



# WILD EUROPE

DRAFT

*“New initiatives from a decade of  
progress”*

A conference  
for an action plan to protect and restore  
wilderness and old growth forest in  
Europe

With the patronage of the President of the Slovak Republic,  
Her Excellency Zuzana Caputova

# *“New initiatives from a decade of progress”*

20 – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019, Tatra Hotel, Bratislava, Republic of Slovakia

<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Overview and planning</b>
<b>0800</b>	<b>Registration opens</b>
<b>0900 - 0940</b>	<b>Opening Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome and introduction</li><li>• The President of the Slovak Republic</li><li>• Senior EC representative</li><li>• Isabel Anatole-Gabriel, Head of Europe and North America Department, UNESCO World Heritage</li></ul>
<b>0940 - 1030</b>	<b>Session 1      Overview: challenges and achievements for Europe in an era of climate change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2009 – 2019, the decade appraised</li><li>• The current position with wilderness</li><li>• An update on old growth forest</li></ul>
<b>1030 - 1100</b>	Coffee break
<b>1100 - 1150</b>	<b>Session 2      Model initiatives in Slovakia, for wider replication</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A new national framework for wilderness</li><li>• Wood bioenergy legislation: potential for Europe-wide replication</li><li>• Effective address of illegal and inappropriate logging</li><li>• Protecting fauna and flora of old growth forest</li></ul>
<b>1150 - 1250</b>	<b>Session 3      Progress with the old growth forest protection strategy in Europe</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Launch of old growth/primary forest mapping with follow up actions, an Early Warning System</li><li>• Climate change &amp; carbon modeling – findings for scientific forestry</li><li>• Climate change, bioenergy and old growth forest protection</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting protection policy to key institutions</li> <li>• Launch of an old growth/primary forest website</li> </ul>
<b>1255 - 1300</b>	<b>Introduction to workshops: Building a European Action Plan</b>
<b>1300 - 1400</b>	Lunch
<b>1400 - 1600</b>	<p><b>Session 4 Workshops - Building a European Action Plan</b></p> <p>Each of the themes is related to a practical initiative, so input from participants can make a direct difference.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Addressing the wood biofuel challenge – the urgency of action</li> <li>2. Implementing the 2030 Biodiversity Strategy – for EU and non EU states</li> <li>3. Research: addressing the gaps</li> <li>4. Wild nature enterprise &amp; fund raising - developing a new toolkit</li> <li>5. Key elements for a restoration/rewilding strategy</li> <li>6. The new IUCN Rewilding Task Force – what is needed?</li> <li>7. Illegal and inappropriate logging, an update for action</li> </ol>
<b>1600 - 1630</b>	Tea break
<b>1630 - 1740</b>	<p><b>Session 5 Workshop feedback</b></p> <p>Summary of participant input, to create an Action Plan</p>
<b>1740 - 1745</b>	Wrap up and introduction to evening event
<b>1745 - 1900</b>	Opportunity for side meetings [please notify in advance if space needed]
<b>1930 - 2200+</b>	<p><b>Conference Gala Dinner</b></p> <p><i>A world class vision proposed for the Carpathians, Fundacia Conservarea Carpathia (FCC Romania)</i></p>

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<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Actions in the field</b>
<b>0900 - 0905</b>	<b>Introduction to the day ahead</b>
<b>0905 - 1010</b>	<b>Session 1 Model initiatives for the wild</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sumava/Czech Republic</li><li>• Germany, supporting the 2% target</li><li>• French vision 10%</li><li>• Russian Zapovedniks – a major source of inspiration</li><li>• Others</li></ul>
<b>1010 - 1030</b>	<b>Session 2 Launch of the European Wilderness Forum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Background and objectives</li><li>• Area case studies on benefits</li></ul>
<b>1030 - 1100</b>	Coffee break
<b>1100 - 1130</b>	<b>Session 3 Promoting best policy for the wild</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Linking incentives to good science: action for bioenergy in Europe</li><li>• The 2030 Biodiversity Plan – stability and sustainability</li></ul>
<b>1130 - 1210</b>	<b>Session 4 Promoting best practice in the wild</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Best practice for wilderness in European state forests: examples for replication</li><li>• An update on policy and practice for illegal &amp; inappropriate logging</li><li>• Wilderness management training</li></ul>
<b>1210 - 1300</b>	<b>Session 5 New legal and funding frameworks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long-term legal protection: freehold/leasehold frameworks and easements – a new initiative</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private sector protection: a report on landholder incentives</li> <li>• Funds sourcing over the next decade</li> <li>• Launch of a practical enterprise toolkit for wild nature</li> </ul>
<b>1300 - 1400</b>	Lunch
<b>1400 - 1455</b>	<p><b>Session 5      A framework for large-scale restoration in Europe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key elements for a restoration/rewilding strategy</li> <li>• Emerging initiatives across Europe</li> <li>• Launch of the IUCN Task Force on rewilding</li> </ul>
<b>1455 - 1515</b>	<p><b>Session 6      EU Parliamentary Resolutions: to date and looking ahead</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2009 Resolution: using a powerful mandate Components for an OGF Resolution, impacting EU and non EU countries</li> </ul>
<b>1515 - 1600</b>	<p><b>Session 7      Global view – addressing the impact of Europe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The New Green Deal and European impact (biofuel, timber, resources)</li> <li>• European linkage with key international instruments (UN Decade for Restoration, CBD) – the Carpathian Convention and UNEP</li> <li>• Looking ahead to IUCN Marseilles, promoting the Motions: on wilderness, old growth forest, climate change &amp; biodiversity and bioenergy</li> </ul>
<b>1600 - 1630</b>	Tea break
<b>1700 - 1730</b>	<p><b>Closing Session – Implementing and communicating the Action Plan for wilderness and old growth forest in Europe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Action Plan: Message from Bratislava</i>: an interactive session</li> <li>• Send off – the way ahead</li> </ul>
<b>1730</b>	Conference close
<b>1745</b>	Press Conference: immediately following closure of the conference