

# Hungary - opposing downlisting of wolf

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# Why do we care about wolf?

Our organisation was set up in 2022  
Our major focus used to be our large lakes  
and we used litigation as a strategic tool  
Civil EU Presidency in 2024  
Focus areas: freshwater, forest habitats,  
and industrial pollution  
Each has a keystone species



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## European Court of Justice appeal

We joined forces with Green Impact and three more CSOs to start litigation against the European Commission

- \*Negative example: the wandering individual which came to Hungary from Switzerland was shot in April 2023
  - \*The scandal might have changed the attitude of the larger public (re. 2019 opinion poll)
- \*Positive example: an interesting interview with a private forest owner who said that his costs of reforestation were lower due to the presence of wolf in his area

# Linking the strict protection to Nature Restoration Regulations

- \*The higher naturalness creates more resilience
- \*One of the major problems of forests in Hungary is linked to game management (“overgrazing” in our forests)
- \*We are linking our strategy to the national restoration plan

# Can we bring a stable population back?

- \* We need proper monitoring
  - \* We need public support
- \* We need proper economic incentives
  - \* Scientific arguments
- \* Example: Golden jackal come back
  - \* 2002/2003 - 85
  - \* 2024/2025 - 16240
- \* Opportunities: transboundary cooperation

