



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

A Perspective from FACE



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FACE - Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU





The Problem for Hunting!

The illegal killing of birds is a conservation problem.

Illegal killing is a problem for sustainable hunting!





FACE Involvement: e.g. FACE/BirdLife Agreement (2004)



AGREEMENT
between *BirdLife International* and FACE
on Directive 79/409/EEC



Point 8:

Both organisations call upon the competent authorities to take appropriate initiatives to ensure the respect of all bird conservation legislation, in particular through proper enforcement but also by education and awareness raising initiatives.

Margot Wallström
Commissioner for the Environment



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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;





Awareness Raising

FACE creates awareness and provides advice. Following several processes: e.g. Tunis AP, MIKT, EU Road Map, IMPEL...

MIKT – What is it about?

Goal

- *To ensure that no illegal killing, taking and trade of birds takes place in the Mediterranean Region.*

Role

- *The role of the Task Force is to facilitate concerted efforts and procedures to combat illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds in the Mediterranean Region.*





FACE Survey (Europe Med.)

In your opinion, does your government have appropriate legislation to deal with the illegal killing of birds in your country?

Yes

Does your organisation provide advice to governments and/or others (e.g. law enforcement agencies) to assist in combatting the illegal killing of birds?

Yes

In your opinion, what is the best way of combatting the illegal bird killing in your country?

Enforcement, Collaboration, Communication, Education...





Communication

Provide advice on how to communicate

Fédération nationale des chasseurs

Association agréée de protection de
l'environnement

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COMMUNIQUÉ DE PRESSE

Un Gypaète barbu abattu au Pays

La Fédération Nationale des Chasseurs porte plainte





FACE Activities

- FACE provides **awareness raising** and **advice** on regulation of hunting at international level and setting up partnerships to tackle wildlife crime.

Example:

- 5 Dec 2013: FACE participated at event where hunters from 7 countries in the Middle East and North Africa signed a **Regional Declaration on Responsible Hunting**, at a ceremony organised by the BirdLife International and UNDP/GEF Migratory Soaring Birds (MSB) in Beirut, Lebanon



PROMINENT HUNTERS FROM MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA SIGN DECLARATION ON RESPONSIBLE HUNTING

5 Dec 2013





Enforcement

- Lack of knowledge?
- Lack of interest?
- Lack of resources?
- Complexity?



Best example: Malta

- MEPA, Wild Birds Regulation Unit, police & armed forces & others (voluntary)
- High intensity of inspections
- High penalties for infringements

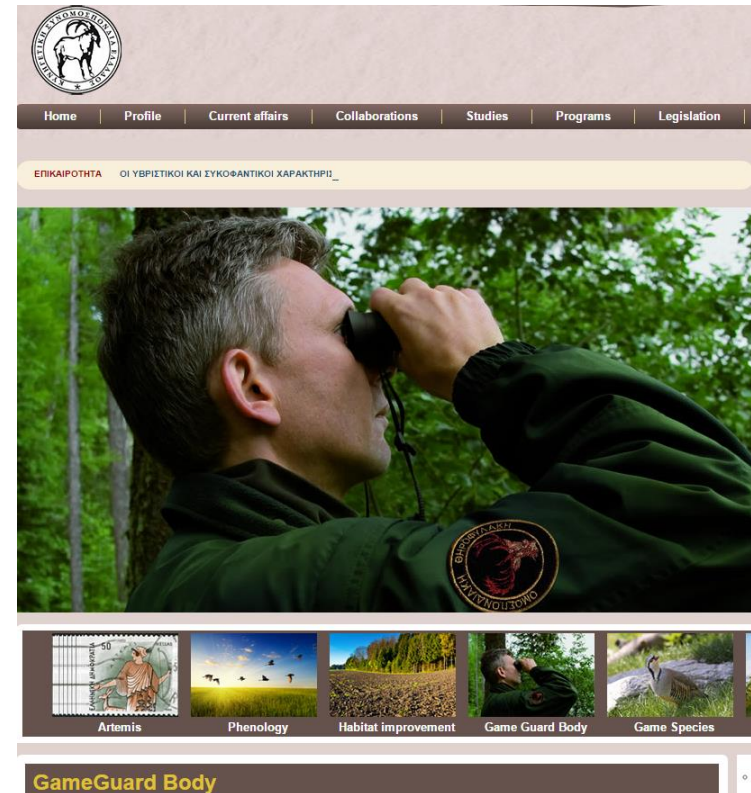




National action on wildlife crime

Greece – Game Guard Body

- In cooperation with Hellenic Hunters Confederation (FACE Member)
- In last 10 years more than **1,000,000 inspections** have been carried out and in excess of **18,000 violations** - **continuous decrease in offenses over the years**
- Hunting licences contribute to all of the **costs of 7 million euro annually** – including salary of 400 game guards





Non-Binding Charters & Codes of Conduct

Bern Convention charter on Hunting and Biodiversity (2007)

In particular the principles;

- No. 2 - Ensure that regulations are **understandable and respected**;
- No. 3 - Ensure that harvest is ecologically sustainable;
- No. 8 - **Empower local stakeholders** and hold them accountable;
- No. 11 - **Encourage cooperation** between all stakeholders

Partly targeted at hunting tourism to ensure it stays within the boundaries of legality/wise use.





Recommendations

- Legal & Institutional Issues
 - Greater enforcement; Not necessarily stricter regulations
 - Revenues from hunting licenses/voluntary
- Conservation & Monitoring
 - Stronger collaboration between local communities and law enforcement bodies
 - Some hunting associations training authorities on IK
- Education & Awareness Raising
 - Communication is key: Peer pressure
 - Awareness-raising: Hunter-driven/Self-imposed ethics
 - Education: Campaigns; Look alike species;
- Socio-economic factors





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