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# BIODIVERSITY HUNTING COUNTRYSIDE Intergroup





# "Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside" Intergroup

The "Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside" Intergroup, established in 1985, is one of the oldest and most active stakeholder platforms within the European Parliament. This cross-party group of Members of the European Parliament - currently comprising 118 MEPs from a wide spectrum of political groups - collaborates on key issues related to biodiversity, hunting, conservation, and the global challenges impacting the European countryside.

The European Federation for Hunting and Conservation (FACE) and the European Landowners' Organization (ELO) serve as Secretariat of this Intergroup.

**INTERGROUPS ARE INFORMAL GROUPS OF MEPS** 

that bring together members with a common interest to exchange ideas, promote initiatives, and raise awareness on specific topics. Throughout its history, this Intergroup has enabled open dialogue with decision-makers, including European Commission, European Parliament, stakeholders, and numerous experts.

# **Activities of the Intergroup**

In the 2019-2024 parliamentary term, FACE and ELO coordinated several policy-relevant events to address environmental issues widely debated in the media and political arenas. EU legislation has a decisive impact on Member States' environmental and agricultural policies, and this has huge effects on hunters and land managers in Europe.

Biodiversity, nature, climate change, agriculture, forestry, rural development are key for the future of the European Union.

#### IN THE LAST YEARS THE INTERGROUP EVENTS INCLUDED

- ✓ Biodiversity Strategy and Farm to Fork
- ✓ Wolf Conservation and Management in Europe
- ✓ Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
- ✓ Nature Restoration Law
- ✓ EU Forest Strategy for 2030
- ✓ EU Agricultural Soils
- ✓ Dynamics in Agriculture for a lively countryside
- ✓ Hunting, Conservation and Livelihoods (CITES)
- ✓ Satellite Use for Green Transition

## **Objectives of the Intergroup**

#### PROMOTE

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

#### **SUPPORT**

the values of European hunters and rural actors by providing them with a voice in the decision-making process.

#### **RE-AFFIRM**

the crucial socio-economic role of countryside activities.

#### DISCUSS

current issues relating to biodiversity, wildlife and land use management, hunting, and rural development in Europe.

#### OFFER

a cross-political platform to decision-makers and stakeholders.

#### ENABLE

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

### Looking ahead to the next EP term

FACE and ELO represent the strong desire of hunters, landowners and countryside communities for this Intergroup to continue promoting the crucial role of rural actors and the socio-economic importance of rural areas.

Through its high-level meetings, the Intergroup encourages dialogue and promotes balanced solutions.

The Intergroup is open to all MEPs willing to:

- Support the conservation and enhancement of 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 reverse biodiversity loss.