

FACE PRESS RELEASE

European Federation for Hunting and Conservation



Europe's largest rural stakeholders release joint statement on large carnivore conflicts

Together with **Copa-Cogeca**, **CEJA** and **ELO**, **FACE** joined a [common statement](#) on the rise of large carnivore conflicts in Europe, which highlights the most pressing issues for each sector and sets out clear policy requests.

For the hunting community the conflicts are diverse, from being excluded from decision-making after years of successful management, impact on game populations from high large carnivore densities, or loss of valuable hunting dogs.

Due to recent calls for stricter protection, the lack of clear conservation objectives and the neglected demands of rural actors, social tolerance of large carnivores has reached its limit or is decreasing in many areas of Europe.

To ensure the long-term conservation of Europe's large carnivores, an active and flexible management of many populations will be needed, which promotes social acceptance and successful coexistence.

Torbjörn Larsson, FACE President, stated: *"This statement reinforces the position of FACE with respect to the Habitats Directive and its provisions for the conservation of the large carnivores, the need for greater flexibility, and for adapting the level of protection of species when there has been a strong recovery (use of Article 19, Habitats Directive). To be clear, this is about using the existing provisions within the Habitats Directive, not about revising the directive"*.

See FACE's policy requests on large carnivores: [link](#)

See FACE's position on the wolf: [link](#)

****ENDS****

NOTE TO EDITORS: 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 nongovernmental organisation. FACE is made up of national hunters' associations from 37 European countries including the EU-27. FACE is supported by 7 associate members and is based in Brussels. FACE upholds the principle of sustainable use and has been a member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) since 1987. Visit www.face.eu

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