



Wildlife protection, trade and trafficking

EU LEGISLATION ON WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING, DEFORESTATION AND ILLEGAL LOGGING,
AND COMBATTING ASSOCIATED CRIME
ERA Online Workshop for judges and prosecutors, 19-20 and 26-27 September 2024

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Why Wildlife Trade?

What's the problem, what's the challenge?

EU: Market for Legal & Illegal Wildlife Trade



EU as an importer

- 72.485 transactions for CITES-listed species in **2022**
- **17% of global transactions**
- 4% increase compared to 2021
- 4.326 taxa, of which 80% are plants, including timber
- **Animals: EUR ~ 1 billion**
- **Plants: EUR ~ 318 million**



EU as an (re-)exporter

- 527.861 transactions for CITES-listed species in **2022**
- **59% of global transactions**
- 2% increase compared to 2021
- 2.337 taxa, of which 58% are plants, including timber
- **Animals: EUR ~ 1.8 billion**
- **Plants: EUR ~ 583 million**

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Illegal wildlife trade threatens the survival of species, disrupts ecosystems, and undermines global conservation efforts.

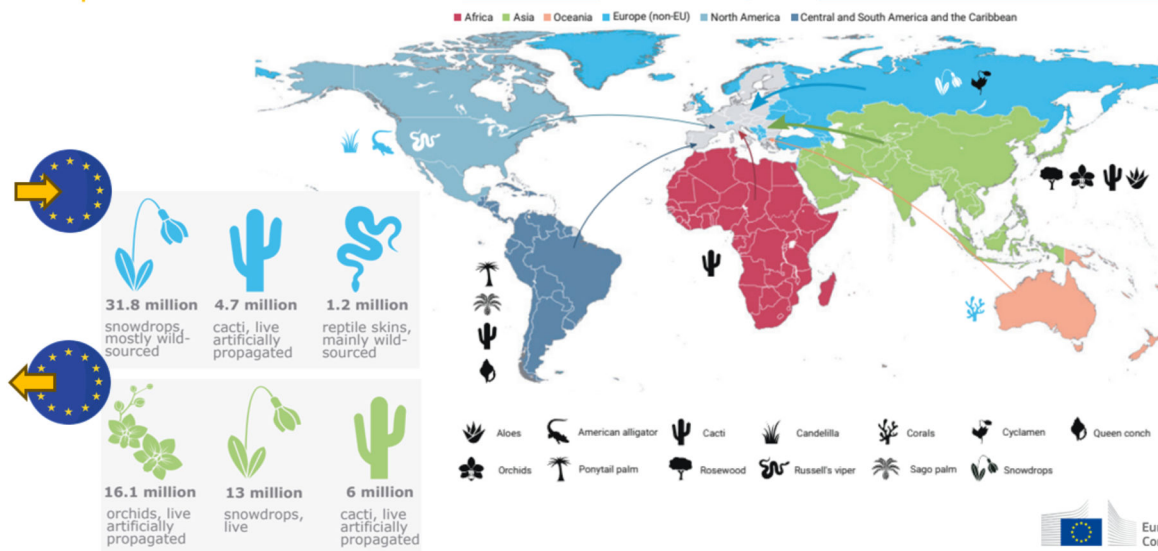
The World Bank estimates damage from transnational environmental crime exceeds USD 1 trillion annually.

So let's look at a few figures for why we have a responsibility to act on this in the EU.

In 2022 alone, the EU handled over 72,000 transactions involving CITES-listed species,

accounting for 17% of global wildlife trade.

EU: Market for Legal & Illegal Wildlife Trade



While most of these transactions involved plants, especially timber, the animal trade is a massive market, with an estimated value of around 1 billion euros for animals and 318 million euros for plants. It's also important to note that the EU is not just a major consumer but also a key re-exporter in this trade.

EU: Market for Legal & Illegal Wildlife Trade

**USD
450 bn
annually
globally**

**Wildlife
Trafficking**

4th largest transnational
organised crime



Courtesy to one of the NGOs the European Commission works with, we can analyse the data Member States submit each year on seizures.

This is from our latest analysis for 2022.

As you can see, among EU Member States, Germany is one of the key EU destinations when it comes to officially recorded seizures of illegal wildlife.

And in fact, 70% of all seizure records were reported by Germany, the Netherlands, France,

Spain and Italy.

But please keep in mind that when it comes to illegal wildlife trade, we must assume that much of the activity goes undetected and hence unreported.

Wildlife trafficking is a highly lucrative criminal activity, estimated to be worth billions of euros annually.

And in recent years, we see that transnational criminal organisations (TCOs) getting more and more involved, exacerbating the problem.

It is estimated that TCOs conceal huge volumes of contraband flora and fauna among the massive legal maritime trade.

Consider that about 250.000.000 (legal) containers are shipped annually, giving customs/regulators often just 17 seconds to examine documents.

