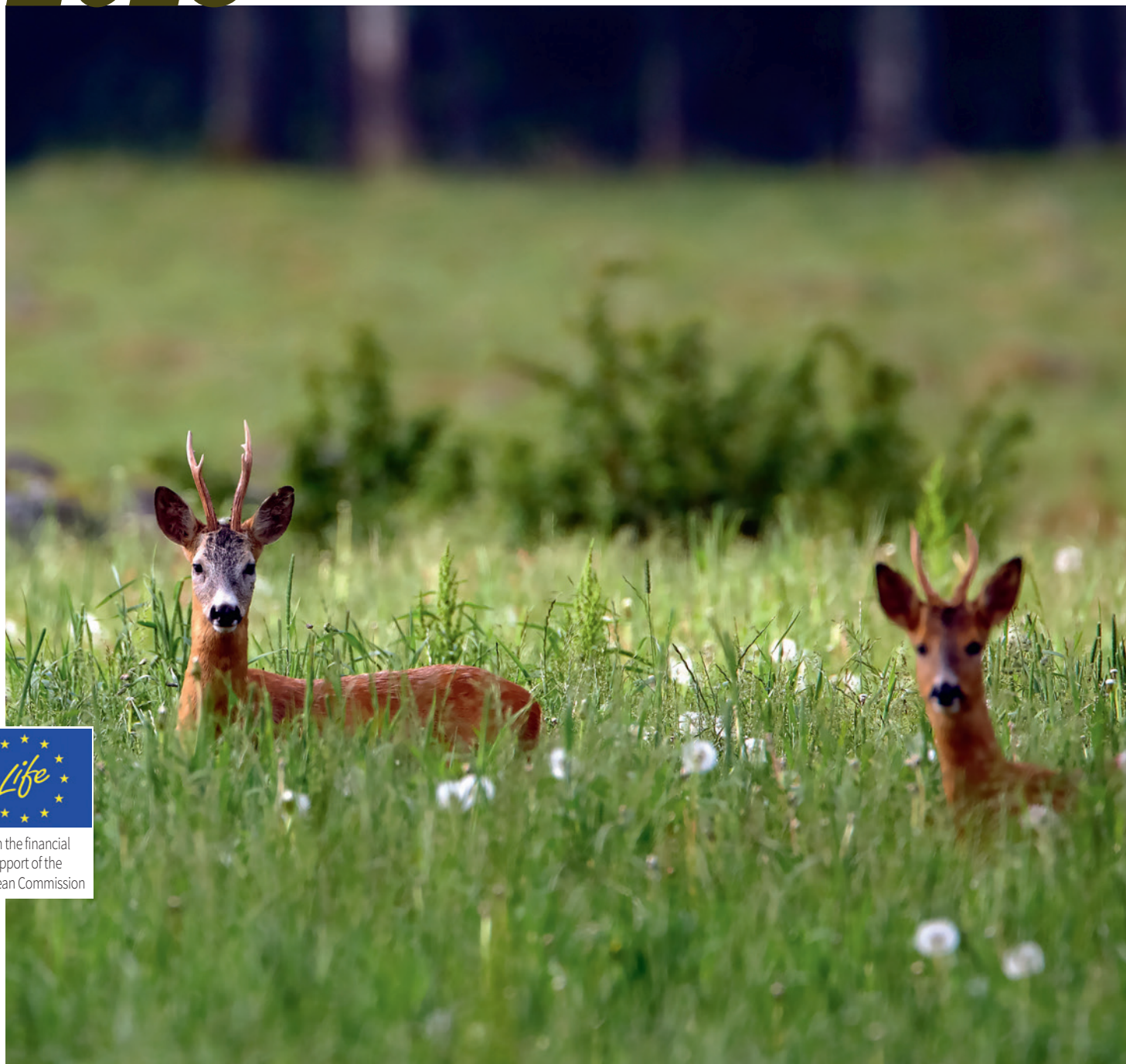




ANNUAL REPORT

European Federation for Hunting and Conservation

2018



With the financial
support of the
European Commission

4 PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD
6 THE FACE SECRETARIAT
8 FACE MEMBERS
10 THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT INTERGROUP
"BIODIVERSITY, HUNTING, COUNTRYSIDE"
12 FACE ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS 2018
16 FACE COMMUNICATION WORKING GROUP
17 MIGRATORY BIRDS
22 LARGE CARNIVORES
26 BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY
30 FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION
32 INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS
36 ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE
40 HUNTING METHODS AND CULTURE
42 FINANCES

FACE is the European Federation for Hunting and Conservation. Established in 1977, FACE represents the interests of Europe's 7 million hunters as an international non-profit-making non-governmental organisation (INGO). This makes FACE the largest democratically representative body for hunters in the world and probably one of the largest European civil society organisations.

FACE is made up of its Members: national hunters' associations from 36 European countries including the EU-28. FACE also has 7 Associate Members and has its Secretariat in Brussels since 1977.

FACE upholds the principle of sustainable use and has been a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) since 1987. FACE works with its partners on a range of hunting-and conservation-related matters, from international conservation agreements to local implementation issues with the aim of sustaining hunting across Europe.

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD



Dear members and partners,

I was elected FACE President in September 2018 with a mandate to develop a stronger FACE. One of my main priorities is to place a strong focus on FACE's Mission, Vision, Strategy that was adopted at the 2017 FACE General Assembly. This will ensure that FACE provides the best possible platform for international cooperation to preserve and promote Europe's unique regional hunting traditions.

2018 was another very busy year for FACE that required engagement in policy discussions relating to the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) to prevent declines in small game populations and the development of new international plans for huntable birds (geese, Turtle Dove and waders). FACE was also actively engaged in the updating of several EU guidance documents, including guidance that affects large carnivore management and the hunting seasons for migratory birds. We were also engaged in the policy discussions on eradicating African swine fever in wild boar.

In terms of FACE's conservation programme, CAP reform demands serious attention from FACE and its members to ensure that we improve the conditions for small game hunting in Europe. Following a successful FACE members' meeting in Bulgaria in spring 2018, European hunters demanded clear priorities for farming post 2020, including halting biodiversity losses, and improving the conditions for small game.

2019 is a year of great strategic importance to European hunters in which a new European Parliament (EP) will be elected and FACE will focus on re-establishing its EP 'Hunting' Intergroup. FACE members are well aware that the position of the European Union dominates the international policy agenda, affecting hunting and conservation in all European countries.

FACE is nothing without its members and we must work together to ensure the interests of all of Europe's 7 million hunters are at the centre when decisions are made with regard to hunting and wildlife management. Outside of specific requests from the secretariat you can help in many ways, for example, by uploading new projects on www.biodiversitymanifesto.com/share-your-project, which improves FACE's knowledge base.

For your continuous support we are very grateful!

Torbjörn Larsson



THE FACE SECRETARIAT

The FACE Team is based in Brussels and makes up the Secretariat. This team combines a passion for hunting and conservation with expertise in a range of key areas to protect hunting in Europe.

2018 STAFF

SECRETARY GENERAL

Ludwig Willnegger

ADMINISTRATION

Charlotte Nyffels
Office and Business Manager

Sandrine Dehoux
Office Assistant

CONSERVATION

Dr. David Scallan
Senior Conservation Manager

Monia Anane
Conservation Policy Officer

Roderick Enzerink
Wildlife Policy Officer

LEGAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Angela Popovic
Public Affairs Manager

Tom Van de Maele
Legal Affairs Officer

COMMUNICATIONS

Alessio Borrello
Communication Manager

Isabelle Lemmens
Member Relations Manager & Senior French Translator

Sabine Borgers-Guse
Senior Translator

Diana Selaru
Communication and Member Relations Assistant



FACE MEMBERS

FACE works with its Members, partners and the EU Institutions to facilitate understanding, action and information exchange through regular meetings with its Members, as well as with the European Parliament and the European Commission.

