INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial

64th CIC General Assembly

Harmony with Wildlife, Urban and Rural Perceptions
Keep Calm Let Africa Speak – Panel Discussion
Alienation of People from Nature
What’s your problem with hunting?
Executive Committee Election Results
Awards
Summary of the Hunting Auction and CIC Raffle

Regional and Country News

The CIC supports the World Hunting and Nature Expo in 2021
Hunting and Sustainability – JAGD&HUND Exhibition
CIC Markhor Award
How Hunting Helps Wildlife
Wild boar swine fever

International Relations

Young Generations, the Future of Wildlife
CIC Children's Drawing Contest
Migratory Birds Meeting

Divisions

Trophy Evaluation System Update #8
The Wildlife Estates Initiative expands in Estonia

Click on any of the photos to jump to the article!
Media and Publications

Announcements

There are several links in the magazine to videos, audio files and photo albums. Look for the video or audio link sign once you move over a picture. The photo albums are highlighted too.

EDITORIAL

UPDATE!
The 65th CIC General Assembly in Madrid will be held from 3-5 May 2018!

George Aman
President of the CIC
The 64th General Assembly of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) opened its doors in Montreux, Switzerland on 27 April.

64TH CIC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The motto is “Harmony with Wildlife - Urban and Rural Perceptions”. This slogan was selected as over the past couple years, with the rise of easily-accessible media reports and social connectivity, differences in perceptions of hunting and hunters are increasingly conflicting in all areas of the world.

These strongly opposing views create a divide among people which is deepened with the increasing presence of media in our lives where information, either correct or not, can reach hundreds of thousands of people in a matter of days. For hunting, a highly emotive topic, this has already proven to be a hindrance its use as a conservation tool, despite its many successes, and it could be detrimental to its future unless we fight back. Those which we are fighting are the anti-hunters, animal rightists, and those who are following their emotions and misrepresentations of information rather than scientific evidence.
Harmony with Wildlife, Urban and Rural Perceptions

George Aman, President of the CIC, welcomed the participants and recalled the accomplishments of the CIC since the last General Assembly, which was held in Brussels, Belgium last year. The President underlined that despite all of the very positive work being done by hunters all over the world in the name of conservation, the hunting community is still facing unusually strong attacks, and unity and action are required to achieve the ambitious goals the CIC has set.

“You are going to witness that for the first time in the history of the CIC General Assemblies, we are engaging in controversial discussions with some of our critics and opponents who will be with us in the next coming days. I encourage you to use the occasion to have constructive discussions with these guests.”

Emmanuel La Roche, Head of the Swiss Delegation of the CIC, in his opening remarks, highlighted that Switzerland is a small, densely populated country, which inevitably faces conflicts between nature and humans. “We are convinced that this event will provide ample ground for discussion. In addition, we are going to surprise our guests with interesting trips during which they will get to know Montreux with all its sights, its unique cultural character and obviously, its culinary delights.”

This year’s keynote speaker was Marco Lambertini, the Director General of the WWF International, who highlighted that despite the differences, a dialogue with the hunting community is absolutely critical, and building a common effort is essential. Lambertini stressed the point that we live in a very special moment of the history of the planet and civilization where one species, humans, are altering systems that have evolved over eons and support life. We are experiencing what he called the “two sides of ecological crisis”: climate change and loss of nature. Those two sides are connected, although the latter is barely discussed. We continue to do great damage to the planet and we haven’t learned how to grow our economy without harming nature. If we continue to produce, consume, and power our lives the way we do right now, nature, wildlife, forests, and oceans could be overwhelmed and irreversibly damaged. In the past years, we have seen an exponential acceleration of the unsustainable and wasteful use of natural resources.

There are several other threats to the planet: species overexploitation and habitat loss continue to be big issues, mainly due to the expansion of human settlements and activities. Lambertini pointed out that legal hunting is beneficial for nature and wildlife. “Hunting is one thing, but within it there is subsistence hunting. It is a fundamental right of so many communities. Latin America, South East Asia, Africa, but the growth of unsustainable hunting with highly advanced tools is having an impact even where these local communities live, the collapse of wildlife in the forest impacts the communities.”

Read the full article on the CIC website
The 64th General Assembly of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) hosted a panel discussion with representatives from Africa, under the motto Keep Calm and Let Africa Speak!

Arthur Musakwa, Director of Wildlife at the Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate; Pasteur Dr. Cosma Wilungula

Balongelwa, Director General of The Congo Institute of Conservation of Nature of the Democratic Republic of Congo; Paul Zyanbo, Director of Wildlife Agency in Zambia; Elly Hamunjela, Director of Division of Wildlife Utilization of Environment and Tourism of Namibia; and Wilfried Pabst, Owner of the Sango at the Save Valley Conservancy participated on this very important panel.