Agenda



Multi-Level
Governance



EU-CITES Legal
Framework and
Implementation



Latest
Developments



CJEU
Case Law

Multi-Level Governance of Wildlife Trade



Multilateral

Appendices, Conference of the Parties, Resolutions, Decisions, Standing Committee, Animals & Plants Committee, CITES Secretariat



EU Wildlife Trade Regulations +

Basic Regulation & Implementing Regulations, Guidance Documents, Scientific Review Group, Committee and Expert Group of Management Authorities, Enforcement Group, Council Working Party, Environmental Crime Directive, EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (2022-2027)



National

CITES Management Authorities, Scientific Authorities, legislative/admin. provisions on penalties & sanctions, enforcement (customs, police, env. inspectorates, etc.)

When looking at Multi-level governance of Wildlife Trade there are three levels to consider:

- Multilateral: the instrument is CITES
- At EU level: many regulations, ivory and tiger have been regulated lately
- National: mostly in terms of cooperation with the national scientific committees

Multilateral Framework

1973 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild
Flora and Fauna (CITES)



Recap: CITES Objectives



- CITES neither promotes nor wholly prohibits international trade in wildlife
- CITES subjects international trade in specimens of selected species to certain controls depending on their classification, which in turn depends on their conservation status
(3 Appendices: I, II, III)

3 objectives



Legality: Specimen obtained in accordance with national laws & regulations for the protection of fauna & flora



Sustainability: Trade is sustainable & will not be detrimental to the survival of the species



Traceability: Trade is traced through the issuance & control of appropriate CITES permits & certificates

As a quick refresher on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), it's important to remember that it regulates, but doesn't prohibit, international wildlife trade.

The classification of species into three Appendices dictates the level of protection needed based on their conservation status.

Trade must be legal, sustainable, and traceable, meaning it follows national laws, doesn't threaten species survival, and is tracked through proper

CITES permits.

Recap: CITES Key Terms



Trade: Any export, import, re-export or introduction from the sea across borders (commercial & non-commercial purposes)



Listing: Inclusion of a species in one of CITES' 3 Appendices, which determines the level of protection & controls needed for its international trade to prevent over-exploitation; normally all live & dead specimens as well as parts, products or derivatives are subject to CITES



Annotation: Specifies which parts, products, or derivatives of a listed species are regulated by the CITES

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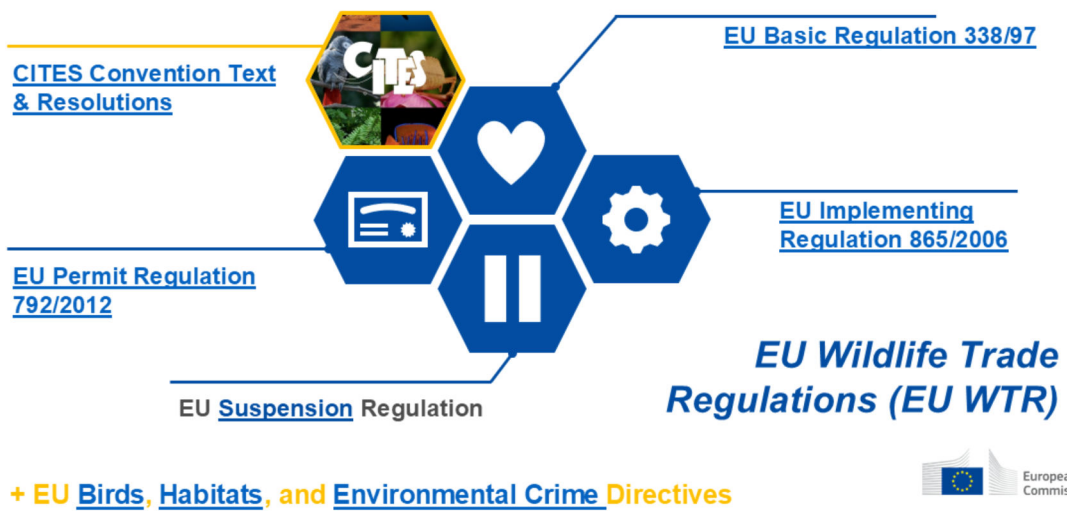
Trade can involve anything from live animals to parts and derivatives, and each species listing in CITES determines how it's controlled to avoid over-exploitation.

EU-CITES Legal Framework

The EU Wildlife Trade Regulations (EU WTR)



EU-CITES Legal Framework



The regulations will be explained in detail

EU WTR: The “Basic Regulation”



Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by *regulating trade* therein

- **EU CITES Framework:** Legally binding across all Member States
- **4 Annexes (A-D):** Lists species (groups), updated post-CITES Conferences of the Parties (CoP) and as needed
- **Stricter Measures than CITES:** Enhanced import conditions, suspensions, and permits
- **Latest Revision:** Updated after CoP19 (15 May 2023)

