



European Federation for Hunting and Conservation (FACE)

Actions against poisoning Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean

- Progress and perspectives on IKB by European Hunters

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Rec(2011)155E 08 December 2011

Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats - Recommendation No. 155 (2011) on the Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade of Wild Birds

Develop and support national communication strategies, promoting dialogue between all relevant interest groups, and noting cultural sensitivities. These strategies should be aimed to the conservation of bird population and based on the following principles:

- (i.) this is about illegal killing of birds, **not legal hunting**;
- (ii.) **zero tolerance** of illegal killing of wild birds;
- (iii.) recognition of legal hunting and sustainable use.



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

Distribution: General

UNEP/CMS/Resolution 11.16

Original: English



THE PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL KILLING, TAKING AND TRADE OF MIGRATORY BIRDS

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th Meeting (Quito, 4-9 November 2014)

Acknowledging the role of legal and sustainable hunting of birds in sustainable livelihoods and conservation of habitats and the role of the hunting community in promoting and encouraging compliance with the law and sustainable hunting practices;



Intergovernmental Task Force
on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade
of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT)





FACE position

- **FACE has a long-standing policy zero-tolerance towards illegal killing, as it is simply not hunting.**

It is a problem with a variety of motives, primarily illegal trade and smuggling, persecution (for competition or commercial reasons), indirect killing through poisoned baits – all committed by a large variety of actors.

- **For FACE, sustainable hunting is not a problem for illegal killing, but illegal killing is a problem for sustainable hunting!**
- **Communication messages are key for peer pressure and encouraging reports of wildlife crime**



Awareness & Communication

Action 4.1.1 Encouraging hunting organizations to adopt codes of conduct including, where relevant, those based on traditional hunting principles, and by systematically condemning IKB.

- **Malta**

- ✓ Meetings, info on importance of eradicating IKB for the hunting community

- **Cyprus**

- ✓ Articles, videos, photos, posters, ...

- **Greece**

- ✓ Condemnation of poaching
- ✓ Raising awareness of hunters
- ✓ Education

- **Italy**

- ✓ Periodic publication of news on the activities undertaken within the Action Plan;
- ✓ Condemnation of poaching cases;
- ✓ Raising awareness of hunters on the damage of poaching to biodiversity and the community.

All Members condemning IKB using all channels:

- Social media
- TV
- Newspaper
- Magazines
- Websites
- Leaflets
- stickers



FACE Members
communications and actions
*For FACE, illegal killing is not
only a conservation issue,
but damages the reputation
of sustainable hunting. This
is why we promote zero
tolerance... FIDC April 2021*

8 Giugno 2021

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30 Aprile 2021

MANIFESTO FACE PER LA BIODIVERSITA': ASSOCIAZIONI DI CACCIA ITALIANE CONTRO IL BRACCONAGGIO

< indietro

C'è stato un forte impegno per combattere l'uccisione illegale di uccelli e ci sono stati notevoli miglioramenti in molti paesi europei. Per FACE, l'uccisione illegale non è solo un problema di conservazione, ma danneggia la reputazione di una caccia sostenibile. Ecco perché promuoviamo la tolleranza zero in linea con la posizione delle istituzioni dell'UE e di vari accordi internazionali.

National & hunting org. enforcement

Action 4.1.1 Encouraging hunters to continue to participate in surveillance effort and to assist the authorities in detecting IKB



- **Malta**
 - ✓ Active collaboration of FKNK to report any illegality so that such acts are immediately taken over by the local Env. Protection Unit.
 - Marshals who continuously monitor vast areas throughout the hunting season.
 - + Strict control of Police and WBRU personnel throughout the hunting season.
 - ✓ FKNK suspends/cancels memberships of convicted hunters depending on gravity.
- **Cyprus**
 - ✓ MEPA, Wild Birds Regulation Unit, police & armed forces & others (voluntary).
 - ✓ High intensity of inspections and high penalties.
- **Greece**
 - ✓ Greek Public Forest Service: more than 1000 Wardens.
 - ✓ Hunting Organizations: more than 300 Gamekeepers.
 - Particular intensification of spring surveillance for the Turtle Dove in hotspots of migration.
- **Italy**
 - ✓ Hunter's associations: around 4000 Voluntary Hunting Guards.
 - FIDC: around 2500
 - Surveillance against IKB
 - ✓ Hunters' Associations actively participate in implementation of the National Action Plan to combat IKB adopted in 2017.



National & hunting org. enforcement

Action 4.1.1 Encouraging hunters to continue to participate in surveillance effort and to assist the authorities in detecting IKB



Malta

- ✓ Marshals continuously monitoring vast areas and report
- ✓ Enables real time report to the police

Cyprus

- ✓ Hunters participate in detecting and reporting IKB to the competent authorities (Game & Fauna Service and the Police).

Greece

- ✓ Hunters participate in detecting and reporting IKB to the competent authorities (Gamekeepers and Wardens)

Italy

- ✓ Social management of “hunting grounds” makes hunters responsible against IKB and poaching.

Hunter's training

- **Malta**
 - ✓ Exam to get the licence:
 - Identification of protected and game species
 - Knowledge of legal parameters within which hunting can be practiced.
- **Cyprus**
 - ✓ Hunting education lessons and exams
 - For new hunters as well as convicted hunters
- **Greece**
 - ✓ Production of a Hunting Guide
- **Italy**
 - ✓ Regularly organized training courses for new hunters
 - ✓ Refresher courses for hunters
 - ✓ Production of documents on "look alike species"

Action 4.1.1

§ Encouraging states and hunting associations to organize national seminars to inform and train hunters on species identification, species protected by law, forbidden methods, etc.

§ Encouraging national administrations to improve regulatory systems concerning hunting education (e.g., licensing, examinations, hunter training, etc).

Actions

- **Malta**

- ✓ Continuous participation of the FKNK on the Malta Ornis Committee, meetings with ministry and WBRU officials to identify and overcome illegal activities.
- ✓ Enforcement in the field ending up with the legislative fines/penalties/other punishment as directed by our Courts, successful in bringing IKB to a handful of incidents.
- ✓ Final stages of officially setting up a Hunting Academy
 - Make existing and prospective hunters aware of their role as leaders of conservation
 - Make them understand the reason behind legislations.
 - Results: Fully supportive hunters.

- **Italy**

- ✓ Supports the LIFE + “Reason for Hope - Reintroduction of the Northern Bald Ibis in Europe”
- ✓ Partner beneficiary of the LIFE “PERDIX - Italian Gray partridge reintroduction in nature”
- ✓ Awareness raising and prevention of IKB





FACE project of the month



19 AUG 2020 FACE BIODIVERSITY MANIFESTO PROJECT OF THE MONTH – CRETAN DOG TEAMS AGAINST POISONED BAIT – AUGUST 2020

Posted at 15:35h in Animal Welfare, Wildlife Conservation by FACE





Thanks

<https://www.face.eu/>