



NGOs take legal action against EU institutions for politically motivated wolf downlisting against EU law and science.

Brussels, 15 October 2025 - The legal appeal Green Impact and other defendants brought against the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission for down-listing wolf protection has been now published in the Official Journal of the European Union ([T-563/25](#)).

Should the Legal Appeal be granted validity by the European Court of Justice, the EU downlisting would be annulled and strict protection of wolves restored throughout the EU.

Luca d' Agostino, lawyer in charge of the legal case, said *“After a number of unsuccessful out-of-court attempts to change the course of this initiative put forward by NGOs, together with Green Impact we have taken up legal action to challenge a dangerous, politically motivated initiative by the EU legislator. With this Appeal before the European Court of Justice we aim to protect biodiversity, affirming the centrality of the scientific method in the European Union's environmental policies.”*

The Applicants denounce the EU institutions that have circumvented the procedures for reviewing the Annexes of the EU Habitats Directive with the intention to weaken species protection and allow widespread killing of wolves throughout the EU. Green Impacts and the other applicants demand that the rights guaranteed by the Aarhus Convention be recognized, with particular reference to public participation in the direction of European environmental policies (specifically, by NGOs) and effective access to justice for the protection of public interests such as European biodiversity.

Gaia Angelini, president of Green Impact, said: *“Wolf downlisting is just the start of a larger plan aimed at weakening protection of critical European species and the value of the EU Habitat Directive. It is unacceptable that such a sensitive decision was based on a lack of science openly influenced by political interests, in violation of the formal procedures established by primary European law”.*

The legal initiatives to restore European wolf protection conducted by Green Impact have been made possible thanks to the generous support of the Gallifrey Foundation and The European Nature Trust (TENT). END

Contact for Press

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