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Analysis of legislation and practice of hunting in some EU countries

Mykola Myronenko

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1. Introduction

Close cooperation with the European Union, where the protection of the environment plays an important role may benefit Ukrainian citizens and its economy. Considering the fact that the EU focuses on community development, sustainable use of natural resources and the promotion of international cooperation in addressing global, national and regional environmental problems – among major expectations of professionals an important place have prospects of growing positive impact on the wildlife and biodiversity protection, and therefore ,sustainable development of hunting economy in general.

Legislation on hunting of the European Union countries differs among themselves. However, it should comply with previously adopted EU directives, such as the Birds Directive (1979), Habitat Directive (1992), etc. Despite the shared common approach in the hunting economy management some EU countries have their own specific traditions, conditions, the number and species diversity of game animals. Therefore, coordination and harmonization of hunting and game management regulations will take some time in a united Europe.

The objective necessity of hunting economy reformation in Ukraine envisions formation of a national concept of its management and progress which would be based on effective economic, environmental and social instruments taking into account national traditions.

The reformation process itself is quiet complex and therefore should be introduced step by step. Among the main preconditions of the effective transformations is an analysis and study of the best international experience in governance and practical management of the hunting industry.

The EU countries are known for their well-developed traditions of sustainable forest and hunting management, which help to protect forests and other natural resources. In such a system the hunting associations and enterprises contribute not only to increasing the number of game animals and environmental protection level but also to increase the biodiversity as an integral part of improving the wild animals habitats.

At the present time, game management in Ukraine starts to revive and evolve, while striking into such difficulties, as lobbying the interests of rich people, inadequate legislation, poor law enforcement, and as a result widespread poaching.

Fundamentals of modern choice of hunting sector development should be based on the ecosystem approach of preserving biota by taking into account the balance of populations of game species in their habitats and a role of a human as a regulator of their population dynamics. We, people, have to care about todays and the future harmony coexistence with nature and not be guided with temporary emotional desires of a primitive man.

The coordinators of the “ENPI East FLEG II” program from WWF in Ukraine are grateful to all the professionals who committed to the study, analyzes and implementation of positive changes in this sector. Preparation of the report was made under the guidance of our expert *Mykola Myronenko* involving a number of professionals, such as the chief of the Hunting Sector of State of Forest Recourses Agency of Ukraine (SFRAU) *Ivan Sheremet* and other specialists from his office, as well as the Head of the Hunting Sector of Lviv Regional Forestry and Hunting Administration *Basył Burmas*, specialist of the Hunting Sector of Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Forestry and Hunting Administration *Oleh Protsiv*, Lviv State University of Physical Culture *Ivan Gul* (PhD in Hunting), a senior researcher of the Institute of Ecology of the Carpathians NAS of Ukraine *Andriy-Taras Bashta* (PhD), Head of the Regional Youth Ecological Association "Ecosphere" *Oksana*



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Dmytro Karabchuk, PhD, Forestry Expert, "ENPI East FLEG II" Activity Coordinator in Ukraine, WWF International Danube-Carpathian Programme

Bohdan Prots, PhD, "ENPI East FLEG II" Program Coordinator in Ukraine, Ukrainian Carpathian Programme Coordinator of WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme in Ukraine and Senior Research Scientist, Supervisor of "Plant Ecology" Laboratory State Museum of Natural History of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

2. General Analysis of the Legal Hunting Framework of the EU Countries

Among other critical aspects, close cooperation with the European Union is aimed also at sustenance and improvement of the environment conditions. This cooperation is intended to resolving issues in sustainable use of natural resources and to strengthen international cooperation at the global, national and regional levels. As the environment problems have no borders.

During the process of obtaining the EU membership, hunting industry may appear in the new legal situation. Therefore, we shall consider the main basic legislative acts that influence policy-hunting in the EU. Primarily, it refers to such legally binding documents the EU directives, as the Bird Directive (1979), Habitat Directive (1992), Firearms Directive (1991) and Wild Game Meat Directive (1992).

It should be noted that Ukraine have joined the most of the international agreements and assumed the obligation to implement them into the political and legal framework. For more details of the international environmental related agreements please visit Ministry of Justice of Ukraine site: <http://old.minjust.gov.ua/45875> and for game meat export related – <http://old.minjust.gov.ua/45883> (both in Ukrainian).

Hunting for wild birds in the EU is regulated by the Bird Directive and is authorized only for certain species (82), which can be hunted just outside of the rearing grounds and during rearing (or spring) migration periods, which is crucial to the restoration of of wild birds populations. Hunting for other wild animals is limited primarily by the Habitat Directive and derived from them acts.

Hunting periods are set at national level based on available reliable data, scientific principles, and vary depending on the type and geographical location of hunting grounds.

However, the EU countries have the right to authorize or prohibit the hunting of these species, and in exceptional cases, the birds could be hunted outside the established hunting season when there is no alternative solution.