FACE is nowhere without its Members.

FACE Members encompass the expertise, knowledge, structures and influence that make up European hunting. FACE is made up of national hunters' associations from 36 European countries, including the 28 EU Member States as well as other countries members of the Council of Europe.

FULL MEMBERS

Albania: Federata e Gjuetarëve të Shqipërisë

Austria: Zentralstelle Österreichischer Landesjagdverbände

Belgium: Asbl wallonne du Royal Saint-Hubert Club de Belgique / Hubertus Vereniging Vlaanderen vzw

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Lovački Savez Herceg Bosne (LSHB)

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Lovački Savez Republike Srpska (LSRS)

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Savez Lovačkih organizacija BiH (SLOBiH)

Bulgaria: Съюз на ловците и риболовците в България

Croatia: Hrvatski Lovački Savez

Cyprus: Κυπριακή Ομοσπονδία Κυνηγίου και Διαθλητικής Αγρίας Ζωής

Czech Republic: Ceskomoravská Myslivecká Jednota

Denmark: Danmarks Jægerforbund

Estonia: Eesti Jahimeeste Selts

Finland: Suomen Metsästäjäliitto / Finlands Jägarförbund

France: Fédération Nationale des Chasseurs

Germany: Deutscher Jagdverband e.V.

Greece: Κυνηγική Συνμοσπονδία Ελλάδος

Hungary: Országos Magyar Vadászkamara

Hungary: Országos Magyar Vadászati Védegylet

Ireland: FACE Ireland c/o National Association of Regional Game Councils (NARGC)

Italy: FACE Italia

Latvia: Latvijas Mednieku Asociācija

Lithuania: Lietuvos Medžiotojų ir Žvejų Draugija

Luxembourg: Fédération Saint-Hubert des Chasseurs du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg asbl

Malta: Federazzjoni Kaċċaturi Nassaba Konservazzjonisti (FKNK)

Montenegro: Lovački Savez Crne Gore

Netherlands: Koninklijke Nederlandse Jagersvereniging

Norway: Norges Jeger- og Fiskerforbund

Poland: Polski Związek Łowiecki

Portugal: Federação Portuguesa de Caça (FENCAÇA)

Romania: Asociația Generală a Vânătorilor și Pescarilor Sportivi (AGVPS)

San Marino: Federazione Sammarinese della Caccia

Serbia: Lovački Savez Srbije

Slovakia: Slovenská poľovnícka komora

Slovakia: Slovenský Poľovnícky Zväz

Slovenia: Lovska zveza Slovenije

Spain: Oficina Nacional de la Caza (ONC)

Sweden: Svenska Jägarförbundet

Switzerland: JagdSchweiz / ChasseSuisse / CacciaSvizzera / CatschaSvizra

Turkey: Türkiye Atıcılık ve Avcılık Federasyonu

United Kingdom: FACE UK

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

European Association of the Civil Commerce of Weapons (AECAC)

Association of European Manufacturers of Sporting Firearms (ESFAM)

Safari Club International (SCI)

Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF)

European Bowhunting Federation (EBF)

Conservation Force

Dallas Safari Club (DSC)

OTHER MEMBERS

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

Giovanni BANA, Gilbert de TURCKHEIM.

HONORARY MEMBERS

Jochen BORCHERT, John GARDINER, Martin HØJSGAARD, Yves LECOCQ, Torstein MOLAND, John Anthony SWIFT.

PARTNERS

European Association of Traditional Hunts (AECT)

European Institute for the Management of Wild Birds and their Habitats (OMPO)

Nordic Hunters' Alliance (NHA)

BOARD

President, **M. EBNER** (until 09/2018), **T. LARSSON** (from 09/2018)
Vice-President, Germany, **V. BÖHNING**
Vice-President, Nordic Region, **C.L. CHRISTENSEN**
Vice-President, Central Region, **S. ŽERJAV**
Treasurer General, **V. MALLISON** (until 09/2018), **L. HOEDEMAKER** (from 09/2018)
Secretary General, **L. WILLNEGGER**

Vice-President, Italy, **G.L. DALL'OLIO**
Vice-President, Baltic Region, **L. DOMBROVSKA**
Vice-President, France, **A. DURAND** (until 09/2018)
Vice-President, United Kingdom, **C. GRAFFIUS**
Vice-President, Atlantic Region, **L. HOEDEMAKER** (until 09/2018), **J. FLANNERY** (from 09/2018)
Vice-President, South-East Region, **A. KELEMEN** (until 09/2018), **D. ŠORMAZ** (from 09/2018)
Vice-President, Mediterranean Region, **N. PAPADODIMAS** (until 09/2018), **L. FARRUGIA** (from 09/2018)

BUREAU

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT INTERGROUP “BIODIVERSITY, HUNTING, COUNTRYSIDE”



Known as the “Hunting Intergroup”, the European Parliament Intergroup “Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside” was created in 1985 and is one of the oldest and most active parliamentary platforms.

With some 110 actively supporting MEPs the Intergroup promotes the role of hunting and other forms of sustainable use of natural resources. FACE has provided the Secretariat for this intergroup since 1984 while the European Landowners’ Organisation serves as Co-secretariat.

It tackles topics related to biodiversity, wildlife management, rural development and forestry and discusses current subjects whilst building the bridge between civil society and decision makers.

The activities of the Intergroup are run by a Bureau who is responsible for setting the themes and providing overall guidance; MEP Karl-Heinz Florenz is the President of the Intergroup. He is an economist and agricultural expert and a Member of the European Parliament since 1989. He was re-elected in 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014.

“We are facing many challenges regarding biodiversity, sustainable hunting and wildlife management as well as climate change and rural development. This Intergroup serves as the key stakeholder platform within the European Parliament, enabling open cross-political discussions between decision-makers and experts, aiming to affirm the significant role of rural actors and the socio-economic importance of countryside activities.” - MEP Karl-Heinz Florenz

The Bureau is constituted of three Vice-Presidents: MEP Renata Briano, MEP Bendt Bendtsen and MEP James Nicholson, and a Secretary General MEP Annie Schreijer-Pierik.

In 2018, FACE organised four meetings of the Intergroup. Here are some highlights:

6 March 2018 - Keep Calm and Let Africa Take the Lead. The EU-Africa Dialogue: Supporting communities in wildlife conservation

The message that the speakers and participants in the event delivered to the EU was clear. Africa’s wildlife management authorities and the leaders of conservation-related organisations in Southern Africa are successfully managing and conserving their wildlife through sustainable use methods, including hunting. Decision-makers in the EU should work with Africa’s leaders in order to continue, support, enhance, and replicate their success.



The Minister of Environmental Affairs of South Africa, **Dr Edna Molewa** addressed the conference through a video message and reiterated South Africa’s approach to wildlife management should benefit both wildlife and people: “South Africa is committed to promoting responsible hunting that is conducted in line with the applicable legislation” she said.

10 April 2018 - Invasive alien species: Enhancing cross-border cooperation in Nutria management



The meeting provided the opportunity for water authority representatives, farmers and hunters to present their experiences and strategic approaches, and to show how cross-border

cooperation between relevant stakeholders is crucial to manage the growing Nutria population in Europe.



Stefan Leiner, Head of Unit Biodiversity (DG Environment), stated that “The EU IAS Regulation sets the framework for concerted action at the EU level in relation to the IAS of Union concern, including the Nutria. The Nutria is not only a problem for biodiversity, but also creates huge economic costs. The EU Regulation is aimed to prevent such invasions in the future and adds value to Member States efforts in managing already widely spread species such as the Nutria”.

