



Strasbourg, 28 April 2026

T-PVS(2026)04

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**  
46<sup>th</sup> meeting

**Bureau meeting**

7-9 April 2026  
(Strasbourg)

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**- MEETING REPORT -**

*Document prepared by the Secretariat*

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## 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING & ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

### 1.1. Adoption of the agenda

*[T-PVS/Agenda(2026)04]*

The Chair opened the meeting and presented the draft agenda to the Bureau members, thereafter, requesting its formal adoption.

**Decision:** The meeting agenda was adopted.

## 2. REPORT FROM THE SECRETARIAT

### 2.1. Staff announcements

The Secretariat informed of upcoming changes in the composition of the Bern Convention Secretariat, as well as of the ongoing recruitment process.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided.

## 3. FINANCING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BERN CONVENTION

### 3.1. Reykjavík process and the environment

*[GR-C(2026)CB2 - Synopsis of the meeting of the Committee of Ministers Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C)]*

*[CDENV(2026)ARI - Abridged report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee on the Environment (CDENV)]*

- Participation in the meeting of the Committee of Ministers Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C) (Strasbourg, 3 March 2026) and 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee on the Environment (CDENV) (Strasbourg, 24-25 March 2026)
- Participation in upcoming events and meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> European Forum on Environmental Human Rights Defenders (Strasbourg, 3-4 June 2026), Committee of Ministers GR-C meeting (Strasbourg, 16 June 2026) and CBD COP 17 in Armenia (Yerevan, 19-30 October 2026)

The Secretariat informed about its recent participation in the Committee of Ministers Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C) meeting in March to present the outcomes of the 45<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting and about the recent participation of the Bern Convention Standing Committee's Chair in the 1<sup>st</sup> CDENV meeting and its outcomes.

The Secretariat informed about upcoming international events, their formats and objectives and highlighted the possible Bern Convention contribution. Concerning COP 17 in Armenia and COP 31 in Türkiye, it called on Contracting Parties to co-organise side-events or to participate in side events organised by Contracting Parties. The participants exchanged on the format and topics for these upcoming events.

The Secretariat also referred to the opening for signature of the Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law in December 2025 and informed about the ongoing work to promote the signature and ratification of this instrument.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and welcomed the intention to participate in COP 17 in Armenia as well as the participation of the Bern Convention Standing Committee's Chair in the next GR-C meeting in June 2026. It also welcomed the upcoming Forum on Environmental Human Rights Defenders as an opportunity to enhance the visibility of the Bern Convention's work, with specific reference to its case-file system, and appointed its Vice-Chair to participate in this important event.

### **3.2. Working Group on the draft Protocol amending the Bern Convention**

The Secretariat informed participants of the ongoing dialogue with the EU focal point and expressed its readiness to hold a joint CoE–EU meeting on the draft Protocol amending the Bern Convention in April 2026.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and highlighted the importance of holding the meeting to move forward with the finalisation of the draft Protocol amending the Bern Convention.

### **3.3. Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention**

The Secretariat informed about the online meeting held with IUCN representatives in March and the feedback received from IUCN afterwards. It also informed of the intention to organise the Working Group meeting before the summer in order to move forward in the work to be carried out, namely the revision of criteria set under [Recommendation No. 56 \(1997\)](#) and of the mechanism to amend the appendices in collaboration with an external expert.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and highlighted the need for a sustainable mechanism supported by the Standing Committee. It mandated the Secretariat to continue exploring possible collaboration with IUCN while taking into account the financial and time-related implications of this partnership. It also stressed that different cases should be treated on their own merits and that addition of new species to the appendices may not require the same type of scrutiny.

### **3.4. Working Group on overseeing implementation of the Strategic Plan**

The Secretariat informed participants of the outcomes of the recent meeting of the Working Group on overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan, held in March 2026, and reported on progress in the preparation of indicator factsheets, as well as the calendar for the upcoming launch of the questionnaire on major national achievements in implementing the Strategic Plan, as set out in [Recommendation No. 220 \(2023\)](#). It also highlighted the need to identify priority areas ahead of the mid-term evaluation expected in 2027. Furthermore, it emphasised the existing linkages between the implementation of the Strategic Plan and other areas of work under the Bern Convention, such as the Emerald Network and reporting on species and habitats under Resolution No. 8 (2012), as well as the risk of delays in implementing the Strategic Plan resulting from delays in these related areas.

**Decision:** The Bureau welcomed the outcomes of the meeting of the Working Group on overseeing the implementation of the Strategic Plan and agreed to prioritise areas close to the core business of the Bern Convention work, namely those related to the Emerald Network, Resolution No. 8 (2012) and the case-file system. The Bureau also noted the limited number of responses to the 2024 questionnaire on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, as well as the numerous existing international reporting obligations, and decided to invite Parties to provide feedback on any possible obstacles to reporting on and implementing the Strategic Plan.

### **3.5. Draft revised Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee**

*[T-PVS/Inf(2026)05 – Draft revised Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention]*

The Secretariat presented the draft revised Rules of Procedure, further to the discussion held during the 45<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee. The Bureau held a last review of the text and discussed some of the suggested changes.

**Decision:** The Bureau validated the latest version to be sent to the Contracting Parties in early June, with a view to its possible adoption at the next Standing Committee meeting. Contracting Parties are encouraged to submit their comments and proposals for modifications in advance of the September Bureau meeting.

### 3.6. Ways ahead with the Bern Convention complaint system

*[T-PVS/Inf(2026)06 – Secretariat reflection on further enhancements within the case-file system of the Bern Convention]*

The Secretariat introduced the paper on possible further enhancements of the case-file system in view of the continuously increasing number of complaints. The Bureau reviewed the document, discussed some of its elements, suggested alternatives and agreed to further discuss the content in a follow-up online meeting.

**Decision:** The Bureau welcomed the document further clarifying definitions and processes, and proposing ways to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the case-file system. Scheduled a follow-up online meeting of the Bureau to discuss further elaborated proposals and agree on possible ways forward.

## 4. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

*[[Calendar of meetings 2026](#)]  
[T-PVS(2025)12 - Programme of Activities and budget for 2026]*

### 4.1. European Diploma for Protected Areas

The Secretariat informed about the outcomes of the recent meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas (EDPA) held in Strasbourg on 18 March. It also informed about the three new applications submitted to the Secretariat (two from Poland and one from Georgia) and analysed by the Group at its last meeting and presented the list of EDPA on-the-spot appraisal visits to be carried out in 2026. The Secretariat also informed about the re-election of Jan Plesnik as Chair of the Group.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and welcomed the outcomes of the meeting of the Group of Specialists.

### 4.2. Emerald Network

The Secretariat provided an update on the work to prepare for the creation of the Emerald Portal within Reportnet 3 in cooperation with the European Environment Agency (EEA), following the adoption of the new Standard Data Form by the Standing Committee. She also informed participants about ongoing negotiations with certain countries, including Norway and the United Kingdom, to support the development of their Emerald Network. In addition, she informed about Georgia's proposal to host the next meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Network (GoEPAEN) in the autumn.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and asked the Secretariat to continue supporting the development of the Emerald Network, including in countries that are candidates for EU accession. The Bureau emphasised that the Bern Convention and the EU should send a common message to EU accession countries, encouraging them to meet their obligations under the Bern Convention, including the designation and protection of Areas of Special Conservation Interest. This message is key to avoiding further delays in the protection of ecologically valuable sites. The Bureau welcomed the offer of the Georgian authorities to host the next meeting of the GoEPAEN, jointly with the Working Group on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan, in autumn 2026.

#### 4.3. Group of Experts on Large Carnivores

The Secretariat informed the Bureau about the conclusions of the meeting of the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores, held online on 24 March. The meeting focused on advancing the implementation of the activities foreseen by the Terms of Reference of the Group ([T-PVS/Inf\(2025\)37](#)), in particular the survey concerning changes in the legislation, and on the management level, resulting from the downlisting of the wolf (see [Appendix III](#)). The Chair of the GoE on Large Carnivores, Prof. Luigi Boitani, presented the survey, meant to be focused, concise and set a baseline for monitoring those changes, also in the future. The Bureau offered feedback on the draft survey, asking to clarify the question on monitoring, to enquire about methods used in estimating populations – to better compare data for estimating population trends, and about changes in sanctions for illegal killing of wolves, if any. The Bureau advised providing a word version of the survey while inviting the respondents to answer it online, to facilitate collecting answers from different institutions.