In addition to these directives, there are other important documents such as the conventions:

- “Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, CMS” or “Bonn Convention”, signed in Bonn in 1979 and ratified by Ukraine in 1999 (http://zakon3.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/995_136 - in Ukrainian). It regulates promotion of the conservation of migratory species throughout their all migration path. This convention gave impetus to the formation of many other legal binding documents to its signatories, including the “Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA).”
- “Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats” or as it is still called “the Berne Convention.” To implement the provisions of this Convention, there is established a standing committee that meets annually and produces new resolutions and recommendations which are binding for signatory countries.
- “Convention on Biological Diversity” or so-called “CBD” or “The Rio de Janeiro Convention on biological diversity” signed by Ukraine and the EU in 1992 entered into force in 1994 in the EU and in 1995 in Ukraine (<https://www.cbd.int/history/default.shtml>). In a few years, the EU has published its strategy for biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:l28183>). This strategy is being implemented since 2001 and contains links to hunting management.

There are also other important conventions and international agreements, which affect the hunting as a whole (<http://www.face.eu/international-agreements>). Among them:

- The Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) – called the “Ramsar Convention”, which “has at its heart the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands and their resources”;
- European Convention on Human Rights entered into force in 1953, which suggest “that small landowners under certain circumstances have to tolerate compulsory pooling of their hunting grounds into larger hunting units, whereby a collective hunting right be created throughout the common area.”
- The AIHTS (Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards) signed in 1998 between the EU, Canada and the Russian Federation (with a similar agreement with the United States), but entered into force in 2008. According to the action plan, the Parties to the Agreement had to test and certify humane methods of trapping wild animals and by 2016 to prohibit the use of traps, non-certified according to the standards of the Agreement at the legislative level.
- CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/disc/CITES-Convention-EN.pdf>) is signed in 1973 and ratified by Ukraine in 1999. According to this Convention the countries take responsibility to regulate international trade of wild animals and plants so as to prevent their unsustainable or illegal exploitation to ensure that this trade does not threaten their survival. It affects the hunting restrictions in terms of exports and imports of trophies. The species are listed in three annexes. In the first annex there are those on which certain restrictions apply. In the second - the trade of which is controlled closely but is not limited, and those - the trophies which may be similar to banned or restricted species. On the third list, there are the species for the trade of which the countries must cooperate with each other to prevent illegal or unsustainable exploitation.

For the implementation of the directive on the conservation of fauna and sustainable use of hunting, the European Commission has established a separate body called the “Sustainable Hunting Initiative.” The main task of which was to create a program of scientific, conservation and educational activities to promote sustainable hunting practices that would not violate the obligations and adopted rules in protecting biodiversity.

In 2004, as the result of the work of this body, there were developed and published (and in 2008 supplemented by modern legal practice) "Guide to sustainable hunting under the birds directive": http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/wildbirds/hunting/docs/hunting_guide_en.pdf).

The document highlights the implementation ways of the directive for the EU countries during the hunting management, as a result of the increasing polarization of views of different stakeholders on the interpretation of certain provisions of the document. In particular, it regulates the recreational hunting, defines flexible limitations when setting hunting seasons and regulates exemptions from the restrictions. These guidelines supplemented by a Commission Directive "Key concepts of Article 7 (4) of Directive 79/409/EEC" -

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/wildbirds/hunting/docs/reprod_intro.pdf. The document explains key concepts of Article 7 (4) in respect of the period of breeding and migration (return to nesting sites) for birds hunting species listed in Annex II of the Directive. The Authority also coordinates environmental and hunting organizations. Thus, in 2004, agreement was reached between the NGO «BirdLife International», which provides for the implementation of the "Bird's Directive" and "FACE: The European Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation" on

mutual understanding in the field of bird protection and development of traditional hunting (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/wildbirds/hunting/docs/agreement_en.pdf).

As FACE is the largest NGO in Europe that represents about 7 million hunters, bringing together hunting national associations from 36 European countries, including all 28 EU member states.

To effectively control the dynamics of bird populations, the EU creates a unified system for collecting hunting bag statistics (ARTEMIS). This is primarily an information portal, which enables to get information on game animals regarding the sources of statistical data from different countries (<http://www.artemis-face.eu/about-the-database>).

The European Commission supports sustainable hunting, also through the potential use of ecological network of the EU nature protection areas (Natura 2000), which occupies about 1/5 of its terrestrial part, in a way when it supports conservation objectives of the sites. Such an approach has a strong economic incentive to support the maintenance of habitats and to increase populations of certain species of wild animals and birds, especially rare, encouraging the use of additional financial resources. That is why, the hunters are involved in managing many nature-protected areas network sites by implementing management plans for sustainable development of responsible hunting influencing the selection process and preserving genetic purity of native species of fauna. In this connection, the “Sustainable Hunting Initiative” organized a campaign to popularize ecological network of “Natura 2000” nature protection areas among the EU hunters.

