

Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians¹ (CC COP8)

Vienna, Austria
1 – 3 December 2026

Provisional agenda

COP8 DAY 1 | 1 December 2026 (afternoon)

SESSION I - Organizational Matters

1. Opening of the CC COP8 – Secretariat
2. Welcome by the Outgoing Presidency – Serbia
3. Welcome by the Incoming Presidency – Ukraine
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Organizational Matters
 - a) Election of Officers
 - b) Review of credentials
6. Status of ratifications and contributions - the Depositary and the Secretariat:
 - a) Protocol on Biodiversity
 - b) Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management
 - c) Protocol on Sustainable Tourism
 - d) Protocol on Sustainable Transport
 - e) Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
 - f) New Article 12bis on Climate Change
 - g) Status of the contributions

SESSION II– From COP7 to COP8: Achievements, Lessons Learned and the Way Forward for Sustainable and Resilient Carpathians

7. Presentation of key achievements and progress made during the implementation period
8. Reflections from Working Groups

¹ COP8 serves also as the Meeting of the Parties to the: Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity, Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management, Protocol on Sustainable Tourism, Protocol on Sustainable Transport, Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

9. Exchange of views among Parties and observers on achievements, challenges, lessons learned
10. Reports by the Observers

SESSION III - Review of the COP8 Decisions

11. Consideration and finalization of draft COP8 decisions, related documents and the COP8 Ministerial Declaration, including:
 - a) DECISION COP8/1 - Implementation of the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework
 - b) DECISION COP8/2 - Support for the Implementation of the Carpathian Convention in Ukraine
 - c) DECISION COP8/3 - Programme of work and strategic priorities for the implementation period 2027–2029
 - d) DECISION COP8/4 - Cooperation with the European Union
 - e) DECISION COP8/5 - Cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and other multilateral environmental agreements and international bodies
 - f) DECISION COP8/6 - Cooperation with Eurac Research
 - g) DECISION COP8/7 - Strengthening the science–policy–practice interface
 - h) DECISION COP8/8 - Stakeholder engagement, education, awareness raising and public participation
 - i) DECISION COP8/9 - Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity (*Article 4 of the Carpathian Convention, Biodiversity Protocol*)
 - j) DECISION COP8/10 - Spatial planning (*Article 5 of the Carpathian Convention*)
 - k) DECISION COP8/11 - Sustainable and integrated water and river basin management (*Article 6 of the Carpathian Convention*)
 - l) DECISION COP8/12 - Sustainable agriculture and rural development (*Article 7 of the Carpathian Convention, SARD Protocol*)
 - m) DECISION COP8/13 - Sustainable forest management (*Article 7 of the Carpathian Convention, Forest Protocol*)
 - n) DECISION COP8/14 - Sustainable transport, infrastructure, industry and energy (*Articles 8 and 10 of the Carpathian Convention, Transport Protocol*)
 - o) DECISION COP8/15 - Sustainable tourism (*Article 9 of the Carpathian Convention, Tourism Protocol*)
 - p) DECISION COP8/16 - Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge (*Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention*)
 - q) DECISION COP8/17 - Environmental assessment/information system, monitoring and early warning (*Article 12 of the Carpathian Convention*)
 - r) DECISION COP8/18 - Climate change (*Article 12bis of the Carpathian Convention*)
 - s) DECISION COP8/19 - Implementation, reporting, compliance and institutional arrangements under the Carpathian Convention
 - t) DECISION COP8/20 - Budget, financial arrangements and resource mobilization for the Carpathian Convention
 - u) DECISION COP8/21 - Administrative and Secretariat matters
 - v) DECISION COP8/22 - Presidency of the Carpathian Convention
 - w) DECISION COP8/23 - Date and venue of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
 - x) COP8 Ministerial Declaration

COP8 DAY 2 | 2 December 2026 (full day)

SESSION IV. Looking Ahead: Shaping the Future of Sustainable and Resilient Carpathians

12. Carpathian Conversations - collaborative dialogue sessions corresponding with the Presidency priorities:
- a) Strengthening the position of the Carpathians and the Carpathian Convention at the European Level;
 - b) Balancing Economic Development with Environmental Protection;
 - c) Advancing Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Integrity, through the Implementation of the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework;
 - d) Strengthening Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction through Sustainable Water and Land Management.

These sessions will provide a platform for Parties, observers, experts, and stakeholders to exchange perspectives and experiences, identify emerging challenges and opportunities, and contribute to shaping priorities, strategic directions and concrete actions for the future implementation of the Carpathian Convention, strengthening regional cooperation and the Convention's impact across the Carpathian region.

13. Stakeholder Forum: "Voices of the Carpathians (TBC)

This session will provide a platform for stakeholders to engage, exchange, and network on issues relevant to the Carpathian region. Further details on the format will be communicated in due course.

COP8 DAY 3 | 3 December 2026 (morning)

SESSION V - Stakeholder Dialogue on the Ukrainian Carpathians

14. Interactive Dialogue on identifying Priorities and Partnerships for the Ukrainian Carpathians

This session will provide an opportunity to reflect on the needs, priorities, and opportunities for cooperation in the Ukrainian Carpathians, bringing together governments, stakeholders, development partners, and experts in a collaborative exchange. The results will be presented at the High-Level Session on Ukraine in the afternoon.

COP8 High-Level Segment | 3 December 2026 (afternoon)

SESSION I - Opening

Opening remarks and symbolic handover of the Presidency.

SESSION II - Ministerial Roundtable

High-level discussion on advancing biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, and regional cooperation in the Carpathians.

SESSION III - High-Level Session on Ukraine

High-level discussion on strengthening resilience and supporting recovery in the Ukrainian Carpathians through enhanced cooperation among Parties, international organizations, development partners, and other stakeholders. Building on the outcomes of the morning Stakeholder Dialogue on Ukrainian Carpathians, participants will present their contributions, priorities, and opportunities for future collaboration.

SESSION IV - Adoption of COP8 Outcomes and Closure

- a) Report by the COP8 Rapporteur
- b) Adoption of COP8 decisions and COP8 Ministerial Declaration
- c) Closing statements
- d) Official closure of the COP8