4 September 2018 - The Next CAP: Armageddon for hares, pheasants & Co.?

The conference set out to debate the future of small game conservation in intensively cultivated agricultural landscapes, where habitat loss is one of the biggest threats to biodiversity.



Mr. Olivier Diana, from the European Commission, Policy Officer (DG AGRI) stated that agriculture and biodiversity are intrinsically linked and underlined the key role of farmers in producing food and managing natural resources. He underlined that there will be no re-nationalisation of the CAP, but more flexibility and subsidiarity for Member States always in a consistent EU framework.

6 November 2018 - Communicating the role of hunters in Europe

The conference highlighted a wide range of effective approaches to communicate the value of hunting in Europe.

“Game meat is the best ‘ambassador’ of sustainable hunting and therefore must be better promoted to secure the future of hunting” stated Oliver Dorn, entrepreneur and editor-in-chief of HALALI Magazin. He added that: “Game from a hunters’ local fields and forests is the perfect example of the sustainable use of nature and it has become more popular than ever before.”



FACE ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS 2018



20 February 2018 – Meeting EU Commissioner Phil Hogan, Brussels

FACE had a successful meeting with EU Commissioner for Agriculture Phil Hogan and a very positive discussion on making the next CAP deliver for hunting and conservation. FACE proposed to Hogan concrete measures to improve Greening to boost biodiversity and to stop the decline of small game species.

30 April – 3 May 2018 – Exhibition on Traditional Hunting in the Mediterranean Region hosted by MEP Remo Sernagiotto the European Parliament, Brussels

FACE urged that a well-balanced approach to derogations and science-based approaches to implement the Birds Directive would help to preserve culturally relevant and sustainable hunting methods. This is in line with recent calls from the European Parliament and the Council for greater flexibility in the implementation of the Birds Directive.



16 May 2018 – Conference on “The Threat of African Swine Fever in Europe: The Key Role of Hunters”



Different stakeholders expressed the need for better knowledge on wild boar biology, more financial resources to support research and stakeholder incentives to combat African swine fever (ASF) and stronger awareness-raising. MEP Grigule-Pēterse clearly summarised: The only way to effectively manage ASF is by working together and exchanging information to generate case by case solutions.

31 May 2018 – Meeting Vice-President of the European Commission, Jyrki Katainen, Brussels

FACE and the Nordic Hunters' Alliance were honoured to meet the Vice-President of the European Commission, Mr. Jyrki Katainen. FACE



called for recognising hunting as an effective management tool for large carnivores and stressed the urgent need to stop the decrease of pheasants, hares and partridges caused by intensive agriculture. The long-standing problem regarding the infringement cases by the European Commission (EC) against Sweden was addressed.

5-6 June 2018 – EU Nature Directors Meeting, Bulgaria



FACE called for a better CAP at the EU Nature Directors Meeting in Bulgaria. FACE attended the EU Nature Directors meeting held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria where Member States, the European Commission and stakeholder representatives met to discuss EU environment policies.

31 July 2018 – Meeting Bavarian CSU MEPs, Munich, Germany

FACE and Bavarian Hunting Association (BJV) met Bavarian CSU MEPs (Christian Social Union in Bavaria): Manfred Weber (Chair EPP Group),



Angelika Niebler and Albert Dess. There was an urgent call for more flexibility regarding wolves and making the next CAP 2020 deliver more habitats for small game.

7 September 2018 – Meeting EU Commissioner Johannes Hahn, Vienna, Austria



Jagd Österreich and FACE met EU Commissioner Johannes Hahn. The meeting focused on large carnivore management in the EU.

21 September 2018 – Meeting EU Commissioner Günther Oettinger, Brussels

FACE held a meeting with Commissioner Oettinger, Deutscher Jagdverband, Landesjagdverband Baden-Württemberg. There was a strong call for a more pragmatic and flexible management of wolves and more biodiversity in Common Agricultural Policy.

5 October 2018, European Parliament, Strasbourg

During this session in Strasbourg, FACE Honorary President Baron Gilbert de Turckheim joined FACE for strategic board meeting of EP Hunting Intergroup and meetings with MEPs on Large Carnivores, CAP and African swine fever.



27 November 2018 - 4th ESFAM-FACE Christmas Dinner

FACE and the Association of European Manufacturers of Sporting Firearms ESFAM organised a Christmas dinner, which has become the annual appointment for hunters and producers of sporting and hunting firearms to meet Members of the European Parliament, officials from the European Commission and representatives from stakeholder organisations.

The dinner aimed to strengthen the relationships between hunters, producers and decision makers in order to defend the right of the legal possession and use of firearms in sporting and hunting activities.

28 November 2018 - Conference on Hunting in the European year of cultural heritage “The challenges of today and tomorrow”, European Parliament, Brussels

The conference highlighted the important role of hunters in our society, in the production of scientific data and in the monitoring of wildlife.

The event was hosted by MEPs: Giancarlo SCOTTÀ, Jacques COLOMBIER, Georg MAYER, Franz OBERMAYR.

30 November 2018 - “Wolf” conference in Vienna, Austria

FACE was invited to participate in an important conference dealing with wolf management in Austria.

17 December 2018 – Meeting with EU Commissioner Violeta Bulc

At this meeting, eradication African swine fever (ASF) was given a high priority in discussions with the EU Commissioner for Transport Violeta Bulc.



FACE COMMUNICATION WORKING GROUP

In 2018, FACE revived its Communication Working Group. Communication experts within the FACE Membership agreed to meet twice a year to reflect on how to improve FACE's internal and external communication.

On 31 January 2018, the FACE Communications Working Group organised the first meeting in conjunction with the JAGD UND HUND fair in Dortmund, Germany. FACE set out to re-established a network of communication directors and experts within the FACE membership and discuss means to improve the communication flow between FACE and its Members and its outreach towards hunting communities in Europe.

On 4 July 2018, the FACE Communications Working Group held a meeting in Rossett, United Kingdom. Several decisions were made, notably having "The voice of European hunters" as the slogan of FACE. One of the main outcomes of the meeting was to create a video with the

help of BASC's staff and expertise aiming at explaining the importance of FACE. The video was displayed at the 2018 FACE General Assembly, organised in September and is used for promoting FACE.