In 2007, the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats adopted the “European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity”. This Charter is based on the “Convention on Biological Diversity” and the “Birds” and “Habitats” Directives, with the aims to implement the principles of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development of traditional hunting influencing the formation of a common EU policy on hunting.

According to this document – **sustainable hunting is:** *“the use of wild game species and their habitats in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biodiversity or hinder its restoration. Such use maintains the potential of biodiversity to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations, as well as maintaining hunting itself as an accepted social, economic and cultural activity (based on the definition of “Sustainable Use” in Article 2 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)). When hunting is conducted in such a sustainable manner, it can positively contribute to the conservation of wild populations and their habitats and also benefit society.”*

Analyses of the main EU documents that are important for hunting in Ukraine are presented below in more details.

Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds or “Bird Directive” (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32009L0147>) was established for integrated conservation system of all bird species occurring in the EU. Great emphasis is given to the conservation of habitat for species that are endangered and migratory bird species (Annex I of the Directive). This Directive prohibits activities that directly threaten the bird species (listed in Annex III of the Directive). At the same time this Directive define hunting as a legitimate activity and provides a comprehensive system for the management of hunting (applies to species listed in Appendix II: II/1 of the Directive - is allowed to hunt in all Member States, II/2 - are allowed to hunt in listed member states).

The Directive also includes requirements of prohibition the hunting of birds during their most vulnerable, such as returning to breeding habitats, breeding and rearing chicks. It requires Member States to prohibit all forms of non-selective and large-scale killing of birds (especially the methods

set out in Annex IV of the Directive). It promotes research as the basis for the conservation, management and use of all species of birds covered by the Directive (Annex V of the Directive). The excerpts of the Directive annexes are presented in Annex 1 of this report (in Ukrainian).

The current hunting legislation in Ukraine is not contrary to the Directive list of bird species for which hunting is allowed, but needs to be reviewed in regards to permitted hunting methods and learning approaches that are recommended for use in the EU to restore populations of vulnerable bird species.

Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, or “Habitats Directive” (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:01992L0043-20070101>)

This Directive is connected to two main elements: a network of protected areas “Natura 2000” and the strict species protection system. For the species listed in Annex II; all types of capture or killing of the natural environment, disturbance in certain periods, deterioration or destruction of breeding or recreation areas are prohibited. 45 species of terrestrial mammals occurs in Ukraine from the list of species and subspecies in this Annex. Almost all of them have protected status in Ukraine and listed in the national Red Book.

Taking into account current hunting legislation, mismatch found only for two mammalian species to which hunting is permitted in Ukraine: Eurasian beaver and wolf.

Eurasian beaver (*Castor fiber*) is quite high environmental status in all EU countries and it is provided in Annex IV of Directive. Therefore hunting on the species is completely prohibited. The exception is only for beaver population in the Baltic countries (Finland, Sweden, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Poland) which are listed in Annex V of the Directive.

A similar situation occurs with the wolf (*Canis lupus*). Exceptions exist for population in Greece (south of the 39th parallel), Estonia, Spain (south of the Duero), Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Finland (within the reindeer management area). In Ukraine, there are also the discussions between scientists and experts concerning the consideration ban on the hunting of wolves, at least in the regions with its low number, and given its great importance of maintaining the viability of other live populations (eg. in the Ukrainian Carpathians).

Inclusion of some species (or populations) in Annex V enables an exploitation of these animals under certain conditions specified in Article 14 of the Directive (provided that such regime not violates favorable conservation status of the specie). In addition, the use of all methods that may lead or have led to local extinction or damage to populations of these species are prohibited. Furthermore, this Annex also includes some species that not have a protected environmental status in Ukraine, thus belong to the species to which hunting is allowed: jackal (*Canis aureus*) and pine marten (*Martes martes*).

Annex VI of the Directive contains a list of prohibited methods and means of capture and killing and modes of transport that can be applied to this Directive protected species in large-scale or non-selective cases. These methods should be implemented into the national legislation of Ukraine.

The excerpts of the Directive annexes in relation to hunting industry are all presented in Annex 2 of this report (in Ukrainian).

Consequently for the harmonization of differences between exploitation and ban on hunting of stated here species of fauna - Ukraine (represented by State Forest Resource Agency or Ministry

of Environment) should introduce appropriate changes in national legislation or find the appropriate science-based arguments on how to conserve the species, as the ones that are allowed to be hunted by a specially designed management plans.

Council Directive 91/477/EEC on the control of the acquisition and possession of firearms

The Directive contains requirements on the control of acquisition and possession of firearms, briefly called the “Firearms Directive” (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=URISERV:114011>). It can also influence on the laws of Ukraine concerning hunting.