The Keep Calm and Let Africa Speak! movement was born out of recognition that some proposals and proposed amendments, which had been put forward to the CITES Conference of the Parties last September in Johannesburg, South Africa, have a detrimental effect on many countries where the sustainable consumptive use of wildlife provides vital income for the survival and expansion of conservation efforts. This income also safeguards the livelihoods, education, and upliftment of local rural people coexisting with wildlife, thus contributing to poverty eradication. In Africa, living alongside wildlife is often challenging and can have disastrous negative consequences. The revenue from consumptive use substantially helps with the implementation of measures which negate the destruction of livestock and crops, thus improving the livelihood of those living in close proximity to the wildlife. In addition, sustainable consumptive use can often be the best form of land use in arid and poor soil regions by providing sorely needed employment and a supply of protein.

The African Range States should have always a say on the future of their wildlife. The Governments of Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Tanzania expressed their frustrations and concerns over the imposition of rules and guidelines, developed without their input, which would adversely affect wildlife conservation and employment creation in their respective home countries by foreign governments. The CIC supports its members in providing an inter-governmental platform, a movement for them, and thus Keep Calm and Let Africa Speak was born.
Incentives for rural communities

Zimbabwe strongly subscribes to the philosophy of sustainable utilization of wildlife and natural resources in general. The coexistence of communities with wildlife would not be possible without contribution coming from sustainable hunting. Arthur Musakwa highlighted that hunting is not a new philosophy in their society, it has been practiced by their ancestors. Zimbabwe has grown better in hunting practices and management, which determines the number of animals harvested. “We do not need to be told how to manage wildlife, especially not by countries who no longer have wildlife because they have not conserved theirs. Hunting supports peoples’ livelihoods and it is an important tool for conservation since a significant portion of the revenue is reinvested into the communities.” – Mr. Musakwa said.

Paul Zyambo underlined that despite the loss of lives and poverty in Zambia, the communities can still live in harmony with wildlife, and this is because of the incentives that come from consumptive use. The increasing threats, that would undermine sustainable trophy hunting and take away incentives which ensure the survival of these wild animals, are initiated by those countries where trophy hunters are coming from. The misinterpreted and false information has spread in order to restrict the transportation of hunting trophies from Africa to Europe could possibly succeed, as two airlines – and other transportation companies – have shown willingness to support these ideas.

These attempts intend to take away incentives from local people, who live with wildlife and conserve it. He stressed that the conservation and hunting communities have to find the ways to enhance sustainable trophy harvesting and vigorously lobby for the consumptive use of wildlife. He then called upon the developed countries to reconsider their position on restricting imports of trophies of elephants and other species, especially from East and West Africa. Zyambo added, if trophy hunting is taken away, then the industry will collapse. Trophy hunting should be well-regulated but not restricted. “Trophy importing countries should start a dialogue with the trophy exporting countries to find a win-win situation. Decision makers should take into consideration the damage their decisions cause to the communities and wildlife. We urge them to consult with individual countries on this. We need to ensure that incentives for rural communities are not taken away. We need to do whatever is possible to stop these proposals from happening.”

Read the full article on the CIC website
Alienation of People from Nature

Nature and environment are complex ideas and the lack of human interaction with nature leads to ignorance about what nature really is. Reconnecting people to nature is an ethical solution to increase awareness and understanding of how they have impacted the environment and how they can stand up and take appropriate action to alleviate these issues. It is a tradition now that every year the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) holds a press briefing related to the yearly motto. This year, at the 64th General Assembly, the motto is "Harmony with Wildlife, Urban and Rural Perceptions" where a few key topics are being addressed in-depth one of which is early conservation education.

Nowadays children are not in the position to really know about their own surroundings sufficiently. It is the inalienable right of every child to have the opportunity to engage in a natural world that has a healthy and sustainable environment, but they are obsessed with living in a virtual world which is not connected to nature. The basic problem is related to individual lifestyles and physical proximity towards nature. There is this right, of course, for humans to have the opportunity to engage but there is clearly a responsibility to play a role in the conservation of the natural world regardless of race, religion, or nationality.

Shane Mahoney, President and CEO of Conservation Visions, stressed the point that there is only one way to bring this complicated issue to the public: through the instrument of education. **“Direct engagement in the natural world is something we aspire for all people, but there are 7.2 billion people, and soon to 8, 9, probably even 10, so the idea that we mobilize the knowledge that is required for people to understand nature at a very early age is an incredible challenge and we cannot begin it at later ages.”**

Read the full article on the CIC website

Following the press conference and the Opening Ceremony of the General Assembly a panel discussion was organized with the aim to introduce the theme of the meeting and get insight into how conservationists and hunters work together to close the knowledge gap between urban and rural dwellers.

The panel discussion was moderated by Karen Gaynor, from the Scientific Support Office for Fauna of CITES, included Marco Lamberitini, Director General of WWF International, Claude D’Anthenaise from the Musée de la Chasse, Paris, Antoine Goetschel, the President of Global Animal Law, Alexander Schwab, the author of “Hook, Line & Thinker – Angling and Ethics”, and Richard Louv, the author of “Last child in the wood – Nature deficit disorder” via video message.

The full discussion is available [here](#).

The CIC believes that integrating conservation into the earliest stages of education is essential. From a global perspective, the issue is anything but simple and demands the very best of us.
Their influence was demonstrated when last year, members of the European Parliament (MEPs) from different political groups submitted a Written declaration on trophy hunting in the European Parliament, with the aim to ban the import of game trophies into the EU, including non-endangered abundant species. The declaration was based on the opposition to killing animals and targeted conservation hunting in general. This attempt to abolish hunting was failed, when the Written declaration was lapsed due to the lack of sufficient signatures.