The other advancements mentioned were: preparing a proposal for a new recommendation on addressing bold individuals (wolves, ideally also bears), and updating some of the existing relevant recommendations, including the one on wolf-dog hybridisation (taking stock of European projects in place). The process leading to preparing the Carpathian lynx Conservation Strategy was also evoked.

**Decision:** The Bureau welcomed the work of the Bern Convention Group of Experts on Large Carnivores, and offered feedback on the wolf protection status monitoring survey, which – once revised – is to be validated and launched by end of April.

#### 4.4. Group of Experts on Conservation of Birds and addressing IKB

The Secretariat informed about the activities related to birds' protection, including the mid-term assessment of the Rome Strategic Plan 2020-2030: Eradicating Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade in Wild Birds in Europe and the Mediterranean region (RSP). The assessment, based on findings from an online survey, on interviews and on information from other sources, is to be concluded in June 2026 and to inform further RSP implementation.

Due to unavailability of the CMS ORS the 2026 Scoreboard supporting assessment of national progress in combating IKB is to be launched later in the year. The resulting delay may imply that the overview of the findings may be presented to the Standing Committee in 2027.

The next joint online meeting on IKB with CMS MIKT is envisaged for autumn 2026.

The Secretariat shared updates about the promotion of the Guidance tool for good practices in bird conservation in the development of renewable energies (T-PVS/Inf(2025)45rev), and about the proposed priorities in the future work of the Group of Experts on Birds, ready to be included in the terms of reference of the Group, if relevant.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the updates and the proposed priority action: preparing a draft recommendation addressing the effects of persistent environmental pollutants on birds' ecology, physiology and behaviour, with particular attention to pesticides and lead poisoning due to the use of lead ammunition in sport and hunting. The Bureau members agreed to share what information on IKB has been requested by the EU in this year's reporting.

#### 4.5. Groups of Experts on Invasive Alien Species, on Amphibians and Reptiles, and the future of thematic Groups of Experts overall

The Secretariat informed the Bureau that due to a pending decision on the future of the Bern Convention thematic Groups of Experts and insufficient human resources within the Secretariat, the work of the Groups of Experts on Invasive Alien Species and on Amphibians and Reptiles did not advance in 2026 so far. An in-person meeting of the Group of Experts on IASs is foreseen later in the year – time, financial and human resources permitting. The EU report on actions concerning IASs could be presented at that occasion. No meeting of the GoE on Amphibians and Reptiles planned in 2026, while a consultancy could be envisaged. The further work could focus *ad minima* on an invasive alien pathogen that infects amphibian species, *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (*Bsal*), of interest to both groups.

The future of thematic Groups of Experts was discussed, in view of diverse considerations concerning their role, scope of their work and format, the Contracting Parties' needs, areas covered by other MEAs and a need for coordination across a wide spectrum of themes. More in-depth analysis would be provided by the Secretariat for the Bureau's consideration at its meeting in June. The idea to form three working groups: on protection of species, on protection of habitats and on all strategic, legal and organizational issues was discussed and will be followed by a written proposal and further discussion in June; meanwhile the Bureau's conclusion was that setting priorities in precise Terms of Reference of selected existing thematic groups of experts, an approach that is still novel and remains to be assessed in terms of outputs, seemed the most appropriate for the moment. A proposal was evoked to focus on protection of freshwater fish, in view of the urgency of the situation stressed at the recent CMS COP15, possibly by extending the work on protection of the sturgeon.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the work of the Groups of Experts on Invasive Alien Species, on Amphibians and Reptiles remaining on hold temporarily due to limited human resources. The Bureau agreed that for now, draft Terms of Reference of the Groups of Experts on Invasive Alien Species, and on Birds, would be proposed for consideration at the next Bureau meetings, based on the example of the ToR of the Group of Experts on Large Carnivores. Reflection on topics to be prioritised in the further work of the Bern Convention and the approach to thematic groups of experts are to be pursued at the next meeting of the Bureau in June 2026.

## 5. MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION

### 5.1. Biennial reporting and new Online Reporting System

The Secretariat shared updates about the new ORS, provided by the UN WCMC and financed by a voluntary contribution of Germany. The ORS is to be open for the Parties to report on the exceptions to the provisions of the Convention, in compliance with Article 9, for the period 2023-24.

**Decision:** The Bureau welcomed the update about new ORS system and launching of the reporting on the exceptions to the provisions of Article 9 of the Bern Convention.

### 5.2. Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) on the conservation status of species and habitats

The Secretariat informed participants of the work carried out on reporting under [Resolution No. 8 \(2012\)](#) in cooperation with the European Environment Agency (EEA). It highlighted the support provided to the Contracting Parties and the outcomes of this exercise. Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and the United Kingdom submitted their reports on time (by 31 March). It was decided to extend the deadline to 30 April 2026 to allow other countries to submit their report. The Secretariat emphasised the importance of this data to the implementation of the work under the Bern Convention Strategic Plan.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and welcomed the efforts of the countries that have submitted their databases. It encouraged further submissions by 30 April 2026, as these are crucial for the preparation of a pan-European analysis and for the implementation of the Bern Convention Strategic Plan. The Bureau also encouraged the exchange of best practices among

countries participating in the reporting process, as well as EU Member States conducting a similar exercise under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive, at the next meeting of the Working Group on reporting under [Resolution No. 8 \(2012\)](#) to be held before the summer break.

## 6. COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONVENTION

### 6.1. Information regarding the planned Gonio Development Project located at Chorokhi Delta (GE0000054) site

*[T-PVS/Inf(2026)03 – Resolution of the Participants of the Conference on the Alienation of Krtsanisi–Gonio]*

The Secretariat informed the Bureau members about the letter received from the Georgian authorities on the planned Gonio Development project located at Chorokhi Delta Emerald site and the following meeting with the Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Environment of Georgia that took place last March. The meeting aimed at clarifying the current situation and the intentions of the Georgian government. The Secretariat also informed about the submission by Gonio and Krtsanisi Protection Working Group which expressed concerns about the project and possible impact on migratory species.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and commended the initiative of the Georgian authorities in notifying the Secretariat about the project and their willingness to engage in dialogue and provide further details. It also noted the Secretariat's decision to respond to the letter by referring to the existing Emerald Network legal framework. In addition, it invited the Georgian authorities to submit an update on the Gonio Development project for the Bureau meeting in September, in view of the potential significant impact of the development project on the Emerald site and migratory species.

### 6.2. Notification by the CMS Secretariat on a decision concerning Vjosa-Narta Protected Landscape (Albania)

The Secretariat informed participants of a letter from the Chair of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) Standing Committee conveying the Committee's decision regarding File No. 2021/01: Project development at Vjosa-Narta Protected Landscape (Albania). The decision highlights the insufficiency of mitigation and compensation measures to prevent significant impacts on CMS species, identifies deficiencies and data gaps in the EIA, and calls for the suspension of airport construction until these deficiencies are addressed, the necessary data are collected, and adequate mitigation and compensation measures are implemented.

The Secretariat also informed participants of a recent submission by the complainant NGO, EcoAlbania, concerning Complaint No. 2016/05, Open File, Albania: presumed negative impacts of developments on the Vjosa River, including hydropower plants and Vlora International Airport. The submission was made outside the framework established by the Committee, as the NGO considers there to be a risk of irreversible damage and the possibility that any later intervention would be ineffective. The Secretariat further reported on recent developments in 2025 and the NGO's request to continue monitoring the situation.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and recalled the Standing Committee's repeated requests to halt construction of the airport. It expressed concern over recent decisions to issue additional construction permits within the Emerald site, noting that their ecological impact would inevitably cumulate with that of the airport project itself. The Bureau requested that these concerns be brought to the attention of the European Commission, with CMS and the Albanian authorities copied, given their relevance in the context of Albania's EU accession process and in light of the significant risks of irreversible damage to protected habitats and species. It also emphasised the

need to recognise the role and responsibilities of donors and to underline that these investments are not in line with international standards on nature conservation.

### 6.3 Request to support a meeting on the Genus Zingel

The Secretariat informed about the request of the NGO Pro Natura – Friends of the Earth Switzerland to support the organisation of an online expert meeting to discuss the conservation status and common causes for threat and decline of the Genus Zingel.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the information provided and decided to request that the NGO Pro Natura submits the draft programme and concept note for the online expert meeting, as well as information on possible follow-up actions, in order to obtain further elements to inform its decision.