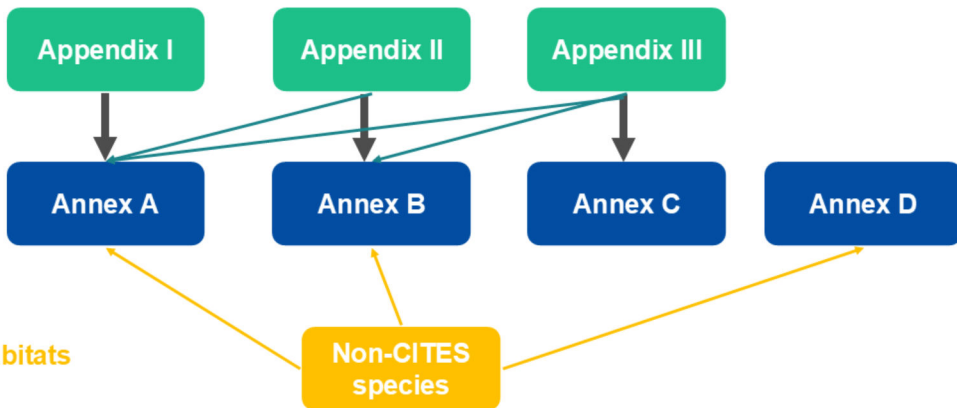
Import into the Community	Export from the Community	Control of Intra-Community Trade	Other Instruments
Verification/Issuance of Import Permits (Article 4 of the Regulation) Paragraph 1 for Annex A Paragraph 2 for Annex B Paragraph 3 for Annex C Paragraph 4 for Annex D	Verification/Issuance of Export Permits (Article 5 of the Regulation) Paragraph 1 - 3 for Annex A	Article 8(1) of the Regulation: Prohibits the purchase, offer for purchase, acquisition for commercial purposes, sale, holding for sale, offering, or transport for sale purposes. Member States may also prohibit possession. Paragraph 5: Applies to Annex B as well	Marking Requirements Sanctions (Member States' competence under Article 16 of the Regulation)
Exemptions under Article 7 of the Regulation: - Captive-bred and artificially propagated specimens: Treated as Annex B species unless Article 8 applies - For artificially propagated plants: Certain requirements may be waived		Article 8(4) of the Regulation in conjunction with Article 62 of the EC Regulation: Contains general exceptions, particularly for: - Captive-bred animals (Annex X) - Artificially propagated plant species - Specimens processed into items acquired more than 50 years ago (except ivory) Article 8(3) of the Regulation: Contains specific exceptions, particularly for: - Intra-community trade in items processed more than 50 years ago - Specimens born and bred in captivity/artificially propagated specimens - For research, educational, breeding, or reproduction purposes Specifics determined by Article 63 of the EC Regulation	
Annex A: Species protected under CITES Appendix I + additional species protected in the EU Annex B: Species protected under CITES Appendix II not already covered by Annex A Annex C: Species protected under CITES Appendix III not already covered by Annex A/B Annex D: Species not covered by Annexes A-C but imported into the EU in quantities requiring monitoring + species from CITES Appendix III for which a reservation has been registered			

EU WTR: “Basic Regulation” Annexes



EU WTR

EU Birds & Habitats
Directives

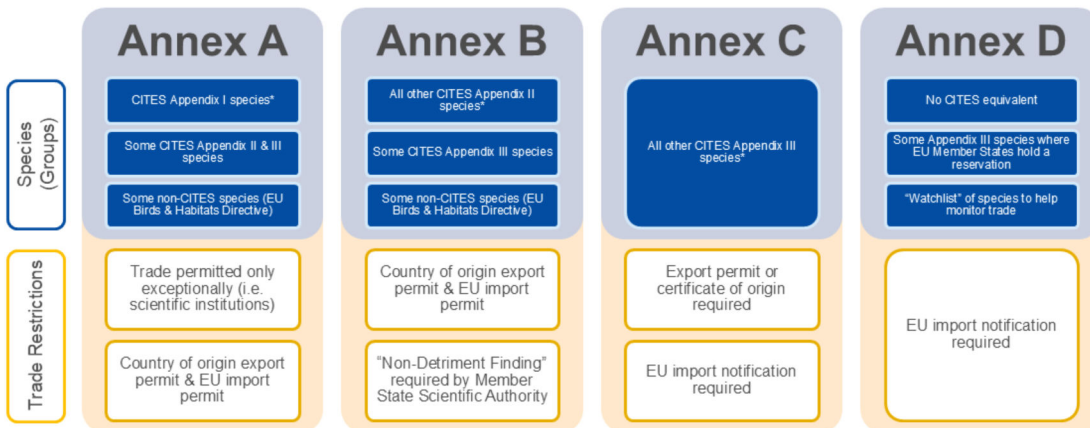


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The WTR and the CITES have similar structure

EU WTR: “Basic Regulation” Annexes



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**Except where EU Member States have entered a reservation.*

***If a species is listed, normally all live and dead specimens as well as parts and derivatives are subject to CITES as well.*

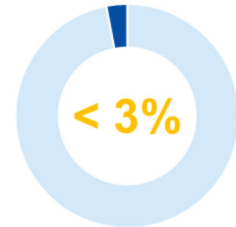


Annex A lists species that are most endangered.