The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) invited one of the initiators of the Written declaration, Mrs. Catherine Bearder MEP, and raised the question: What's your problem with hunting?

During the debate, conservation experts, politicians and hunters joined the panel to discuss and share their knowledge about sustainable wildlife conservation. The audience was more than actively engaged and shared their thoughts. Q&A, Part1 and Part 2

Animal welfare and animal rights movements are gaining influence across the world, which has been aided by the widespread use of social media. New fields of thinking and activism increasingly emphasize the rights and welfare of individual animals even when broader nature conservation goals are at stake. The attacks against sustainable hunting contradicts the globally established guidelines for the sustainable use of renewable resources as a basis for conservation.
CIC Executive Committee
2017 – 2020

George Aman
President

Dr. Nicolas Franco
Honorary President

Dieter Schramm
President of Honour

Bernard Lozé
President of Honour

Dr. Christoph Colomerde-Mannsfeld
Honorary Deputy President

Dr. Philipp Harmer
Vice-President

Árpád Sárkány
Vice-President

Massimo Marracci
Vice-President

Ali Kaka
Vice-President

Luis de la Pena
Vice-President

Ulf Scheibye
Vice-President

Dr. Jens-Jürgen Böckel
Vice-President

Jeff Watkins
Vice-President

Prof. Dr. Klaus Hackländer
President Appl. Sc. Division

Dr. Jacqueline Frair
Deputy President Appl. Sc. Division

Dr. Heli Siltari
President P&L Division

Shane Mahoney
Deputy President P&L Division

Alexandre Foniatowski
President Culture Division

Bernardin Malou
Deputy President Culture Division

Sona Supekova
President WG Artemis

Benedict Hammer
President WG Young Opinion

Nick Doherty
Legal Advisor

Jerome Barré
Legal Advisor

Dr. Wulf Gordian Hauser
Treasurer

Markus Hasler
Treasurer

Eloana Malou
Assistant Treasurer

Vittorio Scoccini
Auditor

Hubertus Szalachy
Auditor
The 64th General Assembly of the CIC ended with a festive gala dinner at the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace, the highlight of which was the traditional live hunting auction.

This year, for the first time, there was also a raffle with the main prize being a Toyota C-HR, which added even more excitement to the evening. A hearty thanks must be said to the generous and unique donations of our members, to the auctioneer, Antoine Schuler, and also to the unbridled buying mood of the guests—this auction was a marked success. It brought in proceeds of more than 200,000 euro for the CIC!

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all those who have contributed to this great achievement, especially to the donors listed on the Auction and Raffle websites and, of course, to all those who generously bid on and won these items!

Awards

During the 64th CIC General Assembly, the following prizes were given:

Edmond Blanc Prize
Gyulaj Hunting and Forestry Plc.

Hunting in Art
Jewellery in art: Halder Juwelier und Silberschmied für Jagdschmuck and A.E. Köchert Juweliere GmbH

CIC Young Opinion Research Award
On an annual basis, YO is awarding outstanding young scientists (age <35) for their scientific contribution to wildlife conservation around the globe. The jury consisted of the following experts:

Dr. Gerhard Damm, former President of the CIC Division Applied Science; Dr. David Scallan, FACE; Prof. Dr. Klaus Hackländer, President of the CIC Division Applied Science and Dr. Kristóf Hecker, Head of Division Coordination Unit at the CIC Headquarters.

The two winners of the CIC YO Research Award 2017 were Qobiljon Shokirov, Tajikistan: Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Community Based Wildlife Management: A case study from Tajikistan (available in English)

Damien Thiry, Belgium: Role of wildlife and domestic pigs as reservoirs for hepatitis E virus (HEV): study of the infection in suids and cervids and of the susceptibility of pigs to HEV originating from wild boar. (available in English)
In the first half of 2017, the Certified CIC Measurer (CCMs) and Senior International Trophy Judge (STJ) network was expanded by 43 new measurers from Romania, Macedonia, Finland, and Estonia; and 17 measurers have renewed their license. This brings our network to a total of 550 measurers!

This would not be possible without our STJs who volunteer their time to share their knowledge of the CIC trophy evaluation method with our CCMs. For this reason, we are introducing a new section to the TES Update Series where we highlight one of our STJs or CCMs who has taken an active role in the happenings of the CIC TES. This month, we talked to Tony Dalby-Welsh, one of our STJs from the UK; check out our “In the Spotlight” section to get to know him!

In this edition, we have also introduced an “Upcoming Events” section for events that the CIC TES is holding as well as some which members of our network are holding.

Do you know a member of the STJ/CCM network who should be in the spotlight? Would you like your event highlighted in our events section? Please send spotlight nominations/event details to c.sorensen@cic-wildlife.org.
In the Spotlight

How did you get involved in trophy evaluation in the CIC?

