We, the undersigned 207 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 heading towards a mass biodiversity extinction and climate breakdown, threatening the very basis of 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 are making the effects of the crises ever-more obvious all across Europe.

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 the climate crisis and its severe impact, 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.

We therefore call upon national governments, Members of the European Parliament and the European Commission to:

- Adopt the Nature Restoration Regulation by the end of 2023.
- Ensure that by 2030, nature restoration is happening on EU land and seas on a large scale. We therefore support the proposal of the rapporteur of the European Parliament to ensure that by 2030, at least 30% of the EU's land and at least 30% of the EU's sea area are covered by effective area-based restoration measures, with fair and proportionate contributions by all Member States.
- Ensure strong nature restoration targets for all ecosystems covered by the legal proposal (terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine natural habitats, urban ecosystems, rivers, pollinator habitats, agricultural ecosystems, peatlands and forest ecosystems). The targets need to match the extent and urgency of the biodiversity and climate crises.
- Ensure that all targets are fully met by 2040 at the latest. Delaying action until 2050 undermines the EU's climate neutrality obligations and risks crossing irreversible tipping points.
- **Adopt fully implementable targets**, with clear safeguards to ensure that the Common Fisheries Policy does not block the implementation of marine restoration.

- **Ensure the long-term non-deterioration of restored ecosystems**. Allowing habitats to degrade right after restoring them not only fails to address the crises in the long-term, but is also inherently inefficient and a waste of public funding.

- **Support a strong accountability framework** to ensure all Member States contribute fairly to the law and can be held accountable.

- **Call for dedicated nature restoration funding** as part of the next EU budget.

- **Withstand and counter vested interests**, who are continuously trying to undermine the Nature Restoration Law.

Delaying action, watering down the ambition or limiting the scope of the law will only make it more difficult, more costly and more time-consuming to deal with the consequences. It would put our life and that of all other beings at stake. So let's make it work now.

For more information, visit restorenature.eu

**Signatories:**
AirClim
AKTI PROJECT & RESEARCH CENTRE
Alba Natura Civil Foundation
Alpe Adria Green International
Amigos de la Tierra
Aplinkosaugos koalicija (Environmental Coalition of Lithuania)
ARCHE NOAH
ASOCIACIÓN REFORESTA
Association Klaipedian Initiative for Democracy and the Environment (KIDE))
Austrian Youth Biodiversity Network - GYBN Austria
Balkan River Defence
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
BOS+
Buglife - The Invertebrate Conservation Trust
CEE Bankwatch Network
CEEEweb 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 Mokradel / Wetlands Conservation Centre
CIDAMB - Associação Nacional para a Cidadania Ambiental
CIPRA Slovenia
Client Earth
Climate Action Network Europe
Climate Catalyst
CMCC Foundation | Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change
Coalition Clean Baltic
Comitato AVB
Comité Schone Lucht
Cork Nature Network
Czech Society for Ornithology
Danish Society for Nature Conservation
Darnaus vystymosi centras
Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. (German Environmental Action)
Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR)
Dinaricum Society
Društvo Ekologi brez meja
Društvo Proteus, gibanje za naravo in okolje, Bela krajina
Društvo za preučevanje rib Slovenije (DPRS)
Eco-TIRAS International Association of River Keepers
ECOLISE - European network for community-led initiatives on climate change and sustainability
Ecological Movement Cyprus
Ecologistas en Acción
ECOS - Environmental Coalition on Standards
Eko krog - društvo za naravovarstvo in okoljevarstvo
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
Stop Avalon Tata Civil Mozgalom
Swedish Anglers Association (Sportfiskarna)
Tagis - Centro de Conservação das Borboletas de Portugal
TETT - Tegyünk Együtt Tudatosan Településünkért Egyesület
The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation
The Habitat Foundation
The North Sea Foundation
The Polish Society for Protection of Birds, OTOP/BirdLife Poland
Umanotera, The Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Development
Verband der deutschen Höhlen- und Karstforscher e.V. / German Speleological Federation
Vogelbescherming Nederland
Waddenvereniging
WeMove Europe
Western Center of the Ukrainian department of the International Center of Scientific Culture - The World Laboratory
Wetlands International Europe
Wild Europe Foundation
WWF European Policy Office, on behalf of the EU WWF Network
WWF in Czechia
WWF-Belgium
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