



#RestoreNature joint statement September 2023

We, the undersigned **200 civil society organisations**, call upon all EU Member States, Members of the European Parliament and the European Commission to urgently adopt a strong Nature Restoration Law that is fit for purpose to tackle the twin biodiversity and climate crises.

We are witnessing a mass biodiversity extinction and climate breakdown, threatening the very basis of our life as we know it. The science is very clear on this. Efforts so far have been largely inadequate to address these crises and to restore our relationship with nature. Unsurprisingly, increasingly frequent droughts, floods and forest fires, as we saw again this summer, are making the effects of these crises ever more visible across Europe. It's clear that we need effective nature restoration measures on a large scale.

The EU Nature Restoration Regulation is the unique opportunity of this decade to change the pathway from continuous deterioration to regeneration, where we steer towards a safe and resilient future of living in harmony with nature. Restoring nature means restoring our greatest ally in tackling climate change, restoring our own health and wellbeing, and restoring our livelihoods and economies. Nature restoration is one of the best investments our society can make. Yet, time is running out.

In the past months, we saw unprecedented opposition to the EU Nature Restoration Regulation, leading to unacceptable weakening and even almost losing the legal text. We therefore strongly call upon national governments, Members of the European Parliament and the European Commission to get back on the right track by safeguarding the following key elements in the EU Nature Restoration Regulation:

- Ensure that all terrestrial and marine habitats are covered by **quantified, time-bound and enforceable targets in and outside Natura 2000 areas**
- Ensure **non-deterioration** of ecosystems to safeguard investments and long-term benefits, fully in line with Europe`s commitments for climate and biodiversity
- Include restoration of **agricultural ecosystems, complemented by dedicated targets for the restoration of drained peatlands**. Restoring agricultural ecosystems is crucial for resilience of food systems and the agricultural sector. Peatland restoration plays a key role in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Include strong indicators **for the restoration of forest ecosystems**, scientifically valid for all forest types
- Ensure **implementable marine targets** with clear safeguards, so that the Common Fisheries Policy does not block marine restoration
- Ensure **dedicated and additional funding** to finance restoration measures
- Ensure clear **public participation and access to justice** provisions
- Ensure the Law can **enter into force immediately**, without preconditions for the timely and steady implementation of the restoration targets

We cannot afford anymore to delay actions, to water down ambition or to limit the scope of the law. It would only make it more costly and time-consuming to deal with the consequences of our inaction. It would put our future and that of all other beings at stake. We need to make it work now, we need to #RestoreNature.

For more information, visit restorenature.eu.

Signatories:









Rewilding Europe

Rewilding Apennines

Rewilding Oder Delta

Rewilding Portugal

Rewilding Rhodopes

Rewilding Romania

Rewilding Spain

Rewilding Sweden

Rewilding Velebit





A Rocha International

AirClim

AKTI PROJECT & RESEARCH CENTRE

Alpe Adria Green International

Amigos de la Tierra

Aplinkosaugos koalicija (Environmental Coalition of Lithuania)

Arnika

Association for nature and environment conservation and sustainable development promotion ARGONAUTA

Association for Nature, Environment and Sustainable Development Sunce

Association Hyla

Austrian Youth Biodiversity Network - GYBN Austria

BIOM Association

BirdLife - SEO

BirdLife Austria

BirdLife Bulgaria - Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds

BirdLife Cyprus

BirdLife DOF

Birdlife Estonia

BirdLife Europe and Central Asia

BirdLife Finland

BirdLife Greece – Hellenic Ornithological Society

BirdLife Hungary - MME

BirdLife Italy - Lipu

BirdLife Malta

BirdLife Slovenia DOPPS

BirdLife Sweden

Birdwatch Ireland

BLOOM

Bodensee-Stiftung - Internationale Stiftung für Natur und Kultur

Bond Beter Leefmilieu

BOS+

Brod Ecological Society-BED

Buglife - The Invertebrate Conservation Trust

Canopea

CEE Bankwatch Network

CEEweb for Biodiversity

Center for Environmental Policy (AAPC)

Center for Protection and Research of Birds

Center for Research and Information for the Environment Eko-svest

Centrum Ochrony Mokradeł / Wetlands Conservation Centre

CIRF - Italian Centre for River Restoration

Client Earth

Climate Action Network Europe

Climate Catalyst

Coalition Clean Baltic

Coastwatch

Comitato AVB

Comité Schone Lucht

Conservation International Europe

Cork Environmental Forum

Cork Nature Network

County administrative board of Skane

Croatian Society for Birds and Nature Protection

Czech Society for Ornithology

Danish Society for Nature Conservation

Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. (German Environmental Action)

Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR)

Deutsche Stiftung Meeresschutz

Društvo Ekologi brez meja

Društvo Proteus, gibanje za naravo in okolje, Bela krajina

Eco-TIRAS International Association of River Keepers

ECOLISE - European network for community-led initiatives on climate change and sustainability

