



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)



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



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Contact Us

For any questions or
clarifications on the Action Plan

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