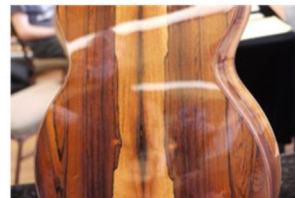
Annex C lists species whose trade countries have restricted

Annex D is unique to the EU, lists species that are monitored in the EU and are not listed in CITES

Appendix I/II - Annex A – Species Examples

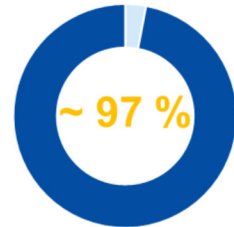


of all CITES-listed
species



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Appendix II - Annex B – Species Examples



of all CITES-listed
species



EU WTR: Requirements for EU Trade



	Annex A	Annex B	Annex C	Annex D
Import	Import permit	Import permit	Import Notification	Import Notification
(Re-)export	Export permit / (re-)export certificate	Export permit / (re-)export certificate	Export permit / (re-)export certificate	N/A
Intra-EU	EU certificate	Proof of legal origin	N/A	N/A

EU WTR: The “Implementing Regulation”



Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006

- Detailed, complex rules for Basic Regulation implementation and practical aspects
- **CITES CoP Decisions/Resolutions/Recommendations**: Implements current recommendations on interpreting CITES provisions; with some flexibility in transposing into EU law
- **Document Rules**: Defines requirements for import, export, and trade documents within the EU; with standard forms and labels specified in **Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 792/2012**
- **Additional Provisions**: Covers captive-bred animals, propagated plants, personal effects, and specimen labeling
- **Latest amendments**: to be finalised by end of 2024

EU WTR: The “Permit Regulation”



Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 792/2012

- **Purpose:** Provides templates for permits and certificates; offers guidance on their use
- **Scope:** Applies to documents under **Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97** and **Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006**
- **Revisions:** Regularly updated; next revision to be finalised by end of 2024
- **E-Permitting System:**
 - Supports EU Member States interested in voluntary participation
 - Initial focus on imports into the EU

EU WTR: The “Suspension Regulation”



Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2770

- **Significance:** Unique to the EU and operates independently of CITES
- **Purpose:** Establishes bans on imports of specific species from certain countries
- **Legal Basis:** Enabled by **the Basic Regulation**; allows for restrictions following consultation with countries of origin and the EU Scientific Review Group (SRG)
- **Process:** If conservation concerns arise, the Member State's Management Authority (MA) may refuse a permit and notify the European Commission and other Member States. This is then discussed and reviewed by the SRG.
- **Update Cycle:** Typically updated every 1-2 years; latest update to be finalised by end of 2024

EU WTR: Compared to CITES



Permits required for **every transport across a border**

Import permits required only for species listed in **Appendix I** of CITES

No regulations regarding the trade inside of the country



EU WTR

In general, **no permit** required for **intra-EU** transport

Import permits required for species listed in **Annex A and B**

Strict regulations regarding intra-EU trade

EU WTR: Stricter Measures



Summary:

- Obligation of an import permit for CITES **Appendix-II** species
- **Housing conditions** checked for live specimens of species listed in CITES **Appendices I and II**
- Strict controls on **internal trade in Appendix I** species
- Regulating some species **not listed under CITES (Annexes A-C)**
- **Monitoring of trade** in other non-CITES species (Annex D)

It is worth remembering some key points about where the EU applies stricter measures than CITES:

Import permits are mandatory for CITES Appendix II species.

Housing conditions are checked for live specimens in Appendices I and II.

Strict controls apply to internal trade of Appendix I species.

Annex A and B species require permits for both commercial and non-commercial purposes.

The EU regulates some species not listed under CITES (Annexes A-C).

Annex D monitors trade in non-CITES species.

EU WTR Implementation

EU and National Level



EU WTR: Implementation in Member States

- **Directly applicable:** The EU WTR are binding in their entirety for all Member States, operators and citizens
- **Member States:** Responsible for implementation, permitting and enforcement (the respective countries of export and import)
- **Some Articles implemented by domestic legislation:**
 -  Designation of ports of import and export
 -  Designation of Management (MA) and Scientific Authorities (SA)
 -  Sanctions (see also EU Environmental Crime Directive)
- **Stricter domestic measures/ detailed rules** e.g., on marking

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CITES-EU WTR: Overlapping Structure

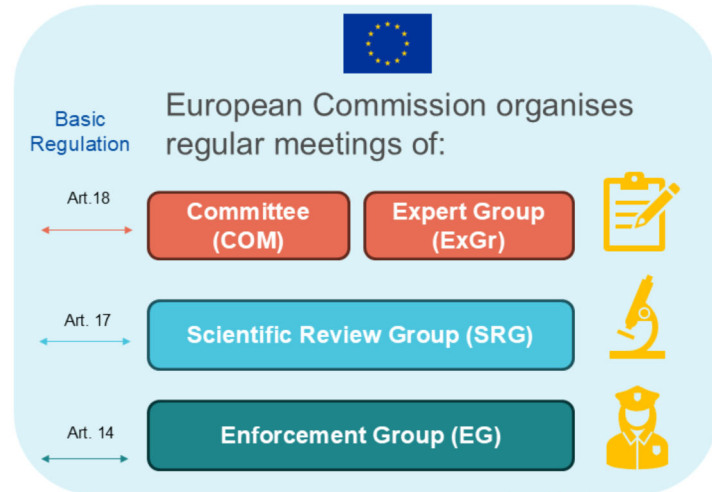


Each EU Member State designates:

a **Management Authority (MA)**

a **Scientific Authority (SA)**

an **Enforcement Authority**



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The recommendations of the Scientific Authority are important regarding designation

The Enforcement authority brings together national and EU level actors to create a forum for the exchange of experiences.