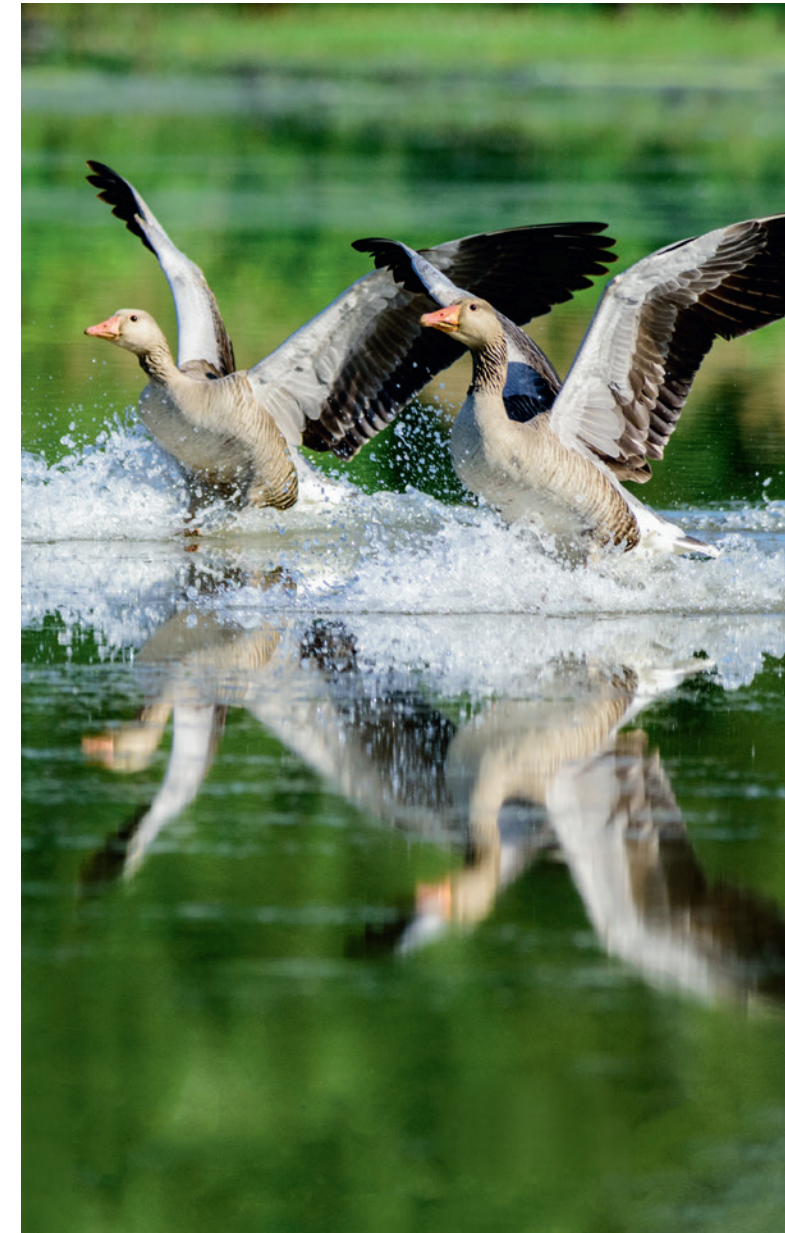
MIGRATORY BIRDS

FACE was founded in 1977 by national hunting associations in Europe to take part in the process of shaping the EU Birds Directive by providing hunters' extensive knowledge of nature and the governance of hunting. A similar role was taken at international level, with FACE's involvement, together with CIC (International Council for Game & Wildlife Conservation) and the OMPO institute, in the establishment of the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) in the 1990s. Since those early days, FACE has remained very close to its origins by engaging with these legal instruments as well as the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) continuing to respond to the challenges of conserving migratory birds and ensuring sustainable hunting of these species which we cherish.

7TH AEWA MEETING OF PARTIES: SETTING NEW PRIORITIES FOR EUROPEAN WATERBIRD HUNTING



The 7th Meeting of Parties (MoP) of the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) adopted several important positions for waterbird conservation and management, including for Europe's huntable waterbirds. The MoP also provided FACE with an opportunity to organise and participate in several side events.



The population status of many huntable and non-huntable waterbirds has deteriorated. Big concerns at this meeting for the hunting community included the Common Pochard and the Eurasian Oystercatcher. For the future, it's important that international action plans are developed for these (and other) species to restore their populations.

At the MoP, European Governments adopted management plans for the abundant Greylag Goose and Barnacle Goose. Governments saw a clear need for international coordination to manage these species, due to growing populations and associated conflicts. 2019 will be an important year to see how they will be implemented.



The AEWA strategic plan for the period 2019-2027 was developed to guide AEWA's work for the future. For the European hunting community, there are very relevant actions in this plan. For example, AEWA will facilitate international coordination for declining quarry species and conflict-causing species. AEWA will also identify problems regarding habitat conservation and implement actions to address these problems.

INTERNATIONAL SPECIES ACTION/ MANAGEMENT PLANS

The international conservation of declining bird populations is coordinated through International Species Action Plans. International

Species Management Plans are designed for bird populations that are abundant and in need of management.

Species Action Planning – EuroSAP

FACE was one of the 13 partners involved in this project, which developed species action plans for 16 species. During 2018, FACE played an important role in finalising the development of species action plans for the European Turtle Dove and Velvet Scoter as well as a multispecies action plan for wet grassland breeding waders, including: Northern Lapwing, Eurasian Oystercatcher, Black-tailed Godwit, Eurasian Curlew, Ruff, Common Redshank, Baltic Dunlin, Common Snipe. Both plans were adopted by the EU Member States in May 2018.



EuroSAP was a LIFE preparatory project, co-financed by the European Commission Directorate General for the Environment, by the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), and by each of the project partners.

INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION OF GOOSE MANAGEMENT

Not only declining populations need international attention under AEWA. At the last Meeting of Parties, AEWA range states adopted management plans for the Greylag and Barnacle Goose. This has been facilitated by the European Goose Management Platform. Monitoring showed that their populations have been increasing dramatically. This is causing increasing conflicts in many countries, in particular with agriculture and air safety, but also for biodiversity. The governments saw a clear need for international coordination to manage these species.



Their different legal status in the European Union (EU) and the novelty of international management made these plans challenging to develop. At the 7th AEWA MoP (December 2018) Governments adopted these by consensus. However, European hunters are disappointed to see that certain countries may not implement the plans. This could significantly reduce the effectiveness of the international coordination.



HUNTABLE DUCKS

Many European duck species are receiving increasing attention through new action plans (e.g. Velvet Scoter). The status of many populations under AEWA changed in 2018 (e.g. Pochard and Eider Duck) and in some cases hunting will be affected. Population trends of many common ducks are now decreasing (e.g. Wigeon). It is therefore very important to keep FACE updated with the latest science and knowledge.

From 6-20 April 2018, FACE attended the Pan-European Duck Symposium, organised by the Duck specialist group under IUCN and Wetlands International, and the 18th Conference of Goose Specialist Group, organized by the IUCN and Wetlands International Goose specialist group. At the meetings, it was acknowledged that hunters' knowledge and management actions are vital for the scientific community. Several FACE members attended the conferences.





COMBATTING ILLEGAL KILLING OF BIRDS (IKB)

For FACE, sustainable hunting is not a problem for illegal bird killing, but illegal bird killing is a problem for sustainable hunting!

During 2018, FACE followed developments under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Wild Birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT) which makes progress towards eradicating illegal killing of birds (IKB).

FACE has a long-standing zero tolerance policy on wildlife crime including illegal killing. Dr. David Scallan, FACE Senior Conservation Manager, who attended the Flyways Summit in Abu Dhabi in April 2018, delivered a presentation outlining the various activities carried out by FACE Members in the fight against IKB. These include the involvement of hunters in voluntary enforcement, public condemnation of IKB by hunting associations, the organisation of various educational initiatives and the promotion of non-binding charters, such as the European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity.



LARGE CARNIVORES

The European hunting community is an active player in large carnivore conservation, directly contributing to their monitoring as well as to the management of their habitats and prey across our continent. In Europe's densely populated multi-functional landscapes, humans and large carnivores need to find a way to coexist; hunters are - and must be - part of the solution.

With this in mind, FACE works at several levels and promotes large carnivore management and conservation based on scientific knowledge on populations, as well as taking into account the human dimension so as to effectively reduce conflicts.

EU PLATFORM ON COEXISTENCE BETWEEN PEOPLE AND LARGE CARNIVORES

This Platform was established to promote ways and means to minimize, and wherever possible find solutions to, conflicts between human interests and the presence of large carnivore species.

FACE is one of the founding members of the EU platform on large carnivores. It is an important opportunity to link with other stakeholders, share information and keep being informed on important work on this topic. In 2018, FACE attended all 4 meetings of the platform. Two meetings in Brussels, which are organised for the members of the platform and to discuss ongoing work.



The platform organised two regional workshops in 2018. In September 2018, WWF and IUCN organised a workshop as part of the Pathways 2018 conference in Goslar, Germany. The focus was on exploring how rural development funding can improve coexistence between people and large carnivores.



In November 2018, FACE attended a workshop in Montenegro. Large carnivore populations cross a lot of borders in the Balkan region, which increases the need for cross-border cooperation in this region. This meeting aimed at fostering information exchange across borders and potentially start a regional platform to inform and communicate large carnivore conservation.



