



International Action Plan on conservation of large carnivores and ensuring ecological connectivity in the Carpathians

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Photo: Ewelina Zajac

Introduction

The Carpathian region is one of Europe's last great wilderness areas, with exceptional levels of biodiversity, extensive tracts of old-growth forest and one of the most important and biggest large carnivore populations in Europe. It is estimated that over **7,200 brown bears**, **3,000 grey wolves**, and **2,350 Eurasian lynxes** currently existing in the Carpathian region (Chapron et al., 2014)



Photo: Tomas Hulik

Legal background

The legal basis for the protection of large carnivores and ensuring ecological connectivity in the Carpathian region is also embodied in the **Carpathian Convention**.

The relevant provisions regarding large carnivores are specified in:

- Article 4 of the Carpathian Convention
- The Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity (adopted by COP2 at 2008)
- The Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity (adopted at COP3 in 2011)



A photograph of two wolves in a lush forest. One wolf is standing on a large, mossy rock, looking down. Its reflection is clearly visible in a stream in the foreground. The background is filled with green foliage and tree trunks.

Implementation

The Action Plan should be implemented taking into account:

- Report on Large Carnivore Monitoring in the Carpathian Mountains
- Differences in conservation status and management methods between the Parties
- Other strategic documents, specifically including the Joint Strategic Action Plan 2021 – 2026 for the implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Transport
- Outcomes of relevant projects, including ConnectGREEN, SaveGREEN, TRANSGREEN, EuroLargeCarnivores and others
- supported by and further contribute to the Carpathian Countries Integrated Biodiversity Information System (CCIBIS)
- revised and updated every 6 years

Contributing to achieving of the Sustainable Development Goals

SDG 15 Life on land



Aim

Aiming at the maintenance of the long-term viability of large carnivores' populations in the Carpathians, while ensuring their favourable conservation status in the individual countries through transparent national processes, cross-border cooperation and a transdisciplinary approach.





Strategic Objectives

SO # 1

Standardize monitoring procedures of large carnivores in the Carpathians

SO # 2

Prevent habitat fragmentation and ensure ecological connectivity in the Carpathians

SO # 3

Improve coexistence of humans with large carnivores



Strategic Objectives

SO #4

Improve law enforcement with respect to illegal killing of large carnivores

SO #5

Improve communication and cooperation between all relevant stakeholders

SO #6

Strengthen institutional capacity-building

SO #7

Decrease impacts of climate change on large carnivores and their habitats



Contact Us

For any questions or clarifications on the Action Plan

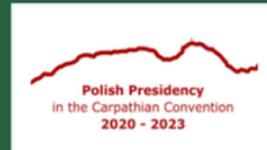
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