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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee
46th meeting
Strasbourg, 7-11 December 2025

Bureau of the Standing Committee
Strasbourg, 22-24 September 2026

New complaint: 2025/03

**Alleged destruction of aquatic habitats and fish in the Emerald
Network site - Skhidnyi Svydovets - UA0000259 due to the
construction of hydropower plants in the Teresva River basin
(Ukraine)**

- COMPLAINT FORM -

*Document prepared by
ECOSPHERE*

Progress report – August 2026

There are new documents that indicate neglect of the nature conservation status of the Teresva River (the Teresva River is an ichthyological reserve and part of the Emerald Network territory) when preparing spatial planning documents for the region. We are talking about amendments to the Planning Scheme of the Zakarpattia Region. The Department of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Zakarpattia State Regional Administration submitted proposals for the construction of 8 HPPs on the Teresva River and 9 more HPPs on the Shopurka River, which is also the territory of the Emerald Network (status «Proposed»). This information is set out on pages 199-201 of the Explanatory Memorandum, section "Project Proposals" (Annexes 1-4).

We would like to emphasize that the Department of Ecology and Natural Resources within the structure of the Zakarpattia State Administration is the body that should implement the European integration policy in the field of nature conservation. At the moment, we do not know whether the Department of Reserve Affairs of the Ministry of Economy and Environmental Protection has sent its comments on such planning. However, such comments were sent to the Zakarpattia Regional State Administration by public environmental organizations, in particular from the NGO "ECOSPHERE". Today we do not know whether our comments have been taken into account.

Additional submission to the original complaint – February 2026

Due to ongoing court proceedings, the environmental impact assessment procedure for two mini hydroelectric power plants has been suspended by the relevant ministry. However, the developer, LLC "HYDRORESURS-TERESVA", attempted to start construction without the appropriate permits. As a result, trees were cut down in the coastal protection zone, the riverbed was disturbed, and the flood protection dam was damaged. Damage was caused to the community. Individual houses of residents of the Kalyny village were at risk of flooding during the flood.