wolf in Scandinavian and Baltic countries, or – at least – stable populations in Central Carpathians)
- Small populations and occurrences on the borders of central areas especially endangered (e.g. occurrences of carnivores in the CR)
- Main threats: illegal hunting, loss of habitat, significant impact of fragmentation
- Large differences in acceptance – lower conflicts in areas with permanent presence (Romania, etc.)
- See: [Report: Status, management and distribution of large carnivores – bear, lynx, wolf & wolverine – in Europe](#)









EU Legislation

- **Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97** of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein – implementing CITES
- **Council Directive 92/43/EEC** of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the **Habitats Directive**)
 - Wolf, brown bear, Eurasian lynx: Annex II and IV
 - Requirement of Art. 3 and the following art. to ensure the conservation of areas hosting species listed in Annex II (Sites of Community Importance – Natura 2000)
 - Art. 12 requires to ensure strict protection of species listed in Annex II within the whole territory of MS (derogations possible according to Art. 16)
- [Guidelines for Population Level Management Plans for Large Carnivores](#)

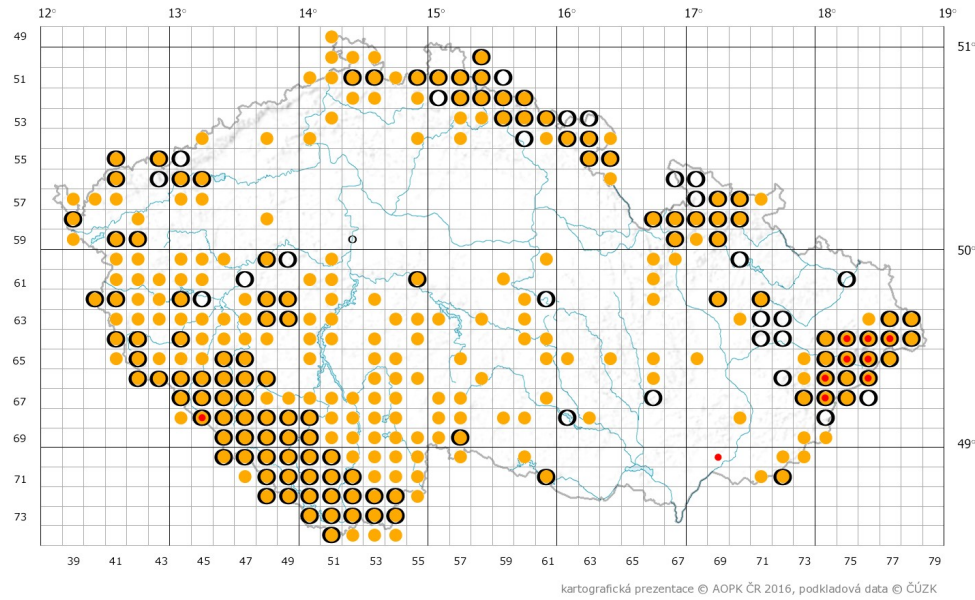


Large Carnivores in the Czech Republic

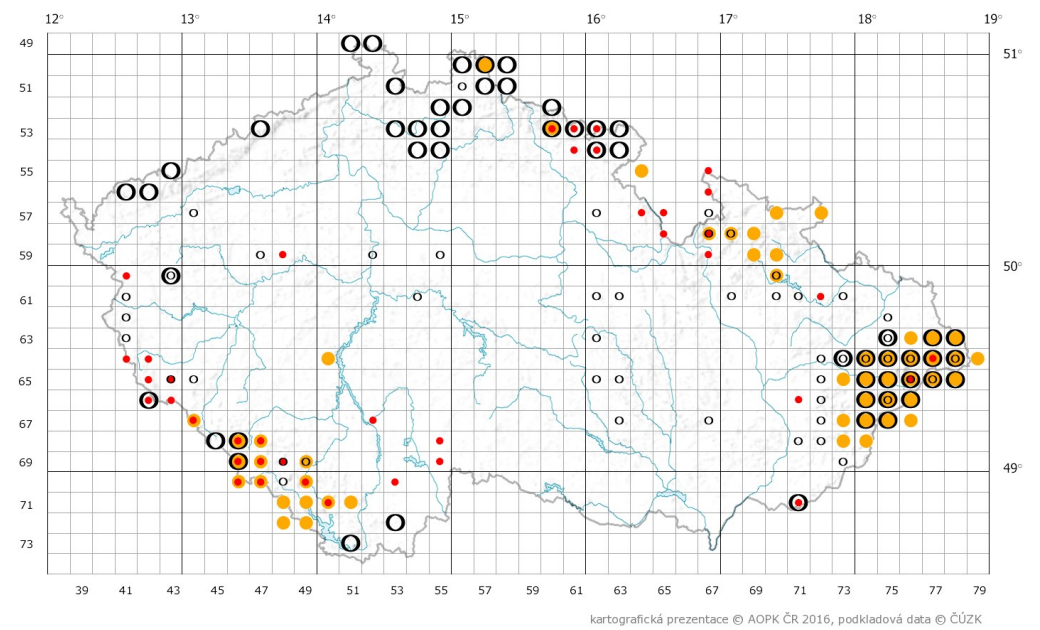
- Situation in the CR similar to the European: all species of large carnivores endangered (despite the increasing numbers during last decades, populations in the CR on the verge of viability – lynx, or bellow – wolf, bear); according to the **Red List of Vertebrates**, wolf and bear listed as CR, lynx as EN
- All these species listed among specially protected animals – **Act No. 114/1992 Coll.** (wolf, bear – critically endangered, lynx – highly endangered) and also protected as game by the **Act No. 449/2001 Coll.**
- Designation of **SCIs** in order to protect large carnivores in the CR (Beskydy – all the 3 species; Šumava, Boletice and Blanský les - lynx)
- Damages on livestock compensated according to **Act No. 115/2000 Coll.**