CITES Management Authority (MA)



Is responsible for:

- Issuing CITES permits and certificates
 - **For Appendix I/II:** Consults the Scientific Authority (SA) before issuing an export permit; otherwise keeps SA informed
 - Reporting and communicating with the CITES Secretariat, other Parties and the European Commission (i.e., preparation of annual, biannual reports)
 - Participating in meetings of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP)
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- Preparation of national laws/rules



Committee (COM)

Expert Group (ExGr)

Chaired by the Commission

Meet 3-4 times a year

Formal changes to
EU WTR

Advice and expertise on
EU WTR

EU positions at CoP



CITES Scientific Authority (SA)



Is responsible for:

- **Non-Detriment Finding (NDF):**
Giving advice to the Management Authority (MA) before granting CITES permits as to whether export of specimens would be detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild
- Giving advice during the Conference of the Parties (CoP) to their MA

Scientific Review Group (SRG)

Examine scientific questions on the application of the EU WTR

Formulates opinions on country-species combinations

Advises on amendments to EU Annexes and prepares draft proposals to amend CITES Appendices

Chaired by the Commission

Meets 3-4 times a year

CITES Enforcement Authorities



Is responsible for:

- Dealing with any breach of CITES or the relevant domestic laws (including stricter domestic measures) i.e., illegal trafficking in CITES-listed species
- Existing enforcement agency or coordinating body that works with customs officials, wildlife enforcement officers, and the police

Enforcement Group (EG)

Exchange of experience from recent investigations; coordination of activities

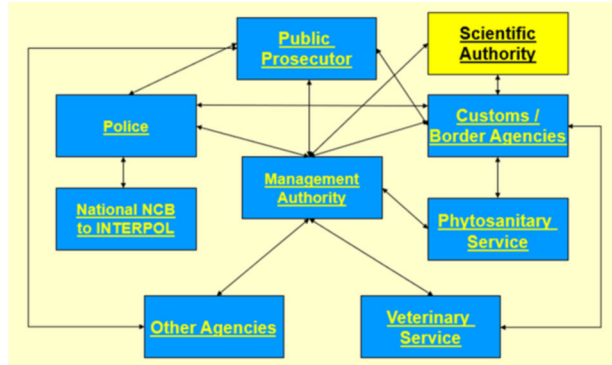
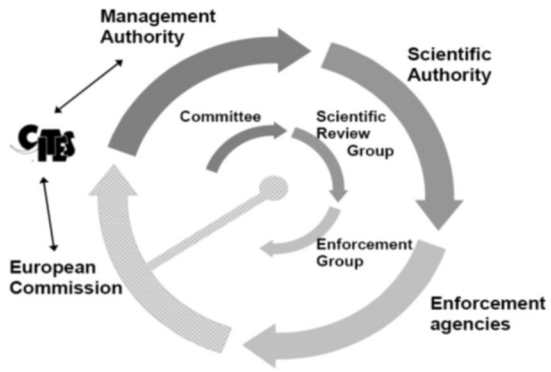
European regional "Wildlife Enforcement Network" (WEN) under CITES

+ some other neighbouring countries & other relevant agencies (Europol, Eurojust, CITES Secretariat, Interpol, UNODC, WCO)

Chaired by the Commission

Meets 2 times a year

CITES Authorities: EU/National Coordination



EUTWIX
TRADE IN WILDLIFE INFORMATION eXCHANGE

EUrope Trade in Wildlife Information eXchange (EU-TWIX):