## 7. CASE FILES

### 7.1. Open files

[T-PVS/Notes(2026)1 – Summary of open and possible case files]

- 1986/08: Greece: Recommendation No. 9 (1987) on the protection of *Caretta caretta* in Laganas Bay, Zakynthos - OSA

[T-PVS/Files(2026)1986-08 gov - Government Report]  
[T-PVS/Files(2026)1986-08 comp - Complainant Report]

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Welcomed the approval of the Special Environmental Study (SES) for the National Marine Park of the Ionian Sea in December 2025 which intends to incorporate terrestrial parts of *Natura 2000* sites hosting *Caretta caretta* nesting beaches.

Urged the Greek authorities to complete the process with the adoption of a Presidential Decree and the Management Plan in a manner that ensures coherent and full protection of the turtle nesting sites.

Took note of the information and considerations provided by the Greek authorities concerning the erosion phenomenon observed on the nesting beaches of Laganas Bay and highlighted that the erosion phenomenon is not only due to climate change but also to human activity and therefore reiterated its request to immediately launch an environmental study of the beach erosion at Gerakas and at Daphni Beach, and to prepare a restoration project for both beaches.

Welcomed the two recent judicial decisions issued by the Court of Appeals of Patras: 1) to confirm the "stop-work" order on the building permit to rebuild the existing "ruins" in Marathonisi island and 2) to impose a sentence of 12 months imprisonment without mitigating circumstances to the perpetrator who constructed the illegal road in 2018.

Was informed that the Greek Government signed contracts for hydrocarbon exploration and extraction in adjacent marine protected areas and requested the authorities to provide further information on this and on possible consequences on nesting turtles.

Urged the Greek authorities to continue to adopt the concrete measures to protect nesting areas (i.e. protective roping) in preparation for the summer season and to enforce the existing legal framework during the season (limit vessels' number and speed, limit furniture on beach as well as nocturnal light and music pollution). Welcomed, in particular, the reflection on the feasibility of staffing and reactivating a coast guard station at Agios Sostis.

Regretted that an OSA will not take place in 2026 but welcomed the decision of the Greek authorities to host an OSA in 2027. Requested that the OSA take place in the second half of June or July 2027, to allow for observation of the situation during the tourist season.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**.

➤ 2010/05: Greece: Threats to marine turtles in Thines Kiparissias - OSA

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2010-05\\_gov - Government Report\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2010-05\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Welcomed the approval of the Special Environmental Study (SES) for the National Marine Park of the Ionian Sea in December 2025 which intends to incorporate terrestrial parts of *Natura 2000* sites hosting *Caretta caretta* nesting beaches.

Urged the Greek authorities to complete the process with the adoption of a Presidential Decree and the Management Plan in a manner that ensures coherent and full protection of the turtle nesting sites.

Regretted the decision of the Misdemeanor Court of Appeal in Kalamata to acquit the legal representative of NEOS KOTINOS S.A. of the criminal offense of environmental degradation, despite the company's failure to undertake mandatory restoration measures for the damage caused by road construction, as recommended in Recommendation No. 174/2014.

Requested the Greek authorities to continue implementing the necessary concrete measures to protect nesting areas ahead of the summer season, including the installation of wooden walkways and fencing, the placement of access-restriction bollards, and the addition of further informational and awareness signage.

Regretted that an On-the-Spot Appraisal (OSA) will not take place in 2026 but welcomed the decision of the Greek authorities to host an OSA in 2027. Requested that the OSA take place in the second half of June or July 2027, to allow for observation of the situation during the tourist season.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**.

➤ 1995/06: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)1995-06\\_gov - Government Report\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)1995-06\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Noted that the complainant and the Government have drastically opposite views on the situation. When the complainant considered that the Government of the Republic of Cyprus has not yet implemented most of the 13 points included in Recommendation No. 191 (2016), the Cyprus Government highlighted its efforts towards the protection of the turtles in Akamas.

Noting that the information provided in the reports does not always seem up to date, requested both parties to concentrate on the most recent developments in their next report. It also requested that both Parties and the EU Commission send updates on the procedures regarding referrals against the Republic

of Cyprus to the European Court of Justice, as well as on the various ongoing infringement procedures (Ref. 2018/2058, 2021/2064, 2019/2303).

Regretted that there have been no advances in the declaration of Akamas Peninsula as a National Park, according to point 1 of Recommendation No. 191 (2016), and urged the Cypriot authorities to comply with this.

Was concerned that some of the protection measures preventing vehicle access, which were in place in the beaches, have been removed, leaving the nesting sites more exposed during summertime. It therefore requested that the Government takes the necessary measures to put back the protective poles to prevent vehicle access to the beaches.

Was also concerned about proposals to upgrade the road network and to create refreshment kiosks, snack bars, souvenir shops and parking lots throughout the Natura 2000 area. Considered, therefore, that such developments should be avoided in turtle nesting areas to limit tourist attraction.

Welcoming that at the end of 2026 all 37 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) are expected to have a Ministerial Decree that establishes management plans, objectives and measures for each SAC, requested that the next Government report updates on the situation.

As concerns the Limni Bay Project with the possible construction of two golf courses, approximately 800 villas, a two-storey hotel, commercial facilities and related infrastructure, noted that the planning permits were in force until 8 February 2025 with a possibility of expansion until 8 February 2031. It requested information on whether the permits were expanded or not.

In order to facilitate dialogue between the parties and to make decisive advances in the resolution of this case file, requested that the Secretariat liaise with the Cypriot authorities to convene a meeting with the complainant and relevant stakeholders.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**.

➤ 2012/09(a): Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye SPA

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2012-09-a gov - Government Report\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2012-09-a comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Noted from the complainant that there are no significant new on-the-ground developments to report.

Was concerned that the report sent by the Turkish authorities was, in fact, exactly a cut and paste of the report sent in November 2025 in view of the 45<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Bern Standing Committee. Urged the authorities to fulfil their complaint-related reporting obligations in good faith.

In these circumstances, could not but reiterate the conclusions from the 45<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting, i.e. that:

- It acknowledged some progress reported by the authorities in the management and enforcement of regulations. The use of cameras for enforcement purposes is welcomed. Vehicle access control has improved, but vehicle tracks were still documented in several locations, including pristine zones near the vehicle entry point at Akmaz picnic area.

- The Committee noted with concern that additional efforts were needed to adequately protect the area, and that strong differences in conservation efforts, surveillance and enforcement are found between Fethiye and Patara. Fethiye is a matter of special concern, as it seems that conservation of the area is

secondary to touristic development, without visible efforts to make compatible and sustainable both activities. Therefore, nest numbers in Fethiye are steadily declining.

- The Committee expressed its concern about new developments and human disturbances at the Çalış beach: aquatic sport equipment, sunbeds, wooden walkways and carpet-covered paths are left or installed directly on the beach and during the night. The hotel construction in the eastern part of Yanıklar has destroyed the formerly marshy habitat present in the area. Gravel parts of the beach have been artificially re-sanded. Light pollution affecting nesting areas is common. Staffing levels are inadequate for the extensive coastline, high touristic activity in summer and high nesting density.

- It urged the Turkish authorities to complete the Management Plan for Fethiye and effectively enforce conservation measures included in Recommendation No. 183 (2015), in the area. It also urged the Turkish authorities to harmonise as much as possible the surveillance and enforcement of the law in the Fethiye and Patara SPAs, for the sake of efficient management, and advance decisively in the coordination between different administrations with competencies in the area, especially with the municipalities.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**.

- 2013/01: North Macedonia: Hydro power development within the territory of the Mavrovo National Park

*[T-PVS/Files(2026) 2013-01\_comp - Complainant Report]*

The Bureau:

Thanked the complainant for their report and expressed regret over the absence of a report from the authorities, although the authorities have informed the Secretariat that no new developments have occurred. Stressed the importance of providing detailed, regular reports to the Bureau.

**Regarding the re-proclamation of Mavrovo National Park (NP):**

Regretted the lack of progress in completing the re-proclamation process, adopting a new law for Mavrovo NP, and preparing an effective and comprehensive management plan for the park, as required by point 6 of Recommendation 211 (2021), despite the availability of re-valorisation and socio-economic studies.

Urged the authorities to advance the re-proclamation process and initiate the preparation of the Management Plan for the protected area, including by pursuing dialogue with the NP management, which has refused to accept the re-valorisation and socio-economic studies and, as a result, will not continue the re-proclamation process. Requested detailed information from the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning to better understand the reasons for this blockage.