During a full professional career as a soldier, I was lucky enough to spend much time in Germany where I was exposed to the intricacies of European hunting. As a hunter from a young age, I was delighted to learn more about deer in the UK under the tutelage of Richard Prior, the pre-eminent expert on UK deer, who along with G. Kenneth Whitehead had been instrumental in the production of the first “Red Book”, the bible of trophy measuring across the world.

I joined the CIC as an individual member and for a few years was the UK’s Head of Delegation. I had previously been invited to join what was then the UK Trophy Commission in 1999, and have since developed my skills as a measurer across the species, achieving SITJ status in 2014, one of the three senior judges in the UK.

The CIC TES has undergone some changes recently, as someone who has been with the subject of trophies in the CIC for some time, what are your thoughts on this more modern system?

I have seen and applauded the introduction of the TES and its associated TED, both of which signal the way ahead to a more consistent and accurate performance from certified measurers. There are still changes that need to be made to make the system fully usable by all judges wherever they may be, but what has been achieved already bodes well for the future.

What else should we be expending our efforts on?

In my view, more needs to be done by the CIC in terms of research within the sphere of trophy measuring. In the UK, we are currently working on projects that explore the increasing appearance of multi-point Muntjac, the anomaly of Chinese Water Deer achieving Gold medal status at less than 18 months of age and the physiological issues surrounding thickened Roe deer skulls.

Finally, I would ask that we all work together to protect the intellectual property that is the TES from unauthorised use.

Upcoming Events

June 30-1 CIC Training Serbia
July 8-9 CIC Training Italy
July 22-23 CIC Training Italy
August 28-29 TEB Meeting Hungary
July-August Trophy Exhibition Estonia
September 20 CIC Training Denmark
September CIC Training Germany
October 19-20 CIC Training Spain

“Like” us on Facebook for regular updates outside of the CIC Magazine!
The CIC supports the World Hunting and Nature Expo in 2021

The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) has already started the preparation for the 2021 World Hunting and Nature Expo. At the Fishing, Hunting and Arms International Exhibition (FeHoVa) in Budapest, which took place from 9–12 February, the CIC showcased the African spirit with an interactive stand with the theme *Keep Calm and Let Africa Speak!*. The aim of the chosen topic was to bring the African continent closer to the visitors, to raise awareness about wildlife conservation issues, and to highlight the CIC’s work in the field of the sustainable use of wildlife and wild lands, mainly in those African countries where the consumptive use of wildlife provides vital income for the survival and expansion of conservation efforts. Until the World Expo in 2021, every year the CIC will introduce hunting and wildlife conservation around the world.

At the opening ceremony, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary, Dr. Zsolt Semjén indicated that the World Hunting and Nature Expo 2021 is the first exhibition in Hungary celebrating the 50th anniversary of the World Hunting Exhibition which was held in 1971. Count József Károlyi was appointed as Commissioner for the World Hunting and Nature Expo 2021, thus he will be the responsible for the organization of the Expo 2021. It is already known that the event is planned to take place in three different venues, at the Hungerexpo (Budapest’s Fair Center), at the Hatvan Hunting Museum, and at the renewed Budapest Zoo.

George Aman, President of the CIC, greeted the guests and participants of the FeHoVa, underlined the importance of unifying the hunting community, and invited the audience to visit the CIC’s stand. “Each year, from now until the 2021 World Exhibition, [the CIC stand] will focus on another continent. It has been said many times before, but Dr. Semjén and Commissioner Count Károlyi, you can be rest assured that the CIC is at your service as we prepare for 2021!”

Read the full article on the CIC website

Hunting and Sustainability – Opening of the JAGD&HUND Exhibition in Dortmund

The 36th annual gathering of JAGD&HUND was taking place from at the beginning of February at Messe Westfalenhallen Dortmund, Germany, in partnership with the CIC.

At the opening ceremony, Dr. Wilhelm von Trott zu Solz, Head of the German Delegation of the CIC in his opening remarks underlined the need for explaining the relationship between sustainability and hunting: “Overall, we assign the topic of sustainability to three areas: an ecological dimension, an economic dimension, and finally a socio-cultural dimension.” “Hunting is also an economic factor!” –
highlighted Dr. Trott. The value added of the hunting in Germany is estimated to be € 1.6 billion, plus € 200 million annually for the value of the wild meat. In many parts of the world, such as in Africa or in Asia, hunting is the only source of income for the rural population. Hunting tours, shooting fees, meat, skins, and services for the hunters provide many families with a source of income – without which they would have to leave their home. The rearing of wild animals in captivity for the purpose of shooting them is not hunting, and should be condemned. The CIC sincerely welcomes the fact that such vendors of “canned shooting” will no longer be presented here at the show.

The German Delegation hosted a successful opening event in the name of the CIC. The presentations by Wilfried Pabst and Stefan Michel were followed by a lively discussion moderated by Dr. Rolf Baldus.

The CIC, together with DJV and other hunting associations, will continue to support these three dimensions of hunting and provide guidance to all hunters in doing the same.