FACE LARGE CARNIVORE WORKING GROUP

FACE Members encompass a great amount of knowledge and expertise for a better future for Europe's large carnivores. For large carnivore policy development and implementation – whether within a specific country, at EU or Council of Europe level – FACE ensures that it has adequate up-to-date expertise and knowledge on relevant ecological, legal and socio-economic aspects to provide expert input. FACE uses its network of large carnivore experts from all around Europe, forming the FACE Large Carnivore Working Group. This Group is instrumental

in maintaining and developing FACE's knowledge base and in coordinating the FACE input for EU and other processes.

On 15 May and 13 November 2018, the FACE large carnivore working group convened in the FACE office to discuss different topics on large carnivores. Many FACE Members as well as multiple staff members of FACE participated. During the meetings, FACE worked on improving its knowledge based and discussed FACE's lobbying efforts, especially to implement Article 19 of the Habitats Directive. The meeting in November focused on the European Commission's update of guidance document on the strict protection under the Habitats Directive.



STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Partnerships lie at the heart of all FACE's work on large carnivores. Through various fora (such as the EU Action on large carnivores and the Rural Coalition) and bilateral exchanges, FACE collaborates extensively with the scientific expert community (e.g. the Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe, LCIE) and various stakeholders such

as the farmers and landowners (e.g. Copa-Cogeca and ELO) and environmental NGOs (e.g. WWF).

POLITICS IN LARGE CARNIVORE CONSERVATION

Large carnivores are a major priority for FACE, which is reflected in some of the activities in 2018. Part of the work on large carnivores is making sure the Habitats Directive is correctly implemented. We advise our members and other stakeholders on this. Currently, there is one element of the Habitats Directive which is not implemented. Article 19 of the Directive calls for an amendment procedure for the protection status of listed species. The European Commission has implemented this part of EU legislation.

That is why FACE has been meeting with many of the Commissioners during 2018 to discuss this issue, among who were Phil Hogan (Agriculture), Johannes Hahn (Enlargement), Günter Oettinger (Budget) and Violeta Bulc (Transport). On 31 May 2018, FACE met with Jyrki Katainen, Vice-President of the European Commission, to stress the need for a more pragmatic and trust-based approach to large carnivore management.

FACE has also been involved in initiatives in the European Parliament and FACE staff participated in many events on large carnivores. Among these was an intergroup meeting on large carnivores. There were also several documents in the European Parliament. Because of FACE's involvement, the need for a flexible and pragmatic large carnivore management is supported by an overwhelming majority of the parliament.



BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

Hunters share a passion for nature and biodiversity, because their future ability to hunt depends on it. This is why hunters engage every day right across Europe to conserve and restore nature and biodiversity.

FACE and its Members adopted the FACE Biodiversity Manifesto which reflects the active commitment made by European hunters to biodiversity conservation, ensuring the sustainability of hunting for future generations.

THE BIODIVERSITY MANIFESTO



The FACE Biodiversity Manifesto (BDM) shows the contribution of hunting to conservation through concrete examples of initiatives undertaken by hunters through Europe, which benefit wildlife. Each year, FACE develops an implementation report to assess

the progress being made in the field. The first (2015) BDM report highlighted hunters' contribution to implementing the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 through its 181 case studies. The second (2016) BDM report demonstrated hunters' contribution to implementing the EU nature directives with almost half of the 221 case studies undertaken on Natura 2000 sites. The 2017 BDM Report, based on 300 initiatives, shows hunters' contribution to the conservation of farmland habitats and species. The 2018 report focused on hunters' contribution to the monitoring of wildlife populations.



In 2018, FACE developed its BDM website that shows:

- the Biodiversity Manifesto and its reports
- the projects gathered
- the opportunity to share your project
- documents related to hunting and conservation.

Visit www.biodiversitymanifesto.com for the best source for hunting-related conservation information in Europe.

FACE warmly welcomes new BDM initiatives. These can include habitat and species management activities, monitoring and research, awareness raising, etc. as long as it benefits biodiversity and includes hunters. Visit our website to upload your project.



COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY REFORM



During 2018, FACE continued its work on the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). FACE is calling for a more sustainable CAP that addresses the biodiversity crisis on Europe's farmland, which is affecting the status of many huntable and non-huntable species. Most small game populations have decreased due to intense agricultural

practices (dramatic loss of quality habitat and food, with poor insect abundance) and the utilisation of unsustainable agricultural production methods.

According to FACE, the next CAP post 2020 should reward farmers for producing food and ecosystem services whatever the scale, thereby providing multiple benefits for farmers and society at large. For hunters, this means that the next CAP should play a more positive role with regard to the conservation of small game species, which require a diversity of farmland habitats. Hunters and farmers have a role to play and partnership between both parties is important.

It is evident that current Greening measures do not have a significant positive impact on farmland biodiversity. Furthermore, they can often represent an additional administrative burden for farmers and authorities. In this context, FACE is asking for a new Greening instrument in the next CAP to ensure agriculture's coherence with other existing EU policies such as the nature directives, the Water Framework Directive, the Nitrates Directive, etc.

FACE EXPERT GROUP ON AGRICULTURE AND LAND USE

In March 2018, FACE held a meeting of its expert group on Agriculture and Land Use in Bulgaria to develop FACE's formal position on Common Agricultural Policy post-2020. The meeting agreed on a number of key action points including:

- The development of a FACE position paper on CAP post-2020.
- Guidance for FACE Members on optimising future national Rural Development Programmes for huntable species/hunters in Europe.
- The provision of information for FACE Members regarding what flexibility can be used by Member States with regard to ensuring the conservation of ecological features and farmland habitats.

FACE'S INPUT INTO THE NEXT COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY (CAP)

During 2018, FACE developed its position on the next CAP stating that European agricultural policy should:

- Reward farmers for producing food and ecosystem services whatever the scale, thereby providing multiple benefits for farmers and society at large. For hunters, this means that the next CAP should play a more positive role with regard to the conservation of small game species, which require a diversity of farmland habitats.
- Encourage and help farmers to better respond to the multiple environmental and often competing market demands.
- Incentivise habitat restoration while, at the same time, provide economic security to farm families.
- Contribute better to the EU's international commitments on biodiversity conservation and to the relevant Sustainable Development Goals.
- Provide flexibility for Member States to adapt their land eligibility requirements to local and regional land use conditions and characteristics (i.e. to support the diversity of Europe's countryside).

Natura 2000

The Natura 2000 Network benefits from the fact that it is based on the principles of conservation and sustainable use, ensuring lasting coexistence with human activities and biodiversity conservation. As such, it is not in contradiction with hunting. The Biodiversity Manifesto (BDM) implementation reports show the scale of hunters' management in Natura 2000 sites: half of the case studies gathered are in Natura 2000 sites. This demonstrates how sustainable hunting is an important tool to help achieve the conservation objectives of Natura 2000. The BDM also shows that the management practices adopted by hunters can benefit not only game species but also a range of other protected or endangered animals and plants. This is important as EU Member States have to ensure the favourable conservation status of habitats and species of EU interest under the nature directives. This requires

financing, monitoring, conservation and restoration. The BDM shows that hunters contribute to all of these aspects and therefore Natura 2000 needs hunters' support.

Natura 2000 Seminars of the Biogeographical Process

The Natura 2000 Seminars are part of the European Commission's Biogeographical Process which was established to encourage multi-stakeholder co-operation towards better implementation of the nature directives. The Biogeographical process meetings represent a good opportunity for FACE and other rural actors to exchange views and good practices about the management of Natura 2000 sites and issues related to implementation of the Nature Directives.