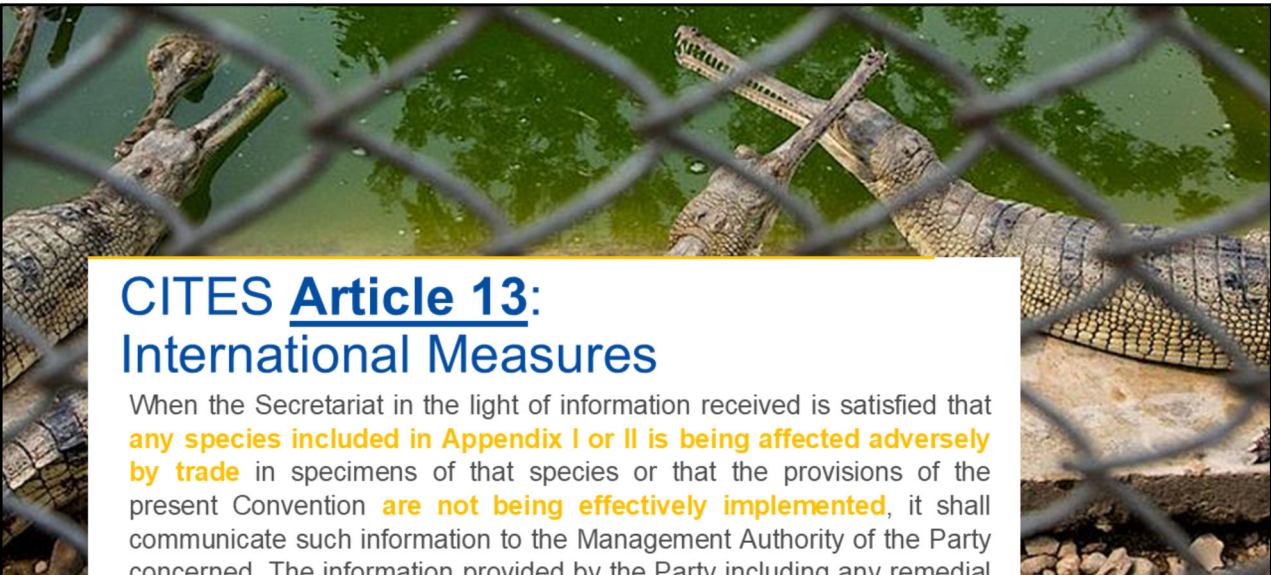
Tools for enhancing coordination and information sharing among European law enforcement agencies in the fight against illegal wildlife trade (i.e., data on seizures, offenses, resources for identifying and managing confiscated specimens).



EU-CITES Compliance

Recent example of EU non-compliance with CITES as regards
registration of captive breeding operations





CITES Article 13: International Measures

When the Secretariat in the light of information received is satisfied that **any species included in Appendix I or II is being affected adversely by trade** in specimens of that species or that the provisions of the present Convention **are not being effectively implemented**, it shall communicate such information to the Management Authority of the Party concerned. The information provided by the Party including any remedial measures are to be reviewed by Conference of the Parties (CoP), which may make whatever recommendations it deems appropriate.

CITES Compliance Process Overview

1

CITES Secretariat:

- Monitors compliance based on received information
- Notifies the Management Authority (MA) of the concerned Party if violations are suspected

2

Concerned Party:

- Response from the Party with facts and proposed remedial actions
- Review and recommendations by the Conference of the Parties (CoP)



Conference of the Parties (CoP):

- Reviews the Party's response and proposed remedial measures
- Makes recommendations or decisions on further actions
- Instructs/delegates authority to Standing Committee to consider appropriate measures



Photo by [Rae Tian](#) on [Unsplash](#)



CITES Resolution 12.10:

Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes

[...] *RECOGNIZING that **Article VII, paragraph 4, of the Convention** provides that specimens of Appendix-I animal species bred in captivity for commercial purposes shall be deemed to be specimens of species included in Appendix II*

[...]

- ⇒ To be registered by the CITES Secretariat
- ⇒ Annex 1: Information to be provided to the Secretariat by the Management Authority on operations to be registered
- ⇒ Annex 2: Procedure to be followed by the Secretariat before registering new operations
- ⇒ Annex 3: Sample application form



EU Compliance Case: Registration of captive breeding operations

- **Case Review:** in March 2022 by CITES Standing Committee in Lyon
- **Issue:** Inadequate EU registration of operations breeding Appendix I species for commercial purposes; non-compliance with resolution for captive breeding and commercial trade
- **CITES Secretariat:** Technical assessment and verification missions, including to selected breeding operations (Spain, Germany)
- **Standing Committee Decision (Geneva, November 2023):** Found non-compliance with Articles 3 and 7(4) of CITES; issued recommendations for corrective actions
- **State of Play:** EU and Member States are currently analysing possible steps to address the recommendations

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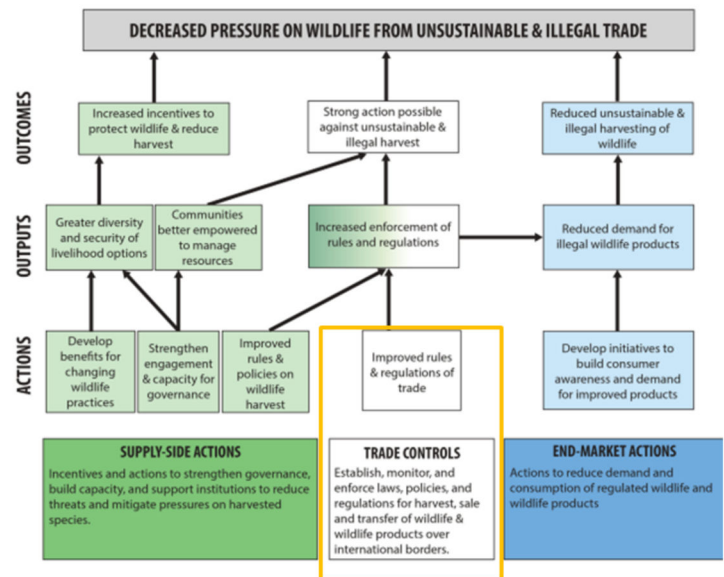
Latest Developments

The EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (2022-2027)
New 2024 Environmental Crime Directive



Trade Controls: Impact & Gaps

- **Laws and Regulations:** Next to positive outcomes, unintended consequences are possible, i.e., shifts in trade routes, increased illegal trade, and socio-economic trade-offs
- **Need for Holistic Approaches:** Integrating conservation, socio-economic development, and robust evaluation frameworks



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Öckerman, S. L. A., Cheng, S. H., Bicknell, J. E., & Robinson, J. E. (2024). The effectiveness of interventions to manage international wildlife trade. *Conservation Science and Practice*, e13205. <https://doi.org/10.1111/csp2.13205>



Laws and regulations, such as those under the EU framework, are undoubtedly powerful tools in combatting wildlife trafficking.

However, alongside their positive effects, unintended consequences can arise.

For example, we often see shifts in trade routes as traffickers find new ways to exploit regulatory gaps.

Additionally, stricter regulations may sometimes increase illegal trade, putting more pressure on vulnerable species.

There are also socio-economic trade-offs, particularly in communities that rely on natural resources for their livelihoods.

This brings us to a critical point: while regulatory measures are essential, they are not enough on their own.

To truly address the complex issues surrounding wildlife trade and trafficking, we need more holistic approaches.

It's not just about enforcing laws - it's about integrating conservation efforts, supporting socio-economic development in affected communities, and implementing robust evaluation frameworks to measure the long-term impact of these policies.

Why an Action Plan at EU Level?



Address **EU responsibility** as a global hub for trafficking in wildlife



Provide a **comprehensive framework** bringing together all aspects of the fight against wildlife trafficking



Raise the profile of this fight at Member State level, within the EU and with international partners

EU Action Plan(s) against Wildlife Trafficking

COM(2016)87 – 1st one ➡

- **WAP**: "Wildlife Action Plan"
- **3 priorities**: Prevention, Implementation (enforcement), Global Partnership
- 32 specific actions
- **Joint implementation**: Member States, Commission, other EU and international bodies
- **2018 Commission progress report**; evaluation

COM(2022)581 – revised

- **Evolution**: Builds on previous WAP
- **Period**: 2022-2027
- **Comprehensive approach**: Responding to new challenges/trends
- **Complementary** to other relevant strategies/instruments
- **Joint Implementation**



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This first Action Plan of 2016 foresaw small actions, but with significant impact.

For example, the EU included references to cooperation on wildlife trafficking in the Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD) chapters of trade agreements.

In addition, the EU provided funding for wildlife projects, including in Africa, to further combat wildlife trafficking and tackle some of the root causes of wildlife crime.

(Second) Revised WAP (2022-2027)



Overview

- **17 objectives**
- **69 specific actions**
- Increased focus on online crime, transparency, cooperation with stakeholders and actions along the entire enforcement chain
- **Monitoring:** Light reporting mechanism; indicators to measure results

4 priorities

1

Preventing wildlife trafficking and addressing its root causes

2

Strengthening the legal and policy framework

3

Enforcing regulations and policies to fight wildlife trafficking effectively

4

Strengthening the global partnership of source, consumer and transit countries

Collective Effort: WAP Implementation



**Member States,
European
Commission**



**Other EU
actors/agencies/
networks**
(EEAS/HRVP,
Europol, Eurojust,
ENPE, EMPACT)



**International
bodies**
(CITES, Interpol,
UNODC, WB,
WCO)



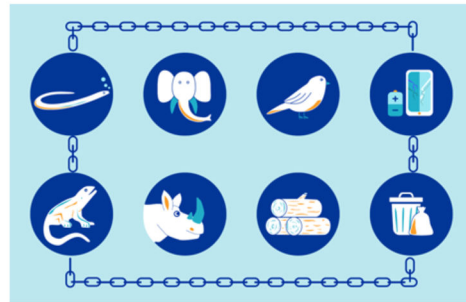
Stakeholders:
civil society, academia,
private sector, local
communities and
Indigenous Peoples

New 2024 Environmental Crime Directive



Minimum rules on the definition of criminal offences and penalties to improve the protection of the environment

- Replaced the one from 2008
- Number of criminal categories increased from 9 to 18
- **Article 5:** Member States will have to ensure that they have in place **effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal penalties**



New 2024 Environmental Crime Directive



Article 3: Criminal offences:

2. Member States shall ensure that the following conduct constitutes a criminal offence where it is unlawful and intentional:

(o) the trade of a specimen or specimens, or parts or derivatives thereof, of a species of wild fauna or flora, listed in Annexes A and B to Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97, and import of a specimen or specimens, or parts or derivatives thereof, of such species listed in Annex C to that Regulation, except where such conduct concerns a negligible quantity of such specimens

(in addition to species protected under Annex I of Birds Directive and Annex IV of Habitats Directive)

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Role of CJEU Case Law in Shaping Wildlife Protection

Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU) Case Example



CJEU Case C-659/20: Interpretation of "*Born and Bred in Captivity*"

- Request for a preliminary ruling from the Supreme Administrative Court of the Czech Republic



Does “breeding stock” cover the ancestors of specimens bred in a breeding operation which have never been owned or kept by that operation?