Read the full article on the CIC website

CIC Markhor Award – Private landowners rewarded for conservation efforts

Every other year the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) awards and celebrates outstanding conservation performance by individuals, private or public institutions, enterprises, or projects that link the conservation of biodiversity to human livelihood, through the principles of sustainable use, in particular hunting, as part of wildlife and ecosystem management. The CIC Markhor Award is granted at the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD CoP), of which the 13th took place in Cancun, Mexico in December 2016.

The winner was the Savé Valley Conservancy in Zimbabwe, which is a role model to the private sector implementing a comprehensive community participation and conservation development program. At the basis of the program, the agreement between the conservancy and the local communities sets out mutual obligations to develop tourism in the area in such a way that maximizes benefits to the local communities. The Savé Valley Conservancy holds more than 4 000 buffalo, 1 600 elephants, and over 160 black and white rhinos; has brought poaching under control; and have wildlife population which show...
high growth rates, despite serious poaching threats particularly for rhinos.

The success of this “safe harbor” conservancy demonstrates what many have previously argued was impossible: that landowners would embrace conservation of endangered species and show considerable willingness to protect and restore their habitat through the financial support generated from the sustainable use of wildlife.

Weldon Schenck, the CEO of the greater Savé Valley Conservancy and Wilfried Pabst, Owner of Sango, which is part of it, was handed the award by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Dr. Braulio Dias, together with the President of the Policy and Law Division of the CIC, Dr. Heli Siltari, and Director General of the CIC, Tamás Marghescu.

In parts of Africa, poaching has had a dramatic impact. Rhinoceroses and elephants, but also lions are being unscrupulously tracked by some highly professional gangs. The full report deals with the actual situation in Mozambique, taking into account the practical experience, and shows a complex but successful nature conservation program based on sustainable hunting.

Hunting and poaching are two diametrically opposed influencing factors when it comes to the protection of wild animals. The strictly controlled and regulated hunting, which directly benefits local communities, is the real basis for the long-term protection of biodiversity in Africa.

Poaching is uncontrolled, does not take place according to the principle of sustainability and thus represents one of the greatest dangers to the survival of the rhinoceros, the elephant and the lion. The forms of controlling poaching are diverse and cannot be solved solely by ground units, patrols, flight surveillance, police operations, etc. An absolute key role is played by the nearby communities - without their support even the best anti-poaching programs are bound to fail.

The fact is that particularly big game in Africa has only got a chance to survive, if local communities recognize the value of the conservation of these wild species and are able to profit in the form of financial resources, wild meat, infrastructure, etc. The Community-Based Natural Resource Management is the future of the local rural population in Africa and at the same time, the future of the survival of the elephant, rhinoceros and lion - it tackles an issue that should get much more attention during decision-making of the yearly CITES conferences.

It seems to be easy in the Western world to clear itself washing away any responsibility with trade bans and thereby justifying the protection of the elephant, the rhinoceros and the lion.
African Swine Fever In Wild Boar: The Way Forward For European Hunters

In April, FACE, the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU, in conjunction with CIC, the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, organised a workshop on “Preparing Hunters for African Swine Fever” in Brussels.

African swine fever (ASF) is a highly transmissible disease affecting pigs and wild boars with serious socio-economic, wildlife and public health consequences. The disease can spread rapidly, irrespective of national borders.

With regard to wildlife management and hunting, AFS can be devastating. In January 2014, Lithuania made the first notification of ASF cases in wild boar, and Poland followed in February 2014. In June and September 2014, Latvia and Estonia respectively also reported ASF. The source of the ASF virus is from neighbouring Eastern countries (Russian Federation, Belarus and Ukraine). Recent research shows a real risk of further spread into other Member States with the highest risk for Slovakia and Romania, followed by Finland, Czech Republic and Germany.

While the EFSA opinion contains some excellent approaches, it is clear to FACE and CIC that a “one size fits all” strategy will not work in addressing ASF in wild boar populations. For example, FACE Members have recently expressed concerns about how national authorities have interpreted and implemented recommendations about hunting methods, carcass disposal, financing, and communication.

Read the full article on the CIC website.

Constantin Weinberger has been actively operating in hunting activities for over ten years, a member of the CIC, he holds an MSc master degree in Conservation & Tourism from the Durell Institute of Conservation and Ecology, and has been regularly living in Zimbabwe since 1998, where part of his family lives and is committed to the protection of the black rhinoceroses. With his company “Wild Tradition – Global Hunting” he organizes high quality and sustainable big game hunting in Africa on request.
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Young generations, the future of wildlife

The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation celebrated World Wildlife Day with this year’s theme: “Listen to the young voices”. The campaign calls for action to mobilize young people worldwide to create positive changes with real impact on wildlife conservation.

Hunting is a phenomenon that is often perceived in a negative way in public notion, and there are many reasons for this; the predominant reason lies in the sad fact that today’s children have little basic knowledge about the interrelations and ramifications of nature. Most of our youngsters learn about nature through the media, in other words: via second hand and not from the source. Another crucial point is the pathetic fallacy or humanization of nature and its animals. This is the main raison why, the CIC believes that children should have the possibility to approach hunting on the basis of a better and more in-depth knowledge of nature suitable for their age. They have to learn that death is part of the natural cycle and, consequently, that hunting is part of a natural process.