**Regarding the adoption of the new Nature Law, Water Law and Environment Law:**

Noted the information provided by the authorities concerning the ongoing preparation of a new Nature Law in response to the letter from the complainant and 14 other NGOs sent on 21 January 2026. Nevertheless, expressed concern over the lack of progress in preparing and adopting a new Water Law and Environment Law.

Reiterated the decision of the 45<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee urging the authorities to revise the Environment Law in order to strengthen the processes for all forms of environmental impact assessments in national legislation, to ensure they meet international standards and address points 2, 5, and 9 of Recommendation 211 (2021), including by guaranteeing proper public participation in all phases of the process.

**Regarding the ban on small hydropower plants (SHPP):**

Noted with regret that, for the second time, the concession for the SHPP Vejachka in Shar Mountain National Park has been extended, which is contrary to point 1 of Recommendation 211 (2021), stating that all approved and planned construction concessions should be suspended or cancelled in NPs, protected areas, World Heritage Sites, and other candidate Emerald sites.

Welcomed the ongoing preparation by the Office of the Prime Minister of a Draft Methodology aimed at resolving issues arising from concluded concession agreements for the use of water for electricity production through the construction of small hydro-electric power plants located in NPs, but regretted the apparent lack of communication or invitation to civil society organisations and other relevant stakeholders to participate in the preparation of these documents. Requested additional information on the outcome of this process.

Recalled the decision of the Standing Committee to schedule an on-the-spot appraisal visit for 2026 and requested that the Secretariat coordinate with the relevant authorities to identify possible dates for undertaking the visit within the present year.

Proposed holding a meeting with the Permanent Representation of North Macedonia to the Council of Europe to discuss this case and to gain a better understanding of the causes of the significant delays in implementing Recommendation 211 (2021).

Invited both parties, and in particular the respondent, to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**, providing information on progress made towards the implementation of Recommendation No. 211 (2021).

- 2017/02: North Macedonia: Negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructures developments

*[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2017-02.gov](#) - Government Report only]*

The Bureau:

Thanked the authorities for their updates and expressed regret over the absence of a report from the complainant. Stressed the importance of providing detailed, regular reports to the Bureau.

Welcomed the preparation of the draft Law on the proclamation of Studenchishte Marsh (a Ramsar site) as a Protected Area/Nature Park. Invited the Government to advance the proclamation process for Studenchishte Marsh as a protected area in a timely manner and in accordance with points 7, 8, and 13 of Recommendation No. 221 (2023).

Welcomed the conclusion of a contract between the Municipality of Ohrid and a company for the demolition of illegal buildings, as well as the commencement of demolition activities targeting illegal constructions on the shores of Lake Ohrid and within Galichica National Park. Requested that the Municipality of Ohrid provide a follow-up regarding the removal of all illegal constructions.

Took note that the Municipality of Ohrid is currently implementing the measures and activities outlined in the Management Plan for the Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Ohrid Region 2020–2029 and the Strategic Recovery Plan for the Revitalisation of the Ohrid Region's natural and cultural values. Reiterated the urgent need for the implementation of points 3 and 4 of Recommendation No. 221 (2023).

Strongly encouraged the Government to take all necessary measures to ensure the effective protection and formal adoption of the candidate Emerald Network sites, in particular through the submission of updated databases, in accordance with point 11 of Recommendation No. 221 (2023) and Recommendation No. 157 (2019).

Invited both parties, and in particular the complainant, to report to the Bureau on progress towards the implementation of Recommendation No. 221 (2023) in **autumn 2026**.

➤ 2019/05: Türkiye: Habitat destruction in Mersin Anamur Beach

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2019-05\\_gov - Government Report\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2019-05\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Appreciated the information provided by the authorities about constructive multistakeholder cooperation aimed at protection and monitoring of the habitats and nesting conditions of the loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*), the green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and in particular the Nile soft-shell turtle (*Trionyx triunguis*); but noted with concern the discrepancy between the views of the Respondent and the Complainant as to the advancements achieved; noted also that the update report was prepared by MEDASSET alone and contained little information.

Welcomed the efforts to limit disturbances, implementation of the hatchlings management plan and nests protection, investment in raising public awareness, training the local farmers and enforcing relevant regulations; urged the authorities to continue their efforts to pursue the implementation of [Recommendation No. 226 \(2024\)](#), in cooperation with all the relevant stakeholders, including the Complainants.

Stressed the chief importance of further decisive action to rehabilitate the habitats of the Nile soft-shelled turtles to enable the local population's survival, while the Mediterranean subpopulation was listed by the IUCN as critically endangered; requested information on the state of play and future plans concerning the embankments, in particular on the Dragon River, where the species was observed.

Appreciated the authorities' attention to identifying, preventing or mitigating any existing practices and new developments not listed in the Recommendation No. 226 (2024), which could have a negative impact on the nesting beach and put the strictly protected species at risk.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**, focused on further implementation of the Recommendation No. 226 (2024) and other relevant developments before and during the nesting season 2026.

➤ 2020/09: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of hydro-power plant development on the Neretva River

*No reports*

The Bureau:

Thanked the Complainants for their report, noting with regret that no changes occurred.

Expressed concern that despite several reminders the Respondent only shared a very brief update on some developments in a last-minute email communication and took note of its contents, including the authorities' confirmation that no changes occurred.

Requested information on the results of the meeting at the Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology on 9 April 2026, evoked by the Respondent, and asked the Secretariat to organise a meeting with the relevant stakeholders to discuss the Open File.

Requested information on the renewal of the forthcoming issuance of a new environmental permit for HPP Ulog on Neretva River and its implications.

Considered merging the two case-files related to Neretva, 2020/09 and 2024/05.

Invited the Respondent to submit an update report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**, when an update report on the case-file 2024/05 is also due.

➤ 2022/03: Norway: Wolf culling policy

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-03\\_gov - Government Report\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-03\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their update reports.

Regretted lack of change in the wolf culling policy, undermining the survival of the extremely small and genetically impoverished population, leading to uncertainty even as to whether the extremely limited population target may be reached.

Acknowledged that no licence was granted for culling in the wolf management zone in the current season and that limited use was made so far of the extensive licence granted for culling wolves outside of the zone; asked for an update on the culling in 2025/26 season and on the further internal court proceedings regarding the Government most recent decision on culling wolves.

Noted the on-going work on updating the guidelines for the management of genetically important wolves migrating to Norway and asked for information on its results.

Urged the Government, who continue justifying the culling policy by an overriding public interest, to apply non-lethal measures, the most proven way of mitigating conflict, and asked about the social impact of the current approach.

Second the Complainants in expressing strong concern that general use of aircraft and motor vehicles, including drones, as well as thermal imaging devices during the culling of large carnivores for damage prevention, allowed by the new Wild Resources Act, would be incompatible with the Article 8 of the Convention.

Asked for information on the conclusions of the group of legal experts appointed in 2024 to assess Norway's obligations i.a. on preservation of large carnivores, to be used by the Government as the basis to decide if the provisions of Section 17 of the Norwegian Nature Diversity Act should be changed.

Asked the Secretariat for information about the situation of the Swedish part of the Southern Scandinavian wolf population.

Tasked the Secretariat with convening a meeting with the relevant decision makers in the Government and/or Parliament, the Complainants and the Bureau, to discuss an alternative approach to the culling policy in place.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**, providing the above-mentioned information and any other relevant developments.

## 7.2 Possible files

➤ 2020/04: Armenia: The Amulsar gold mine project and its impacts on Emerald Network sites

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2020-04\\_gov - Government Report\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2020-04\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Regarding the Amulsar gold mine, the Bureau:

Noted that the construction activities advanced into their final phase, and the operation is transitioning toward commissioning.

Welcomed the efforts of the Armenian authorities to closely monitor the presence and conservation status of species and habitats, as well as the publication of the 2025 biodiversity monitoring report.

Noted the information provided by the authorities that no critical Emerald Network habitat types are significantly represented within the Amulsar project area and that the few species present on site that are protected under the Bern Convention are subject to close monitoring.

Regretted that the fieldwork only took place between September and November 2025 which does not allow for the observation of some species, for instance *Acantholimon caryophyllaceum*, that are absent in this period of the year.