Ecologistas en Acción

ECOS - Environmental Coalition on Standards

Ekoskog

El Fanal - Col·lectiu Cultural i Ecologista del Moianès

Environmental Center for Administration and Technology

Environmental Pillar

Estonian Fund for Nature ELF

EuroNatur

EUROPARC Federation

European Anglers Alliance (EAA)

European Cave Protection Commission by the Fédération Spéléologique Européenne

European Environmental Bureau

European Living Lakes Association

European Young Rewilders

Eurosite

Fair Seas

Fältbiologerna

Fédération des Parcs naturels régionaux de France

Federazione Nazionale Pro Natura

Forests of the World (Verdens Skove)

Foundation for Peatland Restoration and Conservation

France Nature Environnement (FNE)

Free Rivers Italia

Friends of Fertő lake Association

Friends of the Earth Czech Republic - Hnutí DUHA

Friends of the Earth Europe

Friends of the Earth Germany - BUND e.V.

Fundación Española de Renaturalización (Rewilding Spain)

Fundación Global Nature

Fundacion Nueva Cultura del Agua

Gamtos apsaugos asociacija "Baltijos vilkas"

Generation Climate Europe (GCE)

Generation Earth (Youth Network of WWF AT)

GEOTA-Grupo de Estudos de Ordenamento do Território e Ambiente

Global Nature Fund

Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN) Europe

Great Lakes and Wetland Federation (Nagy Tavak és Vizes Élőhelyek Szövetsége)

Green Impact

Greenpeace

GRÜNE LIGA e.V.

Hnutí Brontosaurus

IFAW

IFOAM Organics Europe

Irish Wildlife Trust

Italian Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN Italy)

Jane Goodall Institute Belgium

KORIDOR D8
 Latvian Fund for Nature
 Latvian Ornithological Society
 Leefmilieu
 Legambiente
 Liga para a Protecção da Natureza
 Lithuanian Arboricultural Center
 Lithuanian entomological society
 Lithuanian Ornithological Society
 Living Rivers Foundation
 Lutra, Institute for Conservation of Natural Heritage
 Mammal Conservation Europe
 Marine Explorers Society - 20000 Leagues
 MEDASSET
 MedINA
 MedWet
 Michael Succow Foundation
 Milvus Group
 MIO-ECSDDE
 Morigenos
 Mouvement Ecologique
 NABU
 Natagora
 natur&emwelt
 Naturalists Club Poland (Klub Przyrodników)
 Naturefriends International
 Naturskyddsforeningen (Swedish Society for Nature Conservation)
 Natuurmonumenten
 Natuurpunt
 Natuurpunt vzw
 NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council)
 Oceana Europe
 OceanCare
 One Voice
 Österreichisches Kuratorium für Fischerei und Gewässerschutz
 Partnership for Policy Integrity
 Pesticide Action Network Europe (PAN Europe)
 PIC - Legal Center for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment
 Polish Society for Bird Protection
 Rewilding Apennines ETS
 Rewilding Europe
 Rewilding France
 Rewilding Oder Delta
 Rewilding Portugal
 Rewilding Rhodopes Foundation
 Rewilding Romania
 Rewilding Spain
 Rewilding Sweden
 Rewilding Velebit Foundation
 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
 RUPI
 SABUKO - Society for Nature Conservation
 Salviamo l'Orso
 Sciaena
 Seas At Risk
 Sengirės fondas | The Ancient Woods Foundation
 Slow Food Italia
 SNPN
 Societatea Ornitologică Română
 Society for Ecological Restoration Europe
 Society for the Protection of Prespa
 Society for Sustainable Living
 SPEA (Portuguese Society for the Study of Birds)
 SPECO - Sociedade Portuguesa de Ecologia
 Svoboda zvířat (Freedom for Animals)
 Swedish Anglers Association (Sportfiskarna)
 Terre d'Abeilles
 The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation
 The Green Tank
 The Habitat Foundation
 The Nature Conservancy
 The North Sea Foundation
 The Polish Society for Protection of Birds, OTOB/BirdLife Poland
 Udruga za održivi razvoj Hrvatske
 Udruga za promicanje ekološke proizvodnje hrane, zaštite okoliša i održivog razvoja „Eko-Zadar“
 Umanotera, The Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Development
 Umweltdachverband

Vogelbescherming Nederland
Vogelbescherming Vlaanderen
Waddenvereniging
WeMove Europe
Wetlands International Europe
Wild Europe
Wild Europe Foundation
Wildlife Conservation Society EU office (WCS EU)
WWF European Policy Office, on behalf of the EU
WWF Network
Xarxa per a la Conservació de la Natura (XCN)
Youth and Environment Europe
Youth Engaged in Wetlands
Zeleni Osijek
ZERO - Associação Sistema Terrestre Sustentável
Zoological Society of London (ZSL)