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WANT TO JOIN THE INTERGROUP? CONTACT US
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT INTERGROUP
“BIODIVERSITY, HUNTING, COUNTRYSIDE”

The European Parliament’s Intergroup “Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside” was created in 1985 and is one of the oldest and most active parliamentary platforms. FACE - the European Federation for Hunting and Conservation has provided the secretariat for the Intergroup since its very first establishment in 1985. ELO - the European Landowners’ Organisation joined FACE in 2004, forming a co-secretariat.

Biodiversity, climate change and rural development challenges are particularly important for the future of the European Union. Sustainable hunting, wildlife management and other land uses, undertaken by landowners and hunters, can contribute to conserving the environment.

This Intergroup serves as the key stakeholder platform within the European Parliament, enabling open discussions between decision-makers, the European Commission and experts, aiming to affirm the crucial role of rural actors and the socio-economic importance of countryside activities.

ACTIVITIES

The Intergroup deals with issues for which the European Parliament is competent in the fields of biodiversity, hunting, wildlife management, forestry, agriculture, and nature conservation. It also addresses cross-cutting issues which have an impact on socio-economic activities in rural areas.

The Intergroup organises regular meetings in the European Parliament to encourage dialogue and, in some cases decides to adopt positions, resolutions or recommendations, and other kind of initiatives.

In the 2014-2019 parliamentary term, contributions made by the Intergroup to the work of the European Parliament have included:

- The future of the EU Nature Directives
- Invasive Alien Species
- Coexisting with Large Carnivores
- African Swine Fever and other animal health issues
- Adapting land management practices to climate change
- CAP- thinking out of the box
- Pollinator Friendly Farming: What is possible now?
- The Value of Private Land Conservation

ORGANISATION

The Intergroup is open to all MEPs willing to:

- Protect and enhance biodiversity
- Promote wildlife and nature conservation
- Uphold the principles of sustainable hunting and wildlife management
- Contribute to the economic and social prosperity of Europe’s rural areas
- Raise awareness on the role of land users such as farmers, foresters, hunters to halt biodiversity loss.

EU legislation has a decisive impact on Member States’ environmental policies, and this has huge effects on hunters and land managers in Europe. Most of the rules affecting the environment come from EU.

The Intergroup offers a forum for stakeholders and decision-makers to engage in an open and unbiased dialogue on the most pressing environmental issues.

OBJECTIVES

PROMOTE the role of sustainable hunting and other forms of sustainable use of wild species contributing to biodiversity enhancement and rural development.

SUPPORT the interests of Europe’s hunters and other rural actors by providing them with a voice in the decision-making process.

REAFFIRM the crucial socio-economic role of countryside activities.

DISCUSS current issues relating to biodiversity, wildlife and land use management, hunting and rural development dealt with by the European Parliament.

OFFER an open cross-political platform for discussions between decision-makers and stakeholders.

ENABLE well-informed discussions by giving access to science-based expertise and background information.