Council Directive 2002/99/EC laying down the animal health rules governing the production, processing, distribution and introduction of products of animal origin for human consumption ([http://eur-](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2003:018:0011:0020:EN:PDF)

[lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2003:018:0011:0020:EN:PDF](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2003:018:0011:0020:EN:PDF)) - shortly called “Directive on game meat.” This Directive, and additional regulations in the area of human health on the sale and import of EU Member States (Regulation No 854/2004 and Regulation No 853/2004 and others - http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/animalproducts/game/index_en.htm), which form the legal basis for trade within the EU, including game meat exports to EU territory of modern Ukraine and other third parties. It should be noted that these rules apply regardless of the growth of animals (free or in enclosures) including wildlife species, depending on classification of the species.

To export the venison obtained from commercial hunting (including from animals reared in special enclosures) in the EU - Ukraine should be on the list of countries, which have the permission to export these products, depending on the classification, authorized by relevant EU decisions (e.g. for fresh meat of ungulates it is stated in Regulation EU No 206/2010 - <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:073:0001:0121:EN:PDF>). In accordance with the procedure, the EU carries out appropriate inspection of the national competent authority: The State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service of Ukraine. To export the product a registered business operator (entity) must undergo a special practice which presupposes the existence of these successive criteria as: (1) – being in compliance with national veterinary inspection standards and the legislation; (2) - get special permission from the international inspections on compliance with the requirements of EU legislation (3) – correspond to the game meat veterinary criteria at the EU border inspection post where the documentary check is performed, as well as verification of compliance and physical individual checks. More on this subject is following the link - http://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/international_affairs/trade/index_en.htm.

Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA)

It is a very important agreement for European hunters that recognises cooperation in conservation and sustainable use of migratory birds. According to the requirements of this Agreement, the Parties are obliged to prohibit the use of lead shot and restrictions on ammunition use of containing lead. It requires amending the law on firearms and ammunition. More is here: <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/legalinstrument/aewa>

Guide to Sustainable Hunting under the Birds Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/wildbirds/hunting/docs/hunting_guide_en.pdf

This document aims to clarify the requirements of hunting in the EU countries in accordance with the Directive on wild birds requirements. It contains introductory explanations and interpretations of the provisions of Article 7 and 9 of the Directive.

In the introduction it is explained the need and scope of the guidelines for general requirements of the hunting on birds, the bird species hunting list, general scope of the Directive, conservation of bird habitats, basic restrictions and their exclusions in relation to protected species, research, introduction to non natural for European continent bird species, reporting specifics, stand still clause, introduction of stricter protection measures than those described in the Directive, role and opportunities of the established special commission that formed to watch for the implementation of the Directive objectives.

The provisions of Article 7 of the Directive are explained much broader as they describe the wild bird species for which hunting is permitted within the whole EU, on the territory its individual members, the main hunting specifics and criteria (including compatibility with the conservation objectives, “wise use” of populations that prevents reduction to below the satisfactory level from the environmental perspective, other methods of hunting and training), the principles of fixing the hunting seasons and focuses on the implementation of the Directive across all participating countries.

The provisions of Article 9 is also widely interpreted because it allows the countries to establish derogations from the above environmental and hunting restrictions. Also, significant attention is paid to the size of individual populations, as it affects the application of derogation size from certain provisions of the directive for certain species of birds for some countries.

European Chapter in Hunting and Biodiversity -

<https://wcd.coe.int/com.instranet.InstraServlet?command=com.instranet.CmdBlobGet&InstranetImage=1883368&SecMode=1&DocId=1436274&Usage=2>

Modern hunting management is based on the interpretation set out in the European Chapter in Hunting and Biodiversity, which was declared by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on the 26-29th of November 2007.

According to the European Convention on the Protection of fauna and environment (Bern, 1979), this chapter is addressed to European hunters engaged in hunting. It uses the principle of sustainable use and management of game birds and mammals.

The European Chapter in Hunting and Biodiversity:

- includes a set of guidelines on firearms, bows, traps, dogs or birds of prey, in order to facilitate biodiversity conservation and rural development;
- promotes cooperation between hunters and other stakeholders;
- aims to ensure sustainable hunting tourism;
- promotes different forms of hunting tourism, which provide local communities socio-economic incentives for conservation and management of wild animals and their habitats, and overall biodiversity;
- supports projects, which increase knowledge and hunter safety;
- encourages hunters to learning, increasing informational awareness and activities.

The Charter advocates for application of 12 national hunting principles which revealed the necessity and recommendations for their implementation.

These principles include:

Principle 1 – Favor multi-level governance that maximizes benefit for biodiversity conservation and society.

Principle 2 – Ensure that regulations are understandable and respected.

Principle 3 – Ensure that harvest is ecologically sustainable.

Principle 4 – Maintain wild populations of indigenous species with adaptive gene pools.

Principle 5 – Maintain environments that support healthy and robust populations of harvestable species.

