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## **Towards the standardisation of monitoring procedures for large carnivores populations in the Carpathians – Large Carnivores session/workshop**

**Venue:** Forum Carpaticum 15 October 2018, Eger, Hungary

**Organizers:** the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation in cooperation with partners

The Carpathian region harbours some of the most important large carnivore populations (the Eurasian lynx, the Brown bear, and the Grey wolf) in Europe. These species require extensive, non-fragmented habitats to establish their large home ranges and to allow long-distance movements.

Monitoring is central to large carnivore conservation and sustainable management, as it provide solid basis for adaptive management procedures and to address the widespread conflicts caused by disagreement over population status. Current monitoring practices among the Carpathian countries are diverse, varying in methods used, transparency and quality. Therefore, there is a need for harmonization of sound monitoring procedures and improved transboundary coordination of large carnivore monitoring within the region, allowing introduction of effective management measures.

The Conference of Parties to Carpathian Convention, at its Fifth meeting (COP5) in Lillafüred, Hungary, 10-12 October 2017, gave the mandate to the Working Group on Biodiversity to prioritize the work on the large carnivores, and initiated the development of an International Action Plan for Conservation and Sustainable Management for the Carpathian Populations of Large Carnivores.

The workshop will be organized in the in the framework of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation signed in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, the Czech Republic on 19 October 2016.

During the workshop, participants from all the Carpathian countries will present various monitoring procedures and experiences in this field. This will be followed by a discussion on possibilities of enhanced harmonisation, standardisation, and stakeholder involvement in monitoring and transboundary coordination.

The results of the workshop will be submitted to the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Biodiversity for its consideration and further actions.