



Strasbourg, 31 July 2025

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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

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**Standing Committee**  
45<sup>th</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 8-12 December 2025

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**Bureau of the Standing Committee**  
16-18 September 2025  
Strasbourg

**Open File: 2013/01**

**Hydro power development within the territory of Mavrovo  
National Park (North Macedonia)**

**- REPORT BY THE COMPLAINANT -**

*Document prepared by  
Eco-svest*

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31 July 2025

Please find in this email a short update on the case of Mavrovo.

1. No ban on hydropower in protected areas has been established. Some initial work has been done on updating the Nature Law. Water law has not yet been adopted.
2. HPP Ribnicka has not been officially cancelled yet.
3. The Valorisation study for Mavrovo NP was finalized and a draft law with zoning has been drafted but the process has not been finalized.
4. The Management of Mavrovo NP including the Director have received criminal charges for organizing illegal logging in the park.
5. A Regional Balkan Lynx strategy has been developed and is currently in consultation phase.
6. There are plans for changes to the Law in Environment in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment, which is a positive development as the assessment procedure has been found not to adhere to EIA Directive.
7. Eko-svest is organizing an International Nature Conference on October 28 2025 where the IUCN and EC will be present, it is expected that the Bern Convention will be also present as this event provides the opportunity to directly address the need for coordination and for accomplishing the actions listed under the conclusions for this case from 2024.

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13 February 2025

Dear Secretariat,

No new development and progress in the implementation of the Recommendation 2011 has been noted since the last report from November 2024.

All the best,  
Gjorgji Mitrevski  
Eco-svest