Principle 6 – Encourage use to provide economic incentives for conservation.

Principle 7 – Ensure that harvest is properly utilised and wastage avoided.

Principle 8 – Empower local stakeholders and hold them accountable.

Principle 9 – Competence and responsibility are desirable among users of wild resources.

Principle 10 – Minimize avoidable suffering by animals.

Principle 11 – Encourage cooperation between all stakeholders in management of harvested species, associated species and their habitats.

Principle 12 – Encourage acceptance by society of sustainable, consumptive use as a conservation tool.

Conclusion

Thus the legal hunting framework of the European Union is quite complex. There are a number of legal documents (Directives), which in many cases are the result of international agreements, and their derivatives (regulations, decisions) that affecting the internal law of each of the participating EU countries. They, above all, regulate hunting management principles and gaming methods for sustainable (rational) natural resource use and, in this connection, require coordination of different management plans of different hunting grounds. First of all it concerns the implementation of the so-called Natural ("Birds" and "Habitats") Directives to manage populations to a level that would not put at risk the normal development of the game and especially protected wild species. However, there is no one common EU law, which regulates the only hunting management of all the EU countries at the very bottom level and there is still an internal matter of implementation or reasoned derogations from the issued provisions of each of the states in regards to some species. Thus, a list of game species is established by national authorities. For each type of game there is agreed a hunting period which is slightly corrected in different counties. Nevertheless modern hunting principles in the European Union should be based on the approaches set out in the "European Charter on hunting and biodiversity conservation" fulfilling all other obligations depending from the aspects they have on their grounds or they intend to get involved into that are regulated by different the EU legislation.

3. Analysis of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement

The Association Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part

(http://eeas.europa.eu/ukraine/docs/association_agreement_ukraine_2014_en.pdf) provided a number of issues relating to hunting. Extracts from the text of the Agreement are presented in the Annex 3, which in some way affect the problems of biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and hunting.

The issue of biodiversity conservation (and sustainable development) to some extent mentioned in the section on trade and issues related to trade (Title IV: Trade and Trade-related Matters). They concern the development of trade in the direction of sustainable development (Chapter 13: art. 289, 290) on the approximation of Ukraine to EU legislation (art. 290, 363), the implementation of multilateral agreements on environmental protection (art. 292).

Title V (Economic and sector cooperation) regarding the development of cooperation on the environment and achieving the goals of sustainable development and green economy and others. (Chapter 6: art. 360, 365), solution global problems of environmental protection, in particular - the conservation of biological and landscape diversity (art. 361, 362). Cooperation in the field of tourism should be based on the principles of interaction between tourism and environmental protection (Chapter 16: art. 400). Chapter 17 (Agriculture and Rural Development) emphasized the promotion of modern and sustainable agricultural production, taking into account the need to protect the environment and animals (art. 404).

Appendix XXX to chapter 6 "Environment" in this section (Section V «economic and sector cooperation») notes commitments of Ukraine on the gradual approximation (with the establishment of specific terms) its legislation to EU legislation on various issues concerning environment management and integration environmental policies in other sector policies (Directive 2011/92/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment – <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32011L0092>; Directive 2003/35/EC on public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment – <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32003L0035>). This application emphasizes about implementation the Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds and the Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora into national law as they are the cornerstone of environmental policy in Europe.

According to the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine, Ukraine declares to adhere to the obligation of the continuous approximation of its legislation to the acquis communautaire (<http://eap-csf.eu/assets/images/Nature%20Protection%20EU-Ukraine.pdf>): - Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds:

- adoption of national legislation and designation of competent authority/ies – within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement;
- assessment of bird species requiring special conservation measures and regularly occurring migratory species – within 2 years;
- identification and designation of special protection areas for bird species (art. 4.1) – within 4 years;
- establishment of special conservation measures to protect regularly occurring migratory species (art. 4.2) – by 01/01/2015;



- establishment of a general system of protection for all wild bird species of which the hunted species are a special subset and prohibition of certain types of capture/killing (art. 5, 6,7, 8, 9.1 and 9.2) – within 4 years.

- Directive 92/43/EC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora as amended by Directive 97/62/EC, 2006/105/EC and Regulation (EC) 1882/2003:

- adoption of national legislation and designation of competent authority/ies – within 2 years;
- preparation of inventory of sites, designation of these sites and establishing priorities for their management (including completion of the inventory of potential Emerald sites and establishment of protection and management measures for these sites) (art. 4) – within 4 years);
- establishment of measures required for the conservation of such sites (art. 6) – within 4 years;
- establishment of a system to monitor conservation status of habitats and species (art. 11) – within 2 years;
- establishment of a strict species protection regime for species listed in Annex IV as relevant for Ukraine (art.12) – within 2 years;
- establishment of a mechanism to promote education and general information to the public (art. 22) – within 2 years.

Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 17 September 2014 developed and approved a common Action Plan for the implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, on the other hand, in 2014-2017 years, including the issues relating to the above provisions (see. clauses 255.256 in <http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/847-2014-%D1%80?nreg=847-2014-%F0&find=1&text=%EF%F2%E0%F5%B3%E2&x=0&y=0#w11>).

4. Comparative Analysis of Legislation and Practice of Hunting in Ukraine and Neighboring EU Countries (Poland, Slovakia, Hungary)

The study tour to Poland, Slovakia and Hungary was conducted during the period 11-14 March 2015, in order to study the hunting experience, relationship between the hunter societies and local communities, and protection of rare species of animals and birds. During the trip a consultant and program experts of “ENPI East FLEG II” Programme, as well as representatives of the State Agency of Forest Resources of Ukraine, the Forest and Wildlife Magazine and community organizations of Ukraine visited in Poland – Tomaszów Forest District of Regional Directorate of State Forests in Lublin and a hunters society group “Hermes” of the Polish Hunting Union, Regional Directorate of State Forests in Krosno; in Slovakia – State Forestry Enterprise “Sobrance” and a game reserve ; in Hungary – Kossuth Tuzser hunters society group. More information on hunting practices of visited places is presented in the Appendixes 4-6.

4.1. Comparative analysis of the legal framework

Comparative analysis of the legal framework was done on the basis of communication with officials of state hunting authorities, representatives of hunters society groups, and by analyzing the hunting legislation of these countries. These conclusions are presented in the table 1.

Table 1. Comparison table provisions of Law of Ukraine «On game management and hunting» to relevant laws of Poland, Slovakia and Hungary

Ukraine	Poland	Slovakia	Hungary
1. General information			
Area – 600 thousand sq.km, population – 45 million. The number of hunters is over 300 thousand (percentage of the population is 0.7)	Area – 312 thousand sq.km, population – 38 million. The number of hunters is over 100 thousand (percentage of the population is 0.26)	Area – 48.9 thousand sq.km, population – 5.4 million. The number of hunters is to 50 thousand (percentage of the population is 0.9)	Area – 93 thousand sq.km, population – 10m. The number of hunters is 50 thousand (percentage of the population is 0.5)
2. Relationships are regulated by Law of			
22.02.2000	16.06.2009	01.03.1997	13.10.1995
3. Specially authorized body for hunting			
The Ministry of Agriculture and Food acting jointly with the	The Ministry of Environment operates with Ministry of	The Ministry of Agriculture acting together with the	The Ministry of Agriculture. Following the next

Ukraine	Poland	Slovakia	Hungary
<p>Ministry of Environment. As part of Ministry of Agriculture and Food there is operating State Forest Resources Agency.</p> <p>Following the next management structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional forest authorities; - State district (interdistrict) forest enterprises 	<p>Agriculture and the State Council for Nature Conservation and the Polish Hunting Union (PSM).</p> <p>Hunting administrations are subordinated to a local governor</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment and Slovak hunting society.</p> <p>Following the next management structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional forest authorities; - District forest authorities 	<p>management structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional authorities; - Hunting inspections

4. Hunting animals

<p>living in the wild - a natural resource of national significance.</p> <p>The owners are the people of Ukraine. On behalf of the people the ownership rights are performed by state authorities and local governments.</p> <p>The animals legally taken out from the natural environment or bred in free or semi-free conditions may be privately owned by legal entities and individuals</p>	<p>– state property</p>	<p>– state property, part of cultural heritage</p>	<p>– state property</p>
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5. The hunting grounds are rented for use

<p>by the Regional Council on the base of proposal made by State Forest Resources Agency which previously should be agreed by regional administrations and the</p>	<p>to a hunting society group at the suggestion of PSM following the agreement by local governor and head of respective institution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - forest – by a Director of a Regional 	<p>by a regional forest authority if there is a permission of landowners who own two-thirds of the amount of land provided as hunting grounds.</p> <p>Term use of lands is 10</p>	<p>on the base of a decision made by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forest authority for forest grounds; - Department of nature protection for land located in protected areas;
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Ukraine	Poland	Slovakia	Hungary
<p>owners or users of the land.</p> <p>Any legal entity can become a hunting land user if it created a specialized unit for hunting management purposes.</p> <p>The payment for land use is defined in the agreement between the user and the owner of the land where hunting grounds are situated.</p> <p>Term of use - at least 15 years.</p> <p>Previous user has a preferential right to extend the lease</p>	<p>Directorate of Forests;</p> <p>- fields – by a village chief, who is performing relevant duties in its local administration.</p> <p>Term of lease is at least 10 years.</p> <p>Previous user has a preferential right to extend the lease.</p> <p>The payment for land use is determined depending on the category of the hunting ground but cannot exceed the value of 100 kg of rye per 1 ha.</p> <p>Payment is transferred to the relevant state forest enterprise for state forests or to a local community for the rest of the area</p>	<p>years.</p> <p>The law establishes the payment for land use - 1 EUR / ha per year.</p> <p>For example: in forest where there is a deer breeding area at the first group (site index) for spotted deer – 1 EUR is paid. If there are the other types co-payment exists for: boar - 0.41 EUR, European deer - 0,20, doe - 0.25, mouflon - 0.25. There are 5 groups (site indexes). Thus, the first group the rate is equivalent to 2.11 EUR / ha, for fifth group - 0,32 EUR/ha.</p> <p>For small game (rabbits, pheasants, ducks and other species) in the first group the rate is 0.70 EUR / ha. For the fifth group rate, it is 0,23 EUR / ha</p> <p>The rent is paid to the owner of the land.</p>	<p>- Departments of hunting authority for grounds on agricultural lands.</p> <p>Term use of lands is 10 years.</p> <p>Previous user has a preferential right to extend the lease.</p> <p>The users of hunting areas may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hunting Society; - Body responsible for protection of interests of hunting societies; - Business entities, non-profit association, cooperative, partnership of forest owners. <p>The amount of the payment for land use is established taking into consideration the species and structure of game animals and a management method.</p> <p>The payment is paid to the owner of the land.</p>

