Boris Greguška Chief State Counsellor

Section of Forestry and Wood Processing





#### **FOREST EUROPE**

- the voluntary high-level political process for dialogue and cooperation on forests in Europe,
- develops common strategies for its 46 signatories
   (45 European countries and the European Union) on how to protect and sustainably manage their forests,
- General coordinating committee:
   Germany, Slovak Republic, Turkey, Sweden
- rotating secretariat (currently Liaison Unit Bonn)
- Carpathian Convention (observer status)





#### **FOREST EUROPE**

- enhance cooperation on forest policies in Europe, under the leadership of ministers, and to secure and promote sustainable forest management with the aim of maintaining the multiple functions of forests crucial to society,
- it has set a definition and criteria and indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) that are internationally recognized as guidelines for sustainable forest management,
- every four to five years, ministers responsible for forests meet at Ministerial Conferences to sign new declarations, decisions and resolutions. These commitments serve as a framework for implementing sustainable forest management in the pan-European region.

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Eighth FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference

"The Future We Want: The Forests We Need"

Bratislava, the Slovak Republic, 14 and 15 April 2021



14 - 15 April 2021

- Bratislava Ministerial Declaration
   "The Future We Want: The Forests We Need"
- Bratislava Ministerial Resolution
   "Adapting Pan-European Forests to Climate Change"

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## **Bratislava Ministerial Declaration**

"The Future We Want: The Forests We Need"



Vision for European forests 2030

14 - 15 April 2021

To share the vision that European forests are sustainably managed to be resilient, healthy, productive, and multifunctional, and contribute to sustainable development by providing economic, social, environmental, and cultural benefits for present and future generations. At the same time, the role and importance of trees outside forests in rural and urban areas is recognised.

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#### **Bratislava Ministerial Declaration**

Goals for European Forests and the 2030 European Targets

European Targets to be achieved by 2030:

- National forest programmes
- Forest knowledge is improved through research, education, innovation, information sharing, and communication.
- III. Supporting circular bio-economy through carbon sequestration and storage in forests, as well as the sustainable supply of wood.
- IV. The value of forest ecosystem services.
- Forests and climate change adaptation
- VI. Forest biodiversity
- VII. Forests and combating land degradation and desertification
- VIII. Socioeconomic and cultural benefits
- IX. Eliminate illegal logging and associated trade
- Role of urban and peri-urban forests

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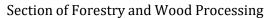
#### Bratislava Ministerial Resolution

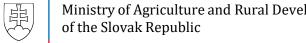
"Adapting pan-European Forests to Climate Change"

14 - 15 April 2021

To work towards the pan-European forest risk knowledge mechanism (FoRISK).

The aim of this mechanism is to support European countries, through different means and ways, in their effort in forest adaptation to climate change and enhancing resilience and mitigation potential of their forests





# FOREST EUROPE Programme of Work 2021-2024



## **Work Streams**

- (1) Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)
- (2) Pan-European Forest Risk Mechanism (FoRISK)
- (3) Green Jobs and Forest Education

It also introduces an innovative (4) Rapid Response (concept for High Level Policy debate on emerging issues, and cross-cutting communication initiatives).

(5) Communication and outreach





On the occasion of the FOREST EUROPE High-Level Policy Dialogue (on 30 August 2022), the European ministers responsible for forests and the observers sent a strong signal of solidarity with the Ukrainian people and the forest sector by endorsing the Ministerial Decision "Supporting the recovery and sustainable management of Ukrainian forests and its forest sector"

# High-Level Panel Discussion:

"Sustainable Forest Management: Unlocking Forest Biodiversity's Potential" (contribution of sustainable forest management to protecting biodiversity)

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Thank you for your attention

Question for discussion:

How to strengthen a cooperation between FOREST EUROPE and the Carpathian Convention?