The CIC Working Group Young Opinion (CIC-YO) initiated a project with the aim to offer information days for kindergarten and elementary school kids, with different stations about nature’s interrelations, and about today’s hunting practices, such as falconry, dogs, shooting, ethics, and conservation where children get introduced to hunting and its principles in a playful way. In addition, the goal is to explain that sustainable hunting is an acknowledged and legitimate basis for conservation.

Read the full article on the CIC website

World Migratory Bird Day 2017: CIC Children’s Drawing Contest

This is the second year that the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) participates in the World Migratory Bird Day campaign to raise awareness about the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats in particular, and about environmental issues in general throughout the world.

As part of this year’s campaign, the CIC Young Opinion Working Group announced a Children Drawing Contest to educate children, parents and teachers on the importance of migratory birds.

The winners of the Drawing Contest for World Migratory Bird Day 2017 are listed below. Thank you to all the teachers and students who participated!

The three best young artists will have the pleasure to participate in a nomadic childcamp in Hungary organized by the Pangea Association.
Migratory Birds Meeting – Towards An Adaptive Management Of Migratory Waterbirds Populations

In the framework of the 64th General Assembly in Montreux, the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) dedicated a session to migratory birds, with the aim to discuss the challenges and developments of migratory waterbird managements. International experts: Shane MAHONEY (CIC Canada), Evgeny SYROECHKOVSKIY (All-Russian Institute for Nature Conservation), Alexandre CZAJKOWSKI (European Institute for the Management of Wild Birds and Their Habitats, OMPO), Giovanni BANA (Head of Delegation, CIC Italy), and David SCALLAN (FACE) joined the dialogue, and formed the panel.

North American Waterfowl Management

Management of rising goose populations in Europe: challenges and opportunities for hunters – view from Russia

An AEWA European Goose Management Platform (EGMP) for the management of overabundant species: the case of the northwest European population of the Greylag Goose

The Effects on Birds of an Exceptional Cold Spell in Southern Europe During the Winter 2016-2017

H5N8 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in wild birds: What is the role of hunters?

Read the full article on the CIC website

The Wildlife Estates Initiative Expands in Estonia

The European Landowner’s Organization (ELO) had the honour to award two Estonian estates, Irjas and Korkare, with the Wildlife Estates Label at the ELO General Assembly in Tallinn.

Both territories are best practice examples of nature and wildlife conservation on a small-scale level in the coastal area which show well preserved biodiversity with very low human impact and almost no agricultural activity. Both owners have a high-level professional background on environmental issues.

The diplomas were presented by Thierry de l’Escaille, Secretary General of ELO and Pierre-Olivier Drege, President of the ELO to Andres Tarand (Korkare) estate and Ants Varblane (Irjas).
The *Wildlife Estates (WE) Label* has been developed as a means to acknowledge the exemplary management of landowners and managers of territories in Europe and to make them more visible to society as strong guardians of nature. This initiative is based on a voluntary approach in order to highlight the key role of land managers in protecting biodiversity. It also makes the link between biodiversity and sustainable hunting to facilitate a better communication between land managers, hunters and local authorities and it engages the private and public sectors in mutual cooperation to halt the loss of biodiversity.

Today, the Wildlife Estates network consists of 250 estates. Over the 11 years of operations of the programme, labelled hectares passed from a mere 23,000 to more than 1,250,000 hectares, and the project is steadily growing.

The WE Label accredits landowners as a front-runner for best management and conservation practices and compliance with the Birds and Habitats Directives. It offers a communication network to further develop and implement new and innovative management techniques by sharing ideas and management strategies and provides relevant information about upcoming events and eco-political changes at EU level.

For more information please visit our website: [www.wildlife-estates.eu](http://www.wildlife-estates.eu) or contact us by e-mail: [wildlife@elo.org](mailto: wildlif@elo.org)

Florian Hofbauer, ELO

---

**MEDIA AND PUBLICATIONS**

**International Journalism Symposium on Hunting**

26 April 2017

The goal of the symposium was not only to build a respected professional informal body that can transcend national borders to become a compelling voice, and an indispensable resource for journalists worldwide reporting on hunting, nature, and conservation, but to facilitate interactions between stakeholders and business and media representatives to enhance partnership and promote the sharing of information and best practices.

What is the difference between the anti-hunting lobby and the hunting community? Unity. The anti-hunting lobby is organized and uses its numbers to gain power. There are 30 million hunters globally, so there are the numbers; now, it is essential that hunters and conservationists organize.

The [International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)](https://www.cic-wildlife.org) organized an [International Journalism Symposium on Hunting](https://www.cic-wildlife.org) on 26 April 2017, in the framework of the 64th CIC General Assembly. This event was held for hunting journalists (and journalists who hunt!) where representatives of media sources and individual reporters discussed how to streamline communication and unify the message of the hunting community: hunting is conservation. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of RUAG, Swarowski Optik, and Savage Arms, a constructive, full-day event could take place in Montreux.