6. Hunting group societies

<p>are not a separate legal entity and therefore not economically independent body and is not a subject to game management market operations</p>	<p>have a legal entity status and therefore economically independent and are the subjects to game management and free market economy operations</p>	<p>have a legal entity status and therefore economically independent and is subject to a game management and free market economy operations</p>	<p>have a legal entity status and therefore economically independent and is subject to a game management and free market economy operations</p>
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Ukraine	Poland	Slovakia	Hungary
<i>7. The National Union of Hunters divided into</i>			
<p>regional and local organizations which are legal entities.</p> <p>A Union membership card does not give the right to hunt.</p> <p>A hunters ticket that gives the right to hunt is issued by regional forest authorities</p>	<p>regional offices.</p> <p>A Union membership card gives the right to hunt.</p> <p>Some functions of state authority concerning hunting is transferred to the Polish Hunting Union</p>	<p>regional offices.</p> <p>A Union membership card gives the right to hunt.</p> <p>The Union can receive subsidies from the state budget</p>	<p>18 regional offices.</p> <p>Union membership card does not authorize hunting.</p> <p>Hunter ticket that gives the right to hunt is issued by the competent state authority at the place of residence</p>
<i>8. A hunting grounds user</i>			
<p>creates its own hunting management service at the rate of one huntsman for 5 thousand ha of forest, or 10 thousand ha of field land</p>	<p>shall employ at least one guard. The guard is an employee at the institution subordinated to local government although salary should be paid by the user</p>	<p>submits for approval to the forest district authority a hunting guard for every 500 ha operating on a voluntary basis.</p> <p>In addition, for every 3 thousand ha it has to hire a professional gamekeeper with appropriate education, and for the land area of over 10 thousand ha – a professional gamekeeper should be of higher special education</p>	<p>hires a specialist with secondary or higher special education for every 3 thousand ha and employ a gamekeeper for every 500 hectares of forested land</p>
<i>9. To be able to hunt a hunter must has</i>			
<p>a hunting card, a control card, permit for hunting or license.</p> <p>A hunting card and a control card are issued by authorities of State Forest Resources Agency.</p> <p>A permit for hunting or a license is issued by a hunting grounds user.</p>	<p>a hunting card and a user permit</p>	<p>a hunting card and a user permit.</p> <p>Validity of a hunting card is 1 or 5 years.</p> <p>The term of a user permit is different</p>	<p>a hunting card and a user permit, a personal list of shots.</p> <p>Validity of a hunting card is 5 years.</p>

Ukraine	Poland	Slovakia	Hungary
<p>The validity of a hunting card is unrestricted, validity of a control card - 1 year, a permit for hunting or license - 1 day.</p> <p>Cost of a hunting card is equivalent to \$ 4; a control card – \$ 1; a hunting permit – \$ 2-5; a license (depending on the type of a game) – \$ 10-50.</p> <p>Small game is hunted with a permit and ungulates – with a license</p>			
<p><i>10. A hunter can get for free</i></p>			
<p>small game and ungulates sub-products but the ungulates to a user.</p> <p>Hunters redeem ungulates meat from a user.</p> <p>The cost of hunted ungulates depends on type and weight and could be between \$ 100-700</p>	<p>some small game and trophies of ungulates but must pay market value for the meat to a user</p>	<p>game with bservance of certain rules. Hunted game belong to a user</p>	<p>some small game and sub-products. Hunted game belong to a user</p>
<p><i>11. Compensation for game wildlife damages</i></p>			
<p>Mechanism of a compensation for game wildlife damages to agriculture producers and forestry is not developed</p>	<p>Compensation should be paid by a user. Damage should not be reimbursed if the agriculture producer does not comply with the farming rules, did not protect its land from the wild animals and if the damage is less than the cost of 1 hundredweight of rye</p>	<p>Compensation should be paid by a user if he violated the law. Damage should not be reimbursed if the landowner violated the law</p>	<p>Compensation should be paid by a user to the owner of the land if it is done by ungulates. Compensation should be paid if the damages estimated over 5% of the crop value</p>