Noted that information provided on Emerald Network habitat types and species need to be verified via a Bern Convention biogeographical seminar following the submission of a new database by the national authorities.

Urged the authorities to conduct a new Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Amulsar project, as repeatedly requested by the Bern Convention Standing Committee and Bureau, prior to the commencement of extraction activities.

Regarding the Jermuk National Park, the Bureau:

Welcomed the commitment demonstrated and the progress made by the national authorities in the process of declaring Jermuk National Park.

Strongly encouraged the authorities to establish Jermuk National Park ahead of COP17 in Yerevan, Armenia, to demonstrate a clear and strong commitment to biodiversity protection.

Regarding the revision process of the Emerald Network in Armenia, the Bureau:

Welcomed the information provided by the national authorities on efforts to involve civil society in the consultation on the revision of the Emerald Network and reiterated its request to ensure that participation is meaningful, with input duly considered and reflected in the decisions.

Urged the national authorities to conclude the consultation process on the Emerald network and submit a database with new boundaries for Emerald sites in order to allow for the organisation of a Bern Convention biogeographical seminar. This step is essential to ensure a proper assessment of the mining project's impacts on this Emerald Network site.

Requested the Armenian authorities to clarify the calendar for the submission of such a database.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**.

- 2022/06: Serbia: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Bosilegrad and in the Homolje Mt region; OSA and the round table on mining and biodiversity in Serbia

[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-06\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-06\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

**On Bosilegrad:**

Took note of the Ministry of Mining and Energy's approval for the exploitation field on the mineral deposits Podvirovi and Popovica, and expressed strong concern that such an approval could be granted pending the final decision of the Ministry on Environmental Protection on the EIA study.

Regretted that the Institute for Nature Conservation couldn't yet examine the natural wealth and possible impact of the mining activities so far and urged the Institute to proceed to the analysis at their earliest convenience. Expressed concern that the approval for the exploitation field seemed to be granted without completing such analysis and requested information on the findings as soon as available.

In view of the above, called upon the authorities to refrain from any activities that may harm the environment before the necessary safeguards are defined and put in place and asked to be informed of any further developments.

Requested further information about the Proposal of the Strategy for Management of Mineral and Other Geological Resources until 2040, with Protections until 2050, adopted by the Government on 30/12/2025 and submitted for the Parliament's consideration.

Expressed concern about surface water quality downstream of the mine. In the absence of consensus on the negative impact by the mine and its tailings proposed a complete and independent verification tailored to the specificity of the mine at the occasion of the On-the-Spot Appraisal visit.

Requested information on the mine in Novo Tlamino-Karamanica (Dukat) area, in particular on the environmental impact of the "Surlica DUKAT" project that risks negatively impacting an Important Bird Area.

**On Homolje:**

Requested information on mitigation measures within the Spatial Plan for the Special Purpose Area of the Tourist Destination Kučaj Mountain and the environmental impact assessment of geological explorations of the mineral resources in Zagubica Municipality, particularly those in close vicinity of the future Natura 2000 areas (Veliki krš and Stol, Homolje and Kučaj - Beljanica).

Took note of the decision to develop a Spatial Plan for the Special Purpose Area Coka Rakita ore deposit in the Crni Vrh region, with relevant information provided by the Institute for Nature Conservation for that purpose; asked for that information, and considerations of the possible impact on protected species and habitats and corresponding mitigation measures in due time.

Further, asked the Respondent to react to the allegations related to the pollution detected around tailing slurry ponds and in the immediate vicinity of exploration locations, as well as existence of the abandoned, unsecured drilling sites.

Reiterated the request for the spatial map of the species protected under the Bern Convention, regretting they were withheld from the Complainants.

Asked the Secretariat to pursue the preparations of the roundtable on mining in Serbia and of the OSA of one, or both of the sites in cooperation with the Respondent and Complainants.

Invited both parties to provide the above-mentioned information and updates on any other relevant developments to the Bureau in **autumn 2026**.

- 2022/07: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Trstionica – Gornja Bukovica and Vareš

The Bureau:

Thanked the Complainants for their report, and expressed strong concern that the Respondent submitted no update report again, despite several reminders.

Noted with concern the evidence presented by the complainant indicating serious and ongoing environmental impacts arising from mining activities in the Trstionica–Vareš area. Regretted in particular the ongoing lack of effective biodiversity monitoring, enforcement actions, health interventions, and restoration measures, and therefore invited the authorities to enhance their systems for monitoring biodiversity and wildlife mortality, to establish comprehensive baseline data for ecological and soil conditions, and to improve air pollution control and enforcement mechanisms.

Expressed grave concern that mining operations have not been suspended, despite clear legal requirements under the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Mining Law to suspend or revoke exploitation where activities pose a danger to human health or result in contamination of land and water resources.

Regretted the lack of enforcement of the Constitutional Court ruling of 11 July 2024, which declared null and void the Decision of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the Change of Purpose of Forest Land and Temporary Use of Forest Land for Other Purposes, and required all related decisions to be annulled. Urged the authorities once again to implement this ruling without delay and to report on all measures undertaken to address illegal land use and the resulting environmental harm in the area concerned.

Regretted the absence of follow-up on the joint proposal by both parties to organise a technical workshop, involving government officials, civil society, and Bern Convention representatives, to address the mining issue in the Trstionica valley and related biodiversity challenges.

Invited the authorities to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for public participation and for environmental defenders, in accordance with international standards.

Asked the Secretariat to continue efforts to contact the Respondent and organise a meeting to discuss the Possible File.

Requested submission of the relevant information for consideration by the Bureau in **summer 2026**.

### 7.3 Complaints on stand-by

*[T-PVS/Notes(2026)2– Summary of complaints on stand-by]*

➤ 2012/09(b): Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Patara SPA

*[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2012-09-b\\_gov](#) - Government Report]*

*[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2012-09-b\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]*

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Noted from both parties that there are no significant new on-the-ground developments to report.

Noted that the biodiversity study that forms the basis of the management plan for the Patara Special Conservation Area has been completed and that the management plan studies for Patara SPA are continuing rapidly with the participation of civil society organisations, local communities, and public institutions and organisations. Asked the Turkish authorities to provide an update on this issue in their next report.

Welcomed, in general, the good situation of the nesting beach in Patara and the efforts made to preserve them. Highlighted, in particular, the increase in the number of nests (604 compared to an average of 170 over the 35 previous years), an increase in the number of eggs and a decrease in predation.

Was concerned, however, that the area had become accessible to vehicles, as the stakes that had been planted to prevent their access had been washed away by the sea. Called on the authorities to reinstall obstacles to prevent vehicles from accessing the beach as soon as possible.

Invited both parties to submit progress reports to the **Bureau meeting in autumn 2026** with the view to a possible closure of the case.

- 2016/09: Georgia: Possible threat to “Svaneti 1” Candidate Emerald Site (GE0000012) from Nenskra Hydro Power Plant development

*[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2016-09\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2016-09\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]*

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Noted the information provided by the Complainants on the revival and enhanced financial and regulatory state support for the large hydropower projects in Georgia: Namakhvani, Nenskra and Khudoni HPPs.

Expressed concern about the discrepancy between the information submitted by the two parties.

Requested further updates on those developments, the environmental safeguards and species protection measures envisaged in case of resumption of the Nenskra HPPs.

Decided that the complaint remains on **stand-by**.

Requested both parties to report to the Bureau in **spring 2027**.

- 2017/06: Iceland: Possible negative impact on Breiðafjörður Nature Reserve’s authentic birch woods from new road infrastructure

*[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2017-06\\_gov](#) - Government Report]*

The Bureau:

Thanked the respondent for their progress report on the follow-up to [Recommendation No. 218 \(2022\)](#) and expressed regret that no report had been submitted by the complainant.

Welcomed the imminent finalisation and expected publication of the updated plan for compensatory measures for route p-H, in accordance with point 2 of [Recommendation No. 218 \(2022\)](#).

Welcomed the inclusion, in the updated monitoring plan, of a risk assessment for water bodies and the development of compensatory measures where required, as well as the addition of studies on habitat fragmentation, including effects on wood mouse, vegetation, and nest predation, in line with point 3 of [Recommendation No. 218 \(2022\)](#).

Welcomed the suggestions from the Breiðafjörður Committee, submitted in June 2024 and June 2025, aimed at strengthening management, legal clarity, research, local cooperation, possible Ramsar designation, and increased funding. Invited the Ministry to give these suggestions positive consideration, in order to support the implementation of point 8 of [Recommendation No. 218 \(2022\)](#).