For more information please visit our website: [www.wildlife-estates.eu](http://www.wildlife-estates.eu) or contact us by e-mail: [wildlife@elo.org](mailto: wildlife@elo.org)

Florian Hofbauer, ELO
Journalists and media representatives from 11 different countries traveled to Switzerland and participated in the symposium. George Aman, CIC President welcomed the participants and thanked the sponsors, who were present at the meeting: “I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for coming out here from across the world, I know we have guests from the United States, Italy, Slovakia, Hungary, the United Kingdom, Poland, Germany, Sweden, France, Russia and Austria. To have you all gathered here to talk about hunting in journalism is truly a ground breaking matter.”

The symposium was organized as a dialogue between journalists and media representatives in the field of hunting and wildlife conservation moderated by Dr. Rolf Baldus, who opened the event and stressed the key issues (see opposite page) to be discussed.

The introduction was followed by self-introductions and key speeches of the participants in order to get an insight into their personal motivation for participating in the symposium and their expectations for the day.

The first part of the session focused on getting a clear picture about why it is important to hold a journalism symposium on hunting, what motivated the participants to attend, and to get an overview of the relationship between hunting and the media in their respective countries. In the second part of the meeting, the participants explored methods that should be used to effectively communicate hunting. This was the time when the participants shared their ideas and best practices in the field of communication.

At the end of the meeting, a case study was introduced and discussed in order to see how an international media cooperation would work in reality.

The meeting report is available for CIC members only.

For more information, please contact Gabriella Kanyok, Communications Officer at g.kanyok@cic-wildlife.org

Key issues

Nowadays, it seems as if only negative things are newsworthy. On one side, hunting has a negative perception, because it is about taking the lives of animals; on the other hand, well-managed, sustainable hunting is beneficial for wildlife. How can we sell the positive message which should be the key to increase public awareness?

When we are talking about external communication, where do we see the gap between hunters and non-hunters? Is it about education?

Do we really need public figures/celebrities to tell the story?

In hunting, the use of modern media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) is not a top priority. How can we work with social media more? Should we organize information days or events related to work specific to communication?
CIC’s new website and Membership Platform

We are happy to announce that the CIC website has been renewed. One of the biggest changes is that the design is now responsive, meaning that the layout adapts to the dimensions of the device you are using (iPad, smart phone, computer).

The CIC’s Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube channels are now featured on the homepage, bringing them into the focus more.

Internal, confidential information, which was previously available under the members’ section of the old website have been moved to the CIC Membership Platform. This includes General Assembly documents (minutes, working documents, photos etc.), the CIC Handbook for the Evaluation and Measurement of Hunting Trophies, access to the CIC shop, the downloadable website template, communication tools, etc.

The CIC Membership Platform also provides access to the individual profiles, the online version of the Membership Directory, and access to the Auction and Raffle pages for all members. The Platform can be accessed here. All personal information within the Membership Platform is treated confidentially, and is available to our members only with personalized access codes, which were distributed by the Headquarters.

We trust that you will enjoy the new platform and that you will find this new tool useful.

If you have not yet received your personal login code, or should you have any questions or feedback about the platform, please feel free to contact the CIC Headquarters via membership@cic-wildlife.org.

We have also introduced a state-of-the-art electronic newsletter management system for both CIC members and African Indaba subscribers. The membership database and the newsletter management system are now connected so any changes that you make in your membership profile are instantly recognized and responded to. This means that, for example, if you change your e-mail address in your membership profile, it is automatically updated in the newsletter distribution list and you will continue to receive the e-news without interruption. Please keep your contact information up-to-date!

The Italian Delegation of the CIC and the Associated Study AlpVet have published an information booklet by Patrizia Cimberio of great interest dedicated to the game meat. The title of the book is “Natural Game & Good. A choice of ethical and sustainable”. In a few words, this work was designed to illustrate that the choice of wild game meat is more ethical, sustainable, and less environmentally damaging than store bought meat. It is a true re-evaluation of a traditional product that maintains environmental balances.

The hope is that more and more people become familiar with one of the many aspects of hunting that is often ignored: the importance of the quality of food. This booklet provides an essential contribution from this point of view. The meat in question is ethical because it is not subject to any pharmacological treatment and allows for the reduction of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and a reduction in land and water use.

Download the booklet here

CIC booklet dedicated to game meat
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Operation Re-Wild

Sango Wildlife Conservancy donates 6,000 wild animals to revitalize the Zinave National Park in Mozambique.

Some time back in war torn Mozambique, destroyed the entire animal population in the Zinave National Park. Sango, a 60,000 hectare wildlife sanctuary in the Savé Valley Conservancy has donated some 2,000 wild animals to Zimbabwe’s southern African neighbor.

Sango in the Save Valley Conservancy is supported by the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), and at the end of 2016 it received the CIC’s Markhor Award for outstanding conservation efforts and for exemplary protection of endangered species. The Markhor Award is both a distinction as well as an obligation, which will be demonstrated at the launch of the first part of initiative “Re-Wild” on 18 June 2017.