Continental, Pannonian, Steppic & Black Sea Regions Natura 2000 Seminar

FACE, through its Italian member, participated in the participated in the Continental, Pannonian, Steppic & Black Sea Regions Natura 2000 Seminar on 16-18 October 2018 in Strasbourg. Topics of interest included a workshop dedicated to better involve stakeholders in Natura 2000 site management. In this context, FACE could refer to the 100+ hunting-related conservation projects within Natura 2000 sites listed in the FACE Biodiversity Manifesto.

The Natura 2000 Users Forum

The Natura 2000 Users' Forum brings together FACE, the foresters (the Confederation of European Forest Owners, CEPF), farmers (Copa-Cogeca), anglers (European Anglers' Alliance, EAA) and landowners (European Landowners' Organisation, ELO). Our organisations represent the major environmental, socio-economic and socio-cultural activities linked to rural areas – the areas which host the largest proportion of biodiversity in the EU. Together we represent over 45 million EU citizens which own, manage, use and conserve land. The Forum has proven to be a powerful platform to address EU policy-makers with joint and coherent messages from Europe's land users.



FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

FACE and its Members seek to ensure that hunters can acquire, possess, use and travel with firearms and ammunition safely and without unjustified bureaucracy, costs or restrictions. Many of these aspects are presently covered by EU law, either through full harmonisation or minimum rules. Furthermore, FACE aims to facilitate processes to ensure that hunters have information on and access to ammunition which is available, affordable and safe to use for the purpose intended.

MARKING OF ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF FIREARMS

During 2018, FACE held several meetings with the industry and replied to the EU consultation on the “Technical specifications for the marking of firearms and their essential components”. The concrete implementation of the marking requirements for firearms has implications for hunters. FACE criticised that the draft implementing act is not coherent with the provisions of the Firearms Directive on the European Firearms Pass. FACE is convinced that the marking of all essential components is not contributing to a better traceability and monitoring of the movement of firearms. This could lead to restrictions to the free movement of hunters who could be obliged to re-mark the barrels of their firearms.

EUROPEAN SHOOTING SPORTS FORUM (ESSF)

On 15 June 2018, FACE attended an ESSF meeting in Brussels where updates were given on the implementation of the Firearms Directive in the different EU countries. FACE is now focusing on the transposition of the EU legislation into national laws and will assist and support hunting associations to ensure a smooth implementation without unnecessary burdens and obstacles for hunters, owners and manufacturers of firearms.

NEW EU RESTRICTION ON THE USE OF LEAD IN SHOT OVER WETLANDS

Following a request from the European Commission (EC), the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) launched a public consultation on its proposed restriction on the use of lead shot over wetlands in June 2017. FACE identified key issues with ECHA's approach including the very broad definition of a ‘wetland’, a proposed restriction on the

‘possession’ of lead shot and a short phase-out period (3 years) for countries with no restrictions in place. FACE made two submissions to the online consultation and encouraged FACE members to respond. FACE also participated at the meetings of the ECHA Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) and ECHA Risk Assessment Committee (RAC). The public final consultation, which FACE also responded to, closed on 21 May 2018. On 17 August 2018, the opinion of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) on restricting lead shot over wetlands was sent to the European Commission (EC). In 2019, the EC plans to send its proposed text for the EU regulation to Member States for discussion within the EU REACH Committee.

LEAD (METAL) AS A SUBSTANCE OF VERY HIGH CONCERN (SVHC)

Sweden (via the Swedish Chemicals Agency) proposed all lead metal as a Substance of Very High Concern (SVHC). In June 2018, ECHA's Member State Committee agreed to identify lead as a SVHC, with the formal addition of the substance to the Candidate List. This listing was facilitated by the fact that lead is classified as a Category 1A reproductive toxicant under ECHA. Candidate Listing means that EU and EEA suppliers of articles containing more than 0.1% by weight of lead must provide information to the recipients which allows for safe use. ECHA regularly assesses the substances on the Candidate List to determine which ones should be included in the Authorisation List as a priority. If lead metal makes the Authorisation List, it could result in a regulatory move towards non-lead ammunition where alternatives exist.

ECHA REPORT ON IMPACTS OF LEAD IN THE WIDER ENVIRONMENT

When the European Commission (EC) requested ECHA to prepare a restriction on lead shot over wetlands, the same letter also asked ECHA to

look into the wider impacts of lead ammunition. On 12 September 2018, based on ECHA's assessment of the wider impacts of lead ammunition, ECHA issued a press release recommending that “*that measures are needed to regulate the use of lead ammunition in terrestrial environments in addition to those proposed for wetlands*”. The press release is based on a report entitled: “Review of the available information on lead in shot used in terrestrial environments, in ammunition and in fishing tackle”. During 2018, the FACE Ammunition Working Group initiated a critical analysis of the report.



FACE AMMUNITION WORKING GROUP



The FACE Ammunition Working Group meets twice per year to discuss important policy developments related to ammunition. An example of a recent initiative from the working group includes the development of a new FACE website “Guidance on Managing Risks from Lead Ammunition”: www.leadammunitionguidance.com





INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

FACE actively participates in key International Agreements, providing relevant expertise, coordination, synergies and awareness in collaboration with its partners and members. In this way, FACE is informed about and involved in all international conservation decisions. This also provides a way for FACE to raise the international profile of hunters as conservationists, as well as finding ways of working with other conservationists

BERN CONVENTION

In December 2018, Contracting Parties to the Bern Convention gathered in Strasbourg for the 38th annual meeting of its Standing Committee. Experts and NGO representatives, including FACE, joined national delegates to discuss the outcomes of activities implemented throughout 2018, in particular on the control of invasive alien species (IAS), the eradication of illegal killing of birds, the relation between biodiversity and climate change, and the management of protected areas.

FACE, together with other partners and experts, developed the European Code of Conduct on Hunting and IAS, which was adopted by the Bern Convention in 2013. On IAS, FACE was pleased to see that its second report on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct on Hunting and IAS was adopted in 2017. This work is based on information gathered from 10 European countries (Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden and United Kingdom). This document presents seven principles that hunters and hunting associations should follow in order to contribute to IAS and the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020.

AIHTS: BETTER IMPLEMENTATION NEEDED BY EU MEMBER STATES

Under the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS), traps used for certain AIHTS-listed species need to be evaluated using approved testing standards and must subsequently be certified as meeting the AIHTS welfare requirements.

EU Member States had until July 2016 to prohibit the use of traps not certified in accordance with the standards of the Agreement (for AIHTS species). However, most Member States have not achieved this. FACE wants to see more progress being made in implementing this agreement.



In 2018, it was EU's turn to host the AIHTS Joint Management Committee meeting where the contracting parties – Canada, the EU and Russia – met to report on implementation. The European Commission is increasing its efforts to promote implementation of the agreement in the EU. In this context, FACE Members should continue discussing this topic with their respective Government agencies and encourage implementation at national level.

See the FACE website for our position on tapping, further information on AIHTS, and our work on best practice trapping guidelines for Raccoon Dog, Muskrat, Red Fox, European pine marten and Eurasian beaver.

CITES REAFFIRMS THE SUSTAINABILITY LEOPARD HUNTING IN AFRICA



The Convention in International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) had a meeting of its scientific experts (Animals Committee) from 16-21 July 2018. The major achievement was the positive outcome of the review of Leopard hunting quota for several African countries: the quota of 7 countries could be retained, as

the review showed that they were sustainable and not detrimental to the survival of the species.

CITES regulates international trade to make sure that trade in endangered species is legal, sustainable and not detrimental to the survival of the species. During the last Conference of Parties (CoP), in Johannesburg (2016), it was decided that the long-standing quota for Leopard hunting trophies and skins should be reviewed by the committee of scientific experts, the Animals Committee.



