

ONLINE EVENT OF THE "BIODIVERSITY, HUNTING, COUNTRYSIDE" INTERGROUP

EU Nature Restoration Targets: State of play and next steps

13 April 2021, 15:00 – 17:00 CET

Hosted by MEP Álvaro AMARO

Organised in conjunction with

ELO -European Landowners' Organization

FACE - European Federation for Hunting and Conservation

Registration link: <https://www.biodiversityhuntingcountryside.eu/#events>

Moderator: Dr. David SCALLAN, Secretary General of FACE

Opening Speech – 5 min

MEP Álvaro AMARO, President of the Intergroup

Introductory remarks – 15 min

MEP, Simone SCHMIEDTBAUER, Vice-president of the Intergroup

MEP Alexander BERNHUBER, Shadow rapporteur, Member of the Intergroup

Keynote speech – 15 min

Stefan LEINER, Head of Unit, Natural Capital - Biodiversity, DG Environment, European Commission

Panel

1. Justine GUINY, International Biodiversity Policy Officer - representing the Environmental NGO position – 7 min
2. Pr. Jordi CORTINA-SEGARRA, Chair European Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration Department of Ecology and IMEM, University of Alicante – 7 min
3. Jurgen TACK, ELO Scientific Director – 7 min

Panel debate / Q&A session – 45 min circa

- o MEPs – raise hand function/audio allowed by moderator
- o Audience – live questions via chat function of the platform

Closing remarks – 5 min

MEP Álvaro AMARO, President of the Intergroup

The European Commission's EU 2030 Biodiversity Strategy proposes ambitious restoration targets, which also refers to legally binding targets for restoring nature. The measure constitutes a central element for the success or failure of the 2030 strategy. As the non-legally binding target of restoring 15% of degraded ecosystems set up in the 2020 Biodiversity Strategy was not achieved, the European Commission (EC) estimates that a legally binding target could make a difference to improve the situation. This event will discuss the EC's proposed approach and, in particular, the choice of opting for a binding target and evaluate the missing elements to improve the health and resilience of European rich ecosystems. Further, it will address other key challenges such as what criteria should apply to decide whether an ecosystem is restored, how to restore degraded ecosystems at wider landscape level, how climate change will affect restoration efforts and what role community-based conservation will play under the new restoration targets. Indeed, the involvement of local stakeholders is key to ensure that restoration can translate into countless successful initiatives across Europe.

About the European Parliament's "Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside" Intergroup:

With more than 150 supporting MEPs from all political groups, the "Biodiversity, Hunting, Countryside" Intergroup is an active stakeholder platform within the European Parliament enabling open discussions between decision-makers, European Commission and experts, aiming to affirm the key role of rural actors and the socio-economic importance of hunting and countryside activities. More information is available on the Intergroup's website: www.biodiversityhuntingcountryside.eu