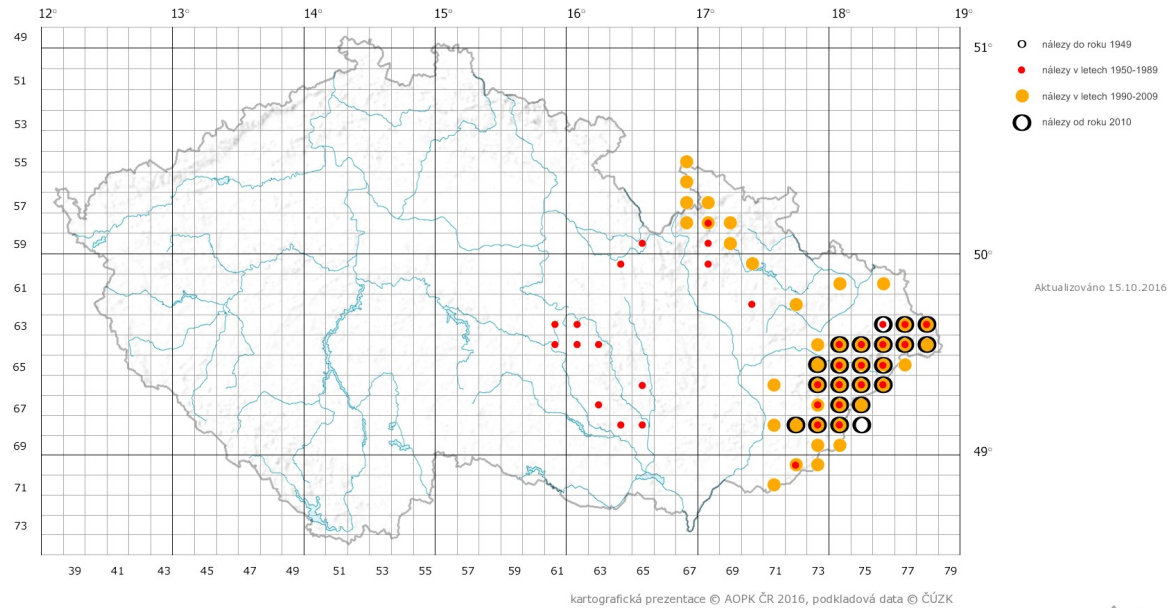
Eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*)



Grey wolf (*Canis lupus*)



Brown bear (*Ursus arctos*)



Conclusions

- Interenational and EU legislative framework gives sufficient protection of the large carnivors in means of trade in endangred species and protection of individual animals (strict protection – Art. 12 HD - in part of the countries)
- uncertainty and inconsistencies in the implementation (eg. in terms of derogations conditions), gaps in enforcement
- protected areas (Natura 2000 etc.) can contribute to the protection only of core areas of the presence of large carnivores
- need to encrease habitat conservation and ensuring the connectivity of migration corridors (within spatial planning etc.)
- system of compensation is not harmonized - various deficiencies and limitations in each country



Thank you for your attention.

Ing. Jan Šíma

Department of Species
Protection and
Implementation of
International Commitments,
Ministry of the Environment of
the Czech Republic
Vršovická 65
Prague 10, 100 00

Tel: +420 267 122 587
Fax: +420 267 126 587
Email: jan.sima@mzp.cz



Questions and answers...

Ministry of the Environment
of the Czech Republic

Ministry of the Environment
Vrsovicka 65, 100 10 Prague 10
Czech Republic

www.mzp.cz/en