Seven countries submitted documents for a review: Mozambique, Uganda, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. For these countries the CITES Committee concluded that the quotas are still sustainable and not detrimental to the survival of the species. The countries, in their documentation, mentioned the multitude of benefits they receive from the quota, examples are: benefits for local communities, economic incentives for conservation and resolving or mediating human-leopard conflicts.

AFRICAN WILDLIFE CONSULTATIVE FORUM (AWCF)

In the context of CITES, FACE's associate member, Safari Club International Foundation, organises a yearly meeting drawing

together everyone involved in hunting and conservation in Africa. In 2018, FACE also attended, as part of our continuous work on international hunting and preparation for the CITES conference a meeting which was hosted by the government of Uganda, from 12-16 November, in Kampala.

FACE focused on the European dimension in international hunting and CITES, discussing the involvement of the European Union in decision-making and sharing European experiences. The most important topic for European hunters is to be able to take home their hunting trophies, without major restrictions being put on that, which was supported by the Forum. It was regularly emphasised that hunting can be an excellent management tool and that it creates necessary incentives for conservation around the world.





Hunters monitor the health status of animals living in the wild (e.g. African Swine Fever, Rabies, Avian Influenza amongst others) and so play a key role in protecting public health and that of domestic (farmed) animals. In this way, hunters are key partners of European (EU) and international (World Organisation for Animal Health -OIE) initiatives against transmissible diseases (zoonosis).

FACE ensures EU policies are workable for hunters in the field and provides guidance to hunters on how best to comply with administrative procedures linked to game meat, animal welfare, public and animal health. FACE participates in the meetings of the European Commission's Animal Health Advisory Committee.

AVIAN FLU: HUNTERS AS WATCHDOGS FOR THE HEALTH OF WILDLIFE

In 2018, FACE disseminated information on the spread of avian flu to its members although thankfully it was a quiet year for this disease. FACE urged Europe's 7 million hunters to remain alert and report any suspected cases (of sick or dead birds) to national authorities. FACE was advising hunting organisations to:

- Continue to monitor avian flu surveillance programmes and keep up with other developments as they occur;
- Continue to inform their members about avian flu and the need to exercise caution when handling birds.



AFRICAN SWINE FEVER: HUNTERS ROLE FOR THE HEALTH OF ALL ANIMALS



In 2018, FACE followed all updates with regards to the spread and management of African swine fever (ASF). FACE worked together with different stakeholders on this topic (governments, veterinary services, representatives of farm industry,

food agencies and national hunting associations). FACE worked closely with DG SANTE and Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis:

- In March 2018, FACE developed together with DG Santé a factsheet on the key role of hunters in the control of ASF in the EU.
- In September 2018, Commissioner Andriukaitis came to FACE's General Assembly where he delivered a key speech in front of all FACE Members stating: "ASF is one of Europe's largest animal health challenges where hunters have an important role".
- FACE Vice President Linda Dombrovská represented the European hunting community at a GF-TAD meeting in Warsaw (Poland). This led to the organisation of a large conference beginning 2019 in Dortmund Germany between FACE and the EC.

FACE organised, after the outbreak in September in Belgium, an ASF Task Force. This task force:

- Held online meetings weekly;
- Monitored the spread of African swine fever within wild boar populations;
- Exchanged information and knowledge within FACE's membership.





Implementing the EU strategy on ASF and maintaining high biosecurity measures is crucial and until now the only successful way in tackling the disease.

ANIMAL WELFARE AND HEALTH WORKING GROUP

In 2018, FACE kept its Animal Welfare and Health Working Group informed about FACE's participation at meetings of the EU Advisory Group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health.

FACE's participation in EU meetings was important to provide stakeholders with an update on the revision of official controls on food of animal origin (replacing Regulation (EC) No 854/2004) and to collect views of stakeholder organisations.

These meetings are important for FACE to discuss the implementation of the EU Regulations, which set requirements and responsibilities for producing wild game as food.

FACE also followed the EU Platform on Animal Welfare. The focus of the platform is not on wild animals, but domestic and, in particular, farm animals. As hunting dogs are covered in this platform, FACE will keep following the issues.

ANIMAL WELFARE AND HEALTH MEETINGS

09 January 2018, Strasbourg: The EP's Intergroup on the Welfare and Conservation of Animals organised a meeting with the title: "The set-up of the EP Committee and inquiry on animal transport".

01 June 2018, Brussels: The Advisory group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health held a meeting on issues related to the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union pursuant to Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union. The purpose of the meeting

was to provide stakeholders with information and explanations on relevant notices within DG SANTE policies.

05 July 2018, Strasbourg: The EP's Intergroup on the Welfare and Conservation of Animals discussed the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the opportunities the new legislative framework provide to promote higher animal welfare standards in the EU.

21 September 2018, Brussels: The Advisory group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health organised an ad-hoc meeting on plant protection products.

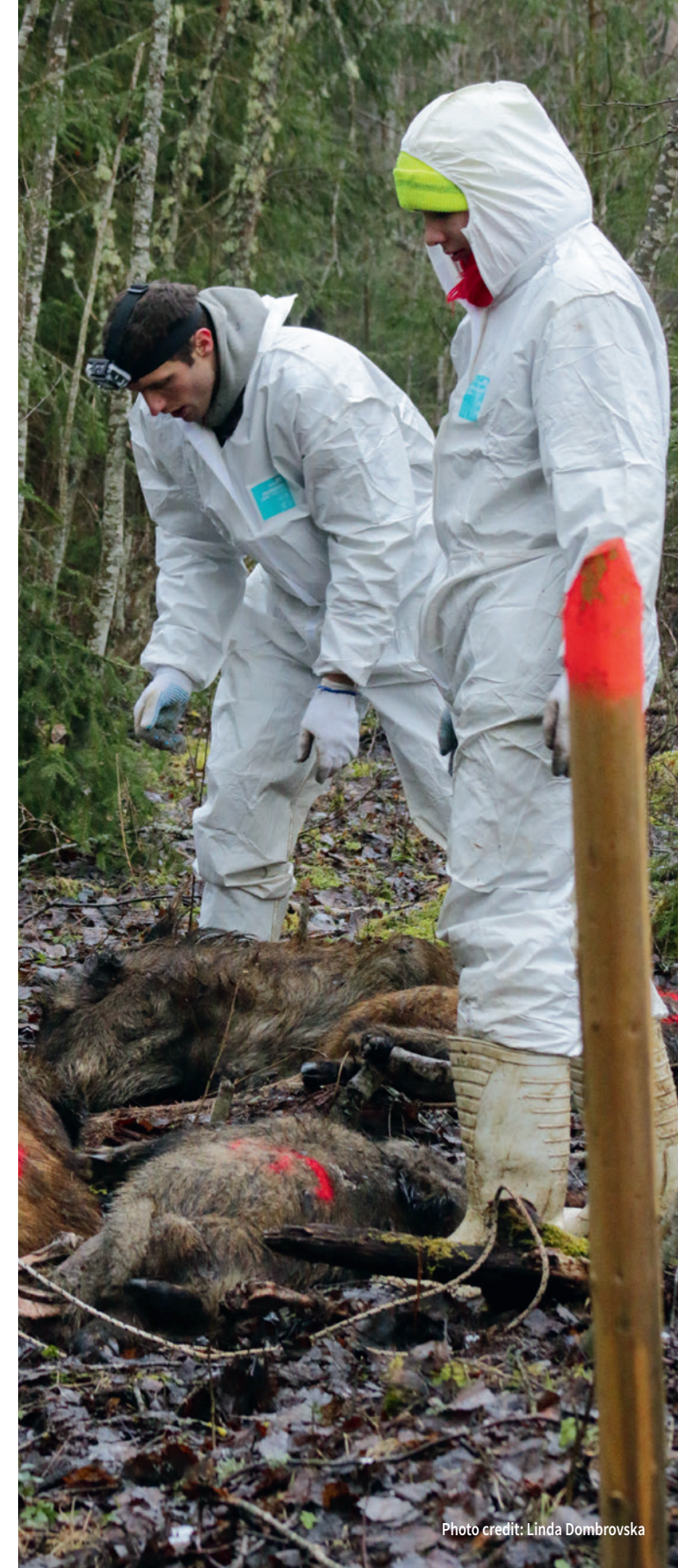
10 October 2018, Brussels: The Advisory group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health met to discuss the Official Controls Regulation which is a new framework for better and integrated controls for animals, food and feed in the EU.