Initiative “Re-Wild”, an initiative that was spearheaded by Peace Parks Foundation, is one of the largest relocation projects for wild animals in southern Africa, will start in the middle of June 2017 and continue into 2019. Over the three years, more than 6,000 animals, including hundreds of elephants, giraffes, zebras and wildebeests from the Sango Wildlife Conservancy in southeastern Zimbabwe will make the 600-km journey to their new home in Zinave National Park in Mozambique. The park is being developed through a co-management agreement between the Mozambique Government and Peace Parks Foundation.

The goal of initiative “Re-Wild” is to help develop Zinave into a tourist destination. Ideally situated close to one of Mozambique’s tourism development nodes, the Vilanculos-Bazaruto Archipelago, Zinave, once restocked and developed, could become sought-after by tourists. This mammoth project is spearheaded by the governments of Mozambique and Zimbabwe, as partners to the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA), of which Zinave is an important component. The wildlife is kindly donated by Sango Wildlife Conservancy, which enjoys a surplus in wild animal populations thanks to its successful, sustainable measures, use and wildlife management. The translocations will be funded by Peace Parks Foundation.

“What an Exclusive Package for 2 persons, sharing a Chalet, for 15,000 USD

Included are: 3 nights in the exclusive lodge on Sango. All meals are included. Guided bush and boat trips. Wildlife spotting and excursions to other regions.

For more information regarding the chalet and for reservations, please contact:

Jenny@PassionHolidays.com or +263 770 119 & 180
The world lost an icon on conservation and hunting – Dr. Wolfgang E. Burhenne

It is with great sadness to relay to you the farewell of a family friend, a long standing CIC member, a highly honored personality in environmental law worldwide, Dr. Wolfgang E. Burhenne.

Dr. Burhenne always believed in conservation through sustainable use and played a critical role in establishing the Statutes of the CIC as legal advisor. His continuous support and guidance contributed to the organization’s achievements. He was not only part of the Executive Committee of the CIC, but a key member in the organization’s history. He will always remain our Honorary Legal Advisor.

He obtained his youth hunting license, when he was 16 years old, and since then, hunting was his life, the passion for the outdoors and nature determined his entire life and career. During an interview conducted by Vivienne Klimke, Dr. Burhenne summarized what hunting means to him: “Hunting is my way of being active in the outdoors. I want to be creative. I enjoy being challenged, and I like to be a manager.”

Read the full article on the CIC website

In memory of G Richard (Dick) Potts

It is with deep sadness that we relay to you that Dick Potts, former President of the CIC Small Game Commission and Applied Science Division, and the retired Director General of The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust passed away on March 30th at the age of 78.

Mr. Potts was not only the President of the World Pheasant Association, Vice President of the British Ornithologists Union, and Chairman of the CIC Small Game Commission between 2005 and 2008, but he was presiding over the CIC Applied Science Division between 2008 and 2011.

He was a member and advisor in the field of natural resources and nature conservation of many governmental advisory committees and boards, and was part of the editorial board of The European Journal of Wildlife Research.

The CIC loses with Dick Potts a very much valued friend who was strongly connected to the aims of the CIC. We owe him very much and we will sorely miss him.

Our sincere condolences and thoughts go out to the family and friends of Mr. Potts, who was a treasured part of our membership.

Read the full article on the CIC website
Ludwig Willnegger – FACE’s new Secretary General

The Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU (FACE) is pleased to announce that Ludwig Willnegger has started his employment as new Secretary General of FACE.

Mr. Willnegger holds a degree in agricultural sciences and law and has both Belgian and German citizenship. He obtained his hunting license in Bavaria at the age of 16 and grew up on a farm in a family with longstanding hunting traditions. He initially worked for two years for the European farmers’ federation and later headed the representative office of a large German retail group for another eight years.

Fluent in the three official languages of FACE, the new Secretary General combines a breadth of professional EU affairs and diverse hunting experience across Europe and we are excited to welcome him into FACE and begin this new chapter together for the future of European hunters.

In regards to his new role, Mr. Willnegger said, “I am delighted to be joining FACE and would like to thank President Dr. Ebner and the Membership for this unique opportunity. As stewards of our countryside and nature, hunters have a direct stake in safeguarding Europe’s wildlife and biodiversity for future generations. Hunting is one of the expressions of Europe’s cultural heritage. The future of hunting lies in strengthening the bond between man and nature, acting responsibly and implementing sustainable policies. To be part of this as FACE’s Secretary General is a great prospect which I am keen to take forwards with the FACE Secretariat, working with its Members and other stakeholders to connect their expertise and experience.”

Source: FACE

New items in the CIC Shop

The new silk ties were specially designed by Farabeo Milan for the CIC. It’s available in yellow and blue colours and they are individually wrapped and packed in an elegant but at the same time modern box.

Price: € 100

Order at the CIC Membership Platform!
Az új binokuláris teleszkóp, a BTX minden idők legtermészetesebb vizuális élményét nyújtja. Lehetővé teszi, hogy minden apró részletet két szemmel is kristálytisztán lásson, és az innovatív homlok-támasszal, ill. a ferde betekintéssel ezt órákon át kényelmesen tehesse. Élje át a pillanatot még erőteljesebben a SWAROVSKI OPTIK-kal!

BTX
#CLOSER2
HUNTING

SEE THE UNSEEN
WWW.SWAROVSKI OPTIK.COM