



Wednesday September 23rd, 2025

## **Rejection of a compromise text on the Forest Monitoring law in a Joint ENVI-AGRI Committee of the European Parliament**

Brussels, 23 September — the Joint ENVI-AGRI Committee voted on the compromise text for the Forest Monitoring Law, ending an intense negotiation between the different political groups in COM AGRI and COM ENVI. The vote was swift, as the EPP Group and allied groups planned to propose rejecting the text from the very first amendment. Their amendment (AM159) to reject the compromise text was decisively adopted, with 80 votes in favour and 46 against. The next step is the upcoming Plenary (20-23 October) vote on the recommendation to reject the law. The future remains uncertain. The co-rapporteurs are expected to propose an alternative rather than reject the entire file, although the details of this new approach are still unclear. However, if the text is once again rejected by the Plenary, the European Commission may decide to withdraw the proposal, as it had previously threatened when the Council of the European Union adopted its position.

ELO welcomes the rejection of the proposed EU forest regulation, highlighting concerns that it would impose unnecessary administrative burdens, interfere with national competencies, and pose risks to data protection and property rights. ELO also criticises the use of delegated acts for defining key indicators, urges the removal of the “old-growth and primary forests” indicator due to its lack of a consistent EU-wide definition, and calls for respecting the principle of subsidiarity by strengthening cooperation and methodological harmonisation of existing national forest inventories.

## **Adoption of the draft Report in the proposal for a Decision setting up the Standing Forestry Committee**

Furthermore, the Joint ENVI-AGRI committee adopted the draft report written by Emma Wiesner and Pekka Toveri (EPP, Finland) on the proposal establishing a Standing Forestry Committee, with 70 votes in favour, 37 against, and 17 abstentions. ELO welcomes the European Parliament's position on fostering close cooperation between the European Commission and Member States on forests and the forestry sector across all forest-related EU policy areas. We strongly support the establishment of the Standing Committee on Forests and Forestry as an expert group and the requirement that the Commission consult the Committee on any forest-related issue arising from Union policies, whether initiated by the European Commission or at the request of a Member State representative. This mechanism will help ensure the sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices and provide a forum for exchanging views on emerging challenges and initiatives affecting forests, forestry and the wider forest-based sector.

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### **About the European Landowners' Organization (ELO)**

The European Landowners' Organization (ELO) is a leading voice representing the interests of landowners, rural entrepreneurs, and rural land managers in Europe. ELO promotes sustainable land management practices, fosters innovation, and advocates for the recognition of landowners' crucial role in shaping Europe's landscapes and rural areas.