Reiterated, with regret, the lack of progress regarding the inclusion of the Breiðafjörður area on the candidate list of Emerald Network sites, and called on the authorities to take prompt action to advance this process, including completion of all necessary preparatory work, in accordance with point 8.b of [Recommendation No. 218 \(2022\)](#) and [Recommendation No. 157 \(2019\)](#).

Called on the Government and its related institutions to continue the implementation of [Recommendation No. 218 \(2022\)](#).

Decided, in light of all the elements brought to its attention, to **close** the file.

➤ 2021/08: Georgia: Possible threat to Rioni River from the Namakhvani Hydropower Project

*[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2021-08\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2021-08\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]*

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Noted the information provided by the Complainants pertaining to the revival and enhanced financial and regulatory state support for the large hydropower projects in Georgia: Namakhvani, Nenskra and Khudoni HPPs.

Expressed concern about the discrepancy between the information submitted by the two parties.

Requested further updates on any further developments, the environmental safeguards and species protection measures envisaged in case of resumption of the Namakhvani HPP project.

Reiterated its request for information on the Vartsikhe fishway facility and interim measures to protect migratory fish species, remains significant for a potential cumulative impact of the hydropower projects.

Decided that the complaint remains on **stand-by**.

Requested both parties to report to the Bureau in **spring 2027**.

➤ 2022/01: Serbia: Alleged habitat destruction in the area of Novi Sad due to proposed infrastructure constructions

*[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-01\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-01\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]*

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Acknowledged that the Independent Advisory Committee (IAC) of the RAMSAR Convention, which is in charge of reviewing applications from accredited Wetland Cities, has been informed and was investigating the matter but no updates could be shared yet. Invited the Bern Convention Secretariat to continue liaising with the RAMSAR Convention Secretariat.

Took note of the information from the Ministry of Environmental Protection on the findings of a field inspection, desk-based inspection and their supervision, which identified no irregularities in the operations or conduct of the supervised entity.

On the basis of the submitted documentation concluded that the attention given to nature conservation was very limited in the EIA and the inspection refrained from analysing some of the few dimensions included in the study, such as functioning of the ecological corridor; expressed concern with the level of soil pollution concluded during the inspection.

Reiterated its call addressed to the authorities to halt the constructions until independent ecological and hydrological assessments are completed and the results of a thorough environmental impact assessment may be appropriately considered in further planning and infrastructure development.

In view of the contradicting information submitted by the parties, asked the Secretariat to further liaise with the relevant RAMSAR bodies and/or other relevant stakeholders to obtain clarification on the situation, including on the embankment.

Decided that the case-file remains on **stand-by**.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **summer 2026**.

- 2022/04: Montenegro: Hydropower plant development on Emerald Network site Komarnica (ME000000P) (MH)

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-04\\_gov - Government Report\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-04\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Noted that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedure for the construction of the Komarnica hydropower plant was formally terminated in 2025 following the withdrawal of the project proponent and that no further official actions to reactivate the procedure have been recorded to date.

Requested the authorities to be informed of any new request to conduct an EIA and urged the authorities to conduct any new EIA according to the highest international environmental standards.

Recalled that the construction of the Komarnica hydropower plant is included in the draft Spatial Plan until 2040, adopted by the Montenegrin Parliament in July 2025, as the EIA did not result in a final decision to declare the project legally and environmentally unacceptable; and requested both parties to report on any pending legal appeals against this Plan.

Noted with concern the information concerning the preparation of a draft Law on Strategic Investments and recommended that the authorities ensure stringent environmental scrutiny and effective public participation safeguards for developments affecting sensitive areas, particularly when they are located within Emerald Network sites; requested the authorities to provide clarification on the legislative process and the potential impact of such a law, if adopted, on Emerald Network sites, including Komarnica.

Regretted that the authorities did not inform of any viable alternatives to the construction of the hydropower plant in Komarnica and asked them to seriously consider other options given the exceptional value of the site.

Recalled that given Komarnica's status as a candidate site under the Emerald Network, national authorities are required to actively identify any potentially harmful projects or activities, obtain sufficient clarity regarding the potential consequences of any such project or activity for the habitat(s) involved, *before* taking a decision regarding its approval, and refuse to authorise projects and activities that are incompatible with conservation objectives, in accordance with Recommendation No. 225 (2024).

Strongly encouraged the Montenegrin authorities to include Komarnica in the revised database of candidate sites of the Emerald Network to be submitted to the Bern Convention Secretariat, and to update its ecological information so as to include all habitats listed under Resolution No. 4 (1996) and all species listed under Resolution No. 6 (1998) present at the site. This step is essential to ensure a proper assessment of the project's impacts on this Emerald Network site.

Requested the Secretariat to inform the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), which supports the new Renewable Energy Sources Association (RES Montenegro), established in January 2026, about its concerns on the possible development of the construction of the Komarnica hydropower plan.

The complaint remains on **stand-by**.

Both parties are requested to report to the Bureau in **spring 2027**.

- 2023/01: Albania: Alleged habitat destruction due to the construction of the Skavica Hydropower Plant on the Drin River (MB)

[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2023-01\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2023-01\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Took note of the next steps for the Skavica Hydropower Project, including ongoing feasibility studies and completion, with third-party review, of the preliminary Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). Further noted that any decision to advance subsequent phases, including ESIA and project implementation, depends upon government approval, financial arrangements, and public consultation on finalised technical and environmental studies. Called upon the authorities to publish a clear timeline for the ESIA and consultation process, and to ensure effective participation of all relevant stakeholders and affected communities before any decision to proceed, in line with international standards.

Requested the authorities to inform of any viable alternatives to the construction of the Skavica Hydropower Plant on the Drin River (MB) and urged them to seriously consider other options given the exceptional value of the site.

Highlighted the European Parliament resolution of 9 July 2025 on the 2023 and 2024 Commission reports on Albania (**2025/2017(INI)**) calling for the abandonment of the Skavica Hydropower Project due to its severe ecological, social, and cultural impacts, including displacement of local communities, and noted ongoing concerns at the EU level in light of Albania's candidate status for EU accession.

Expressed concerns about the potential negative impacts of the project on the Balkan lynx and other species listed under the Bern Convention, and the viability of the bio-corridor concerned, which may not have been fully addressed in the project documentation or ESIA scoping.

Asked the national authorities to ensure that all impacts on protected species, priority habitats, and the Emerald Network are thoroughly considered in accordance with the Bern Convention. Urged the authorities to submit a database with new boundaries for Emerald sites in order to allow for the organisation of a Bern Convention biogeographical seminar.

Decided that the file remains on **stand-by**, while requesting both parties to submit their progress reports to the **Bureau in autumn 2026**, in view of possible elevating to a Possible File.

#### 7.4 New (pending) complaints

[[T-PVS/Notes\(2026\)3](#)– Summary of new & pending complaints]

- 2024/01: France: Alleged insufficient protection of the Hermann's tortoise (*Testudo Hermannii*)

[[Complaint form](#)]  
[[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2024-01\\_gov](#) - Government Report]

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Took note of experiments with “fire-proof” refuges and certain local ecological compensation schemes, including the creation of a natural compensation, restoration and renaturation site in Sainte-Maxime and “fire-proof” refuges on sites in Corsica.

Took note of current brush-clearing measures from the authorities and their impact on the Hermann’s tortoise.

Expressed concern regarding the persistent pressures on the habitats of Hermann’s tortoise, such as uncontrolled deforestation, agricultural and urban projects, recurrent fires, as well as recent legislative changes which, according to the Complainant, significantly weaken the species’ legal protection.

Invited the authorities to put in place a mechanism to address or compensate for damages caused involuntarily or by simple negligence, while recent legislative modifications now restrict sanctions and obligations to intentional acts or gross negligence only, greatly limiting the number of prosecuted infractions and often rendering sanctions largely symbolic and insufficient as a deterrent.

Requested the regional services of the French Government to publicly release the species’ sensitivity map updated under the National Action Plan (PNA 2018-2027), permitting adequate consideration of the on-the-ground situation in agricultural or urban projects.

Asked the Respondent to submit a progress report based on the latest Habitat Directive’s species assessment for tortoise.

Decided that the case is on **stand-by**.

Invited both parties to report to the **Bureau in autumn 2026**, demonstrating how they have addressed the points of concern raised in this decision.