11 October 2018, Brussels: The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Draft Commission Implementing Regulation on temporary measures governing the import of certain feed and food of non-animal origin from certain third countries – implementation of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on Official Controls.

11 November 2018, Brussels: The Advisory group on the food chain and animal and plant health met to discuss the draft Commission Implementing Regulation on temporary measures governing the import of certain goods from certain third countries repealing Commission Regulations (EC) No 669/2009, (EC) No 884/2014, (EC) No 885/2014, (EC) No 2015/175 and (EC) No 2017/186.)

26 November 2018, Brussels: Plenary meeting of the Advisory Group in the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health.

03 December 2018, Brussels: Animal health advisory committee (Sub-Group of the Advisory Group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health).



During 2018, FACE urged Europe's 7 million hunters to be aware of ASF at all times. Where any case of ASF is suspected, hunters need to immediately report this to their national authorities. By being the eyes and ears of the forest, hunters will play their role in an effective eradication of ASF.

To eradicate ASF, hunters must work together with many different stakeholders who sometimes do not understand hunting or speak another kind of language. In all of these cases, it will be important to communicate with each other in an understandable way.

HUNTING METHODS AND CULTURE

The strength of European hunting lies in its diversity. FACE actively supports the rich diversity of hunting methods, traditions and cultures in Europe whilst fully promoting the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, which defer decisions and their application to national levels. Our partners in this work include the International Union of Hunting with Hounds, the European Bowhunting Federation (EBF), the International Association for Falconry and the Conservation of Birds of Prey (IAF) and the European Association of Traditional Hunts (AECT) to name a few.

FACE ATTENDS UNESCO INFORMATION SESSION ON INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICH)

On 20 April 2018, FACE attended the UNESCO information session at the UNESCO headquarter in Paris, France. As some FACE members will remember, falconry is already recognised as an activity of worldwide Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) and has national UNESCO listing in many countries. FACE and IAF are both non-governmental organisations accredited to provide ‘advisory services’ to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of ICH and as such defend and promote the cultural interest of hunters. FACE is keen to explore the options for national recognition of hunting on the worldwide UNESCO list. In doing so, FACE is working closely with its members, with the CIC and IAF.

SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITION ON “TRADITIONAL HUNTING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION” AT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

In the context of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, FACE organised an exhibition on “Traditional Hunting and Culture in the Mediterranean Region”, hosted by MEP Remo Sernagiotto (ECR Group) in the European Parliament, from 30 April to 3 May 2018.

During the opening, MEP Sernagiotto introduced the exhibition as an excellent



opportunity to promote the cultural value of traditional hunting. These traditions are an important element of the identity and history of many rural communities in Mediterranean countries – where traditional hunting methods are still alive in everyday life. He underlined the urgent need to preserve these ancient practises in a modern and increasingly urbanised society.

A non-scientific approach towards the Bird Directive is problematic for many forms of traditional hunting. For this reason, FACE urged that a correct and well-balanced approach to derogations and flexible approaches to implement the Birds Directive would help to preserve culturally relevant and sustainable hunting methods.



FACE POSITION ON BOW HUNTING DEVELOPED IN 2018

Hunting with bow and arrow goes back tens of thousands of years and forms part of a common culture and history. After the invention of powder and firearms some of our ancestors kept on using bows and arrows as a means of hunting. Bow hunting became nonetheless less frequently practiced since the invention of firearms until its revival thanks to some evolutions in the last century. Consequently, bow hunting became more popular and is being practiced in a growing number of countries. This encourages more hunters to try out a bow and convinces an increasing number of them.

FACE recognises any legal and sustainable form of hunting which contributes to wildlife management. The 6th Annex in the

“Habitat Directive 92/43/EEC” does not forbid any member state to allow the use of bow and arrow to hunt game. The European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity and FACE recognise therefore bow hunting as a hunting method that fulfils all these conditions. Within FACE bow hunters are represented by the **European Bowhunting Federation (EBF)** which is an Associate Member of FACE. FACE encourages people to try out bow hunting and defends the rights of bow hunters in a positive and pro-active way.

FACE regards bow hunting as an equivalent alternative to hunting with firearms with its own characteristics. Hunting with a firearm or a bow are placed on the same level as they comply with the two factors that enable a responsible shot. They are accurate and possess enough energy to take a lethal shot contrary to the prejudice of what some people still believe.

FACE recognises that in a strongly changed rural and urban landscape where some animals adapt with ease to suburban living conditions, bows can form a safe alternative to regulate these species which cause danger to people and the environment through damages to the habitat, crops or the spreading of diseases.

Furthermore, FACE understands as all forms and methods of hunting, bow hunting can be captivating. Where firearms give you the advantage to shoot over a much longer range, the bow restricts you to a much shorter distance. This demands a stealthy approach where the natural elements play a bigger role. It is this aspect of bow hunting that awakes the passion of some hunters or makes non-hunters decide to take up bow hunting.

Ultimately for FACE it is important that hunters, be it with bow or firearms, know and respect the limitations of the equipment they use and even more important of their own limitations to offer a safe and clean shot. FACE endorses the act of sustainable hunting and wildlife management.

FINANCES

FACE delivers cost-effective support to its Members. This represents great value for European hunters considering the extent of work carried out by the FACE Secretariat and the fact that Membership subscriptions represent less than 10 cents per hunter.

It is in this ethos that FACE offers cost-effective and transparent management of finances to its members and partners, generating maximum impact with limited expenditure.

While the core funding of FACE comes from the Memberships fees, a portion of FACE’s budget is also financed by the European Commission’s Directorate Environment through LIFE NGO Funding.



TRANSPARENCY

FACE is fully signed up to the EU Transparency Register (Reg No 75899541198-85) which is operated by the European Parliament and the European Commission. FACE operates by their Code of Conduct in all our relations with the EU Institutions and their Members, officials and other staff.

For more details on the register see http://europa.eu/transparency-register/index_en.htm

FINANCES

PERIOD FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2018

INCOME

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Membership fees - Full Members | 705.626 € |
| Membership fees - Associate Members | 30.242 € |
| LIFE NGO Grant | 160.000 € |
| Additional subsidies (ESFAM) | 15.000 € |
| Project-funding | 3.178 € |
| Fundraising initiatives | 15.867 € |
| Operational support | 2.204 € |
| Bank interests & Financial income | 880 € |
| Extraordinary income (Past years) | 2.211 € |
| TOTAL | 935.208 € |

EXPENDITURE

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Premises | 64.845 € |
| Consumables | 6.363 € |
| Administration | 62.564 € |
| Work Programme costs | 100.639 € |
| President & TG costs | 6.602 € |
| Staff Travel costs | 69.609 € |
| Staff costs | 687.437 € |
| Training and Development | 6.164 € |
| Depreciation (annual liability) | 17.430 € |
| Extraordinary charges (past years) | 13.304 € |
| Extraordinary charges (Difference exchange rate) | 279 € |
| Extraordinary charges (Investment devaluation) | 8.406 € |
| Provision other charges | 108.866 € |
| Taxes | 3.417 € |
| TOTAL | 1.155.924 € |





**European Federation
for Hunting and Conservation**

Rue Belliard 205
1040 Brussels
Phone +32 2732 69 00
info@face.eu

www.face.eu