Czech Management Authority refused to issue a permit for a parrot sale due to alleged illegal ancestry importation.

The parrots could not be considered to have been born and bred in captivity because the grandparent pair had been unlawfully imported into the Czech Republic by a third party.



Article 8 of the **Basic Regulation** No 338/97



CJEU Case C-659/20: Interpretation of "*Born and Bred in Captivity*"



Basic Regulation No 338/97

Article 8(1)

Prohibition to sell specimens of the species listed in Annex A

Article 8(3)

Allows Member States to derogate from such a prohibition where the specimens of an animal species are specimens born and bred in captivity



Implementing Regulation No 865/2006

Article 1(3)

Literal interpretation of the concept of "breeding stock"
= all the animals of a breeding operation which are used for reproduction

Article 54

A specimen of an animal species is considered to be born and bred in captivity only if a Management Authority is satisfied that, inter alia, the breeding stock was established in accordance with the legal provisions applicable to it at the time of acquisition and in a manner not detrimental to the survival of the species concerned in the wild

CJEU Case C-659/20: Interpretation of "*Born and Bred in Captivity*"

- Advocate General observed wording of **Article 1(3) of Implementing Regulation No 865/2006** is not sufficient to remove ambiguity
- CJEU considered the context in which the wording occurred, the objectives pursued by those rules, and the different linguistic versions



Breeding Stock:

Only animals present in a breeding operation, that is to say, a specific site with structures suitable for breeding animals



Breeding Stock:

All animals in a breeding process, which may potentially cover the ancestors of specimens which have never been owned or kept in a breeding operation

CJEU Case C-659/20: Interpretation of "*Born and Bred in Captivity*"

Key Rulings:

- "Breeding stock" defined as animals present at a breeding operation site, that is to say, a specific site with structures suitable for breeding animals
- Excludes ancestors not owned by the breeder from "breeding stock"

Footnote 19 Advocate General's Opinion:

It is apparent from Annex 1 to [Resolution Conf. 12.10](#) that, under CITES, the registration of a captive-breeding operation requires

- the precise identification of such an operation,
- its owner and manager,
- and the facilities intended to house the stock.

Therefore, the concept of "operation" cannot be understood, in the context of [Implementing Regulation No 865/2006](#), as referring to a simple breeding process, which is detached from any concrete physical installation.

CJEU Case C-659/20: Interpretation of "*Born and Bred in Captivity*"

Key Rulings Continued:

- Competent authorities are not required to check whether the ancestry of the breeding stock has been acquired in accordance with the legal provisions applicable at the date of their acquisition, but only to ensure that the legal provisions applicable to the acquisition of the breeding stock have been complied with
- **Article 54(2) of Implementing Regulation 865/2006:** Competent authorities must check the manner in which the ancestry of the breeding stock were removed from their natural environment, in order to ensure that that removal did not take place in a manner detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild



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CJEU Case C-659/20: Interpretation of "*Born and Bred in Captivity*"

Key Rulings Continued:

- **Article 54(2) of Regulation No 865/2006, read in conjunction with Article 17 of the Charter and the principle of protection of legitimate expectations**, preclude a specimen, kept by a breeder, of a species of animal referred to in Annex A to Regulation No 338/97 from being regarded as born and bred in captivity, where the ancestors of that specimen, which do not form part of the breeding stock of that breeder, were acquired by a third party before the entry into force of those regulations in a manner which is detrimental to the survival of the species concerned in the wild



Practical Implications and Future Directions

Implications for Wildlife Protection:

- Clarifies scope of EU Wildlife Trade Regulations
- Reinforces legality and controlled origin of breeding stock
- Strengthens legal framework against wildlife crime



CJEU's Role in Future Cases:

- Continued interpretation of wildlife protection laws
- Influencing policy and enforcement strategies

More Information: Key Sources



EU WTR:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/legislation_en.htm

Reference guide:

<https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/3f466d71-92a7-49eb-9c63-6cb0fadf29dc/library/007dddf2-dca9-4c1b-be1c-95e43d67ba8a/details>

Species+ database:

<https://speciesplus.net/>

EU-TWIX:

<https://www.eu-twix.org/>

CITES Secretariat:

www.cites.org

CITES Virtual College:

<https://cites.unia.es/>

Discussion

- **How familiar are you with the challenges of wildlife trafficking cases, and what support would help you better handle such cases?**
- **What do you think the role of the judiciary should be in combating wildlife trafficking?**
- **What do you think are the most important factors for ensuring successful prosecutions in wildlife trafficking cases?**

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Thank you



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