➤ 2024/02: Ukraine: Deforestation in an Emerald Network site (UA0000338) in Kyiv Region

[\[Complaint form\]](#)

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2025\)2024-02\\_gov - Government Report\]](#)

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2025\)2024-02\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked both parties for their reports.

Reiterated, in a spirit of solidarity, the importance of the National Military Memorial Cemetery for honouring the memory of those who gave their lives for the freedom and independence of Ukraine.

Acknowledged confirmation from independent experts and authorities that the National Military Memorial Cemetery site overlaps with Emerald Network area UA0000338 and includes water fund lands, mires, and wetlands of significant ecological and hydrological value, as evidenced by historical cartography, satellite imagery, and official forest records.

Regretted the lack of evidence that alternative locations outside the Emerald Network have been identified or seriously explored, or that comprehensive, independent, and transparent impact assessments have been conducted with full participation of stakeholders and the public.

Noted that the Supreme Court, in its ruling of 29 January 2026, determined the change in land use for cemetery construction within the Emerald Network to be unlawful, and regretted the absence of a response from the respondent, while acknowledging both the short notice and the authorities' willingness to provide additional information at the autumn Bureau meeting.

Requested the authorities to clarify the next steps in light of the Supreme Court's decision, considering that construction has begun and part of the cemetery is already open, and to outline forthcoming steps for developing the Emerald Network, especially proposed mitigation and compensation measures to reduce impacts on wildlife and habitats.

Decided that the complaint is on **stand-by** and invited both parties to report to the **Bureau in autumn 2026**.

- 2025/02: France: Alleged damage to the protected species present and their habitats in the context of the project to reopen navigation on the Rhône-Rhine canal

[\[Complaint form\]](#)

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2025\)2024-01\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked the Complainants for their report and regretted the lack of report from the government.

Acknowledged the request from the association "Porte du Ried Nature" to join as co-complainant.

Noted with concern the Complainants' claims that the works will result in the loss and degradation of habitats for strictly protected species (especially the habitat and feeding areas for bats which will be impacted by boat traffic), that important tree lines along the dykes could be negatively affected, and that impacts on the ecological corridor function have not been fully considered by the project.

Requested from the French Government to provide the latest and most up-to-date information on the conservation status of the protected species impacted by the project.

Invited the Government to report to the Bureau in **summer 2026**.

The case remains **new (pending)**.

## 7.5 New complaints

[\[T-PVS/Notes\(2026\)3- Summary of new & pending complaints\]](#)

- 2024/03: Serbia: Alleged destruction of the habitat of the little cormorant *Microcarbo pygmeus* on the Sava River in Belgrade

[\[Complaint form\]](#)

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2024-03\\_gov - Government Report\]](#)

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2024-03\\_comp - Complainant Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked the Serbian authorities and the Complainants for the submission of their reports on the Alleged destruction of the habitat of the little cormorant *Microcarbo pygmeus* on the Sava River in Belgrade.

Acknowledged the existence of a police report from the Police Department Bežanijska Kosa documenting the breach of the fence protecting the habitat of the little cormorant.

Requested the Serbian Government to attach the police report to its future progress report.

Requested more information and clarification from the State authorities on the marina's relocation outside the boundaries of the second-degree protection regime, including the relocation's timing planned in the sensitive period before the end of March.

Asked the government for clarification on whether the marina had a construction permit or not.

Acknowledged the two monitoring campaigns carried out in November and December 2025 and requested further monitoring of the population size of the Pygmy Cormorant following the relocation of the marina.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **spring 2027**.

The case remains **new (pending)**.

- 2025/05: European Union: Alleged threat to the wolf caused by change in its protection status under the Bern Convention, proposed by the EU

[\[Complaint form\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2025-05\\_resp - Respondent Report\]](#)

The Bureau:

Thanked the Respondent for their report in reply to the complaint.

Took note of the concerns of the Complainants, pertaining to the change potentially leading to violating the Bern Convention, in particular Article 1, 2, and 9, by undermining its precautionary and proportionality principles, making the wolf a huntable species, with its core habitats losing strict protection, which could result in population decline, core habitat fragmentation and overall decreased conservation for the species.

Noted the Complainants' argument, that the proposal was not based on reliable scientific facts and failed to consider ecological and cultural requirements, as well as the Respondent's reply indicating the scientific evidence on which the proposal was based and additional stakeholder consultation and technical input from Member States to verify the data.

Highlighted that the complaint was filed before the decision of the Standing Committee in favour of the EU proposal to change the protection status of the European grey wolf (*Canis lupus*) from 'strictly protected' (Appendix II) to 'protected' (Appendix III) in the framework of the Bern Convention, therefore it cannot be considered as a complaint against the Committee's decision.

Affirmed that the decision was taken and entered into force in accordance with the existing rules and relevant provisions of the Convention, and with the support of a large majority of the Contracting Parties.

Reiterated the 44th Standing Committee decisions concerning the change in the protection status of the wolf:

- reminding that despite the change in the wolf's protection status, the rules of the Bern Convention still apply and need to be observed, notably Art 1(1), Art. 2, Art. 7 and Art. 9. The wolf populations need to be maintained at, or brought to, a level which corresponds to ecological and scientific requirements in accordance with Article 2. Their populations need to be kept out of danger and measures to be taken shall include the temporary or local prohibition of exploitation, as appropriate, in order to restore satisfactory population levels. Exceptions are only possible under the specific circumstances mentioned in Art.9 (1);

- asking Contracting Parties to continue reporting on exceptions for the wolf every two years in accordance with Article 9(2);

- requesting the Expert Group on Large Carnivores to closely monitor the population of the wolf, in close cooperation with the Large Carnivores Initiative for Europe, and to report to the Standing Committee after each meeting of the Expert Group;

- creating a Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention to reflect on a dedicated evidence-based mechanism and criteria for granting or changing the protection status of a species.

Noted the information provided by the Respondent that national authorities may apply stricter protections at their discretion under Article 12, and that the EU and its Member States are required to continue monitoring wolf populations and report regularly.

Welcomed continued EU support for damage prevention, stakeholder engagement, and funding to ensure continued coexistence between wolves and socio-economic activities.

Pointed to the threat of illegal killing in conjunction with the risks of understanding the implications of lowering the protection of *Canis lupus* to the Appendix III status (“protected species”) as a free licence to kill.

Noted that information on the protection status of the wolf and implications of the downlisting of the species would be collected and reviewed in 2026 by the Bern Convention Group of Experts on Large Carnivores; asked the Respondent and the Complainants for vigilance and signalling any developments in relation to the matter that may imply violation of the Convention.

Decided that the complaint remains **new (pending)**, awaiting information on further developments regarding the species protection status, management measures and their bearing for the populations concerned.

Invited both parties to report to the Bureau in **autumn 2027**.

## 7.6 New complaint forms received

The Secretariat informed about 21 new complaints received since mid-2025 and difficulties with processing them due to limited human resources. Those deemed admissible by the Secretariat are to be considered by the Bureau at the earliest convenience.

**Decision:** The Bureau took note of the new complaints and the resulting workload.

## 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### 8.1. Dates of the next Bureau meetings

The Secretariat proposed dates for the online summer Bureau meeting (17-18 June) and autumn Bureau meeting (22-24 September).

**Decision:** The Bureau agreed to hold the next online summer Bureau meeting on 17-18 June and the autumn Bureau meeting on 22-24 September.

### 8.2. Dates of the Standing Committee meeting

The participants discussed the possibility of proposing an alternative date to December for the 47<sup>th</sup> and subsequent Standing Committee meetings, as this period is less favourable due to the approaching end of the budgetary year and the limited availability of accommodation in Strasbourg in December.

**Decision:** The Bureau agreed on the rationale for changing the dates and discussed alternative periods. It decided to launch a consultation with focal points on the proposed options, namely the end of May/beginning of June, the third week of October, or maintaining the current option of the first week of December. The consultation should be launched in May and its results will be submitted to the 46<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting in December 2026 for a decision on the dates of subsequent Standing Committee meetings.

