

Joint press release

Green Impact, Randagio Group Activists, Pro Natura National Federation, Leal, Cabs

Hunting: the Campo Largo regions open the hunting season — now a moratorium is needed to demonstrate a change of course, in line with the battles in Parliament. Letter to Schlein and Conte from five associations

Rome, 21 September 2026 — Whilst in Parliament the opposition is challenging the Hunting Bill (AS No. 1552, now AC No. 2984), proposed by the Government—the most extensive deregulation of hunting since 1992—in the six regions governed by the ‘Campo Largo’ parties — Tuscany, Emilia-Romagna, Sardinia, Umbria, Apulia and Campania — wildlife management plans based almost exclusively on direct culling continue to be authorised, in several cases deviating from ISPRA’s technical and scientific advice without the substantiated justification required by administrative case law. This is the complaint set out in an open letter sent today by five environmental and animal welfare organisations — Green Impact, Attivisti Gruppo Randagio – ODV, Federazione Nazionale Pro Natura, Leal – Lega Antivivisezionista and Cabs – Committee Against Bird Slaughter — to the secretary of the Democratic Party, Elly Schlein; the president of the Five Star Movement, Giuseppe Conte; and the co-spokespersons of the Green and Left Alliance, Nicola Fratoianni and Angelo Bonelli, with a copy to the secretary of the Young Democrats, Virginia Libero.

In the letter, the organisations denounce a situation common to all six regions: the authorisation of hunting of species in a critical conservation status or at risk, often through early hunting seasons, and wildlife management plans based almost exclusively on direct culling rather than on ecological and non-lethal approaches. They cite the example of Tuscany, where President Eugenio Giani spoke in person at a meeting with over 1,000 hunters, emphasising the importance of a sector that represents less than 1 per cent of those eligible to vote. The figures confirm this: according to a survey based on freedom of information requests for regional data (LAC, 2026), there are 429,484 active hunters in Italy — just 0.8 per cent of the resident population — 98 per cent of whom are male and concentrated in the 60–80 age group, with a projected electoral weight of 0.3–0.4 per cent by 2030. They also point out that the current system diverts public resources towards the hunting sector, whilst wildlife rescue centres remain chronically underfunded.

‘We are calling for three concrete and immediately enforceable measures: an urgent moratorium on regional hunting calendars, wildlife management plans not based on culling, and regional laws prohibiting hunting in protected areas and suspending it in areas affected by wildfires or heatwaves. Wildlife is a non-disposable asset of the State and cannot be managed with double standards,’ state the associations behind the letter.

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