## **Appendix I – List of participants**

### **CHAIR**

Mr Carl AMIRGULASHVILI, Head of Biodiversity and Forestry Policy Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia

### **VICE-CHAIR**

Mr Claude ORIGER, Policy Adviser, Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development, Luxembourg

### **BUREAU MEMBERS**

Mr Charles-Henri de BARSAC, International and European Wildlife Agreements Officer, Sub-Directorate for the Protection and Restoration of Terrestrial Ecosystems, Ministry for Ecological and Solidarity Transition, France

Ms Merike LINNAMÄGI, Advisor, Biodiversity Conservation Department, Ministry of the Climate, Estonia

Mr Burak TATAR, Senior Specialist, Directorate General of Nature Conservation and National Parks, Department of Wildlife Management, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Türkiye

### **SECRETARIAT**

Council of Europe / Directorate of Social Rights, Health and the Environment

Mr Gianluca SILVESTRINI, Head of Division

Ms Grazia Alessandra SIINO, Secretary of the Bern Convention

Mr Mikaël POUTIERS, Administrator

Ms Marta MEJLIŃSKA, Project Manager

Ms Emma GARNIER-CARRELL, Junior Lawyer

Ms Lilas HEULLANT, Administrative Assistant

## Appendix II – Adopted Agenda

### 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING & ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

#### 1.1. Adoption of the agenda

### 2. REPORT FROM THE SECRETARIAT

#### 2.1. Staff announcements

### 3. FINANCING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BERN CONVENTION

#### 3.1. Reykjavik process and the environment

*[[GR-C\(2026\)CB2](#) - Synopsis of the meeting of the Committee of Ministers Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C)]*  
*[[CDENV\(2026\)ARI](#) - Abridged report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee on the Environment (CDENV)]*

- Participation in the meeting of the Committee of Ministers Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C) (Strasbourg, 3 March 2026) and 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee on the Environment (CDENV) (Strasbourg, 24-25 March 2026);
- Participation in upcoming events and meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> European Forum on Environmental Human Rights Defenders (Strasbourg, 3-4 June 2026), Committee of Ministers GR-C meeting (Strasbourg, 16 June 2026) and CBD COP 17 in Armenia (Yerevan, 19-30 October 2026).

#### 3.2. Working Group on the draft Protocol amending the Bern Convention

#### 3.3. Working Group on exploring mechanisms to guide amendments to the appendices of the Bern Convention

#### 3.4. Working Group on overseeing implementation of the Strategic Plan

#### 3.5. Draft revised Rules of procedure of the Standing Committee

*[T-PVS/Inf(2026)05 – Draft revised Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention]*

#### 3.6. Ways ahead with the Bern Convention complaint system

*[T-PVS/Inf(2026)06 – Secretariat reflection on further enhancements within the case-file system of the Bern Convention]*

### 4. MONITORING OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

*[[Calendar of meetings 2026](#)]*  
*[[T-PVS\(2025\)12](#) - Programme of Activities and budget for 2026]*

#### 4.1. European Diploma for Protected Areas

#### 4.2. Emerald Network

#### 4.3. Group of Experts on Large Carnivores

#### 4.4. Group of Experts on Conservation of Birds and addressing IKB

#### 4.5. Groups of Experts on Invasive Alien Species, on Amphibians and Reptiles, and the future of thematic Groups of Experts overall

## 5. MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION

### 5.1. Biennial reporting and new Online Reporting System

### 5.2. Reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) on the conservation status of species and habitats

## 6. COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONVENTION

### 6.1. Information regarding the planned Gonio Development Project located at Chorokhi Delta (GE0000054) site

*[T-PVS/Inf(2026)03 – Resolution of the Participants of the Conference on the Alienation of Krtsanisi–Gonio]*

### 6.2. Notification by the CMS Secretariat on a decision concerning Vjosa-Narta Protected Landscape (Albania)

### 6.3. Request to support a meeting on the Genus Zingel

## 7. CASE-FILES

*[T-PVS/Notes(2026)1 – Summary of open and possible case files]*

### 7.1. Open files

- 1986/08: Greece: Recommendation No. 9 (1987) on the protection of *Caretta caretta* in Laganas Bay, Zakynthos - OSA

*[T-PVS/Files(2026)1986-08\_gov - Government Report]  
[T-PVS/Files(2026)1986-08\_comp - Complainant Report]*

- 2010/05: Greece: Threats to marine turtles in Thines Kiparissias - OSA

*[T-PVS/Files(2026)2010-05\_gov - Government Report]  
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2010-05\_comp - Complainant Report]*

- 1995/06: Cyprus: Akamas peninsula

*[T-PVS/Files(2026)1995-06\_gov - Government Report]  
[T-PVS/Files(2026)1995-06\_comp - Complainant Report]*

- 2012/09(a): Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Fethiye SPA

*[T-PVS/Files(2026)2012-09-a\_gov - Government Report]  
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2012-09-a\_comp - Complainant Report]*

- 2013/01: North Macedonia: Hydro power development within the territory of the Mavrovo National Park

*[T-PVS/Files(2026) 2013-01\_comp - Complainant Report only]*

- 2017/02: North Macedonia: Negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructures developments

*[T-PVS/Files(2026)2017-02\_gov - Government Report only]*

- 2019/05: Türkiye: Habitat destruction in Mersin Anamur Beach

*[T-PVS/Files(2026)2019-05\_gov - Government Report]  
[T-PVS/Files(2026)2019-05\_comp - Complainant Report]*

- 2020/09: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of hydro-power plant development on the Neretva River;

*No reports*

- 2022/03: Norway: Wolf culling policy

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-03\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-03\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

## 7.2 Possible files

*[T-PVS/Notes(2026)1 – Summary of open and possible case files]*

- 2020/04: Armenia: The Amulsar gold mine project and its impacts on Emerald Network sites

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2020-04\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2020-04\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2022/06: Serbia: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Bosilegrad and in the Homolje Mt region; OSA and the round table on mining and biodiversity in Serbia

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-06\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-06\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2022/07: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of mining activities in Trstionica – Gornja Bukovica and Vareš

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-07\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report only]

## 7.3 Complaints on stand-by

*[T-PVS/Notes(2026)2– Summary of complaints on stand-by]*

- 2012/09(b): Türkiye: Presumed degradation of nesting beaches in Patara SPA

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2012-09-b\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2012-09-b\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2016/09: Georgia: Possible threat to “Svaneti 1” Candidate Emerald Site (GE0000012) from Nenskra Hydro Power Plant development

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2016-09\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2016-09\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2017/06: Iceland: Possible negative impact on Breiðafjörður Nature Reserve’s authentic birch woods from new road infrastructure

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2017-06\\_gov](#) - Government Report only]

- 2021/08: Georgia: Possible threat to Rioni River from the Namakhvani Hydropower Project

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2021-08\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2021-08\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2022/01: Serbia: Alleged habitat destruction in the area of Novi Sad due to proposed infrastructure constructions

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-01\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-01\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2022/04: Montenegro: Hydropower plant development on Emerald Network site Komarnica (ME000000P) (MH)

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-04\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2022-04\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2023/01: Albania: Alleged habitat destruction due to the construction of the Skavica Hydropower Plant on the Drin River (MB)

[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2023-01\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2023-01\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

#### **7.4 New (pending) complaints**

*[T-PVS/Notes(2026)3– Summary of new & pending complaints]*

- 2024/01: France: Alleged insufficient protection of the Hermann's tortoise (*Testudo Hermannii*)  
[\[Complaint form\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2024-01\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2024-01\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2024/02: Ukraine: Deforestation in an Emerald Network site (UA0000338) in Kyiv Region  
[\[Complaint form\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2025\)2024-02\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2025\)2024-02\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2025/02: France: Alleged damage to the protected species present and their habitats in the context of the project to reopen navigation on the Rhône-Rhine canal  
[\[Complaint form\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2025-02\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report only]

#### **7.5 New complaints**

*[T-PVS/Notes(2026)3– Summary of new & pending complaints]*

- 2024/03: Serbia: Alleged destruction of the habitat of the little cormorant *Microcarbo pygmeus* on the Sava River in Belgrade  
[\[Complaint form\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2024-03\\_gov](#) - Government Report]  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2024-03\\_comp](#) - Complainant Report]

- 2025/05: European Union: Alleged threat to the wolf caused by change in its protection status under the Bern Convention, proposed by the EU  
[\[Complaint form\]](#)  
[\[T-PVS/Files\(2026\)2025-05\\_resp](#) - Respondent Report]

#### **7.6 New complaint forms received**

### **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **8.1. Dates of the next Bureau meetings**

#### **8.2. Dates of the Standing Committee meeting**

**Appendix III – Revised version of the Bern Convention Wolf Protection Status Monitoring survey**



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ntion\_Wolf\_Protector