Ukraine	Poland	Slovakia	Hungary
<i>12. Law enforcement specifics</i>			
<p>In case of violation of hunting legislation there is imposed an administrative penalty between \$ 5 to 50.</p> <p>For repeated violations, or where it resulted in the animal extraction the fine is 50 to 100 \$. In this case hunting equipment owned by the hunter should be confiscated.</p> <p>If case of criminal liability for illegal hunting, there are fines from 85 to 170 \$ or imprisonment up to 3 years. Hunting equipment should be confiscated.</p> <p>Besides to administrative or criminal liability offender should pay for damages for illegally extracted animals. For example: the deer - \$ 750; boar - \$ 500; roe - \$ 400; hare - \$ 25; pheasant - \$ 25; wild duck - \$ 12.</p> <p>Fines are directed to the state budget.</p> <p>Paid damages are transferred to a hunting grounds user where a game animal was extracted illegally</p>	<p>For minor violations - monetary penalties;</p> <p>For possession of equipment for poaching or unauthorized use of game, etc. - imprisonment up to one year;</p> <p>For hunting in the forbidden period using poisons, artificial light traps, loops, destruction of burrows - up to 5 years of imprisonment</p>	<p>Violations are seized by a forest enterprise.</p> <p>The penalty for individuals from 30 to 3 000 EUR.</p> <p>The penalty for ground users from 50 to 5,000 EUR for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - absence of hunting guide during the hunt; - not using of hunting dogs; - not evaluating of a trophy. <p>The penalty from 5,000 to 15,000 EUR for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - failure to manage sex and age structure of the game livestock; - violation of the law obligations; - selling game meet in violation of the law; - failure to notify police about the poaching case. <p>Fines are directed to the state budget</p>	<p>For illegal extraction of the game animals - a fine of 100 to 500 \$ and for the illegal extraction of trophy animals from 500 to 5000 \$.</p> <p>For failure or improper fulfillment of obligations required by the Law a user can be fined in the amount of 3.7 - 370 thousand \$</p>

Conclusion

In general the structure and content of the Law of Ukraine "On game management and hunting" is correlated with the relevant laws of Poland, Slovakia and Hungary.

However, as a result of a historical, economic, social, and cultural development of Ukrainian society, established traditions, particularly in the field of hunting and shooting, Ukrainian hunting has not reached a certain level of development as in countries above.

We believe that one of the main reasons for the limiting development is complete exclusion of hunting society groups of Ukrainian Society of Hunters and Fishermen from the economic process. The hunting society groups of this Union are a regional association of hunters with 1 - 1.5 thousand members who lease the land area of 100 or more thousand ha. This model shows its inefficiency. As a result, there is low number of game animals, poaching.

The Law requires improvement on development mechanism of payment for hunting grounds and compensations for game animals damages to forestry and agriculture.

Because of such the small number of hunted animals in Ukraine, there is no properly developed market for game, trophy and the hunting celebrations just starting to occur.

4.2. Hunting and Game Management

4.2.1. Poland

General information

The Polish hunting management model has been recognized to be the best for countries with the fragmented structure of land ownership. The state, being the owner of the hunting fauna, is represented by a local Governor (for open land) and a Director of a regional state forest enterprise (for forested areas).

Territorial and administrative division of Poland consists of the following administrative units: voivodeship (province), powiat (county), gmina (several settlements including cities as part of the county), and separate settlements.

National hunting management activities in Poland are regulated by a number of legislative acts and regulations. These include the following:

- Law on Forests;
- Law on Hunting;
- Law on Nature Protection;
- Law on the Protection of Wild Game Animals.

Hunting industry in Poland is operating on the basis of the Act of October 13, 1995 (as amended) and is based on three assumptions: wild animals are owned by the state; hunting is allowed in the assigned hunting territory (districts) whose boundaries are determined on the basis of natural criteria and their area should be at least 3,000 hectares. The landowner doesn't have automatic priority right to hunt game on its territory. To hunt – he must obey the order established in the hunting legislation. The rights and obligations of the hunters are set by the Charter of the Hunting Association, gaming rules.

Hunting industry in Poland consists of hunting management units (clubs) that are formed by private form of ownership – joint collective associations of hunters (mainly of locals) called the "hunter's

circle” and the state form of ownership – State Forest Management Enterprises (they conduct hunting on their own land or they can rent it to the circles).

The circles have their own name and assigned identification code recorded in a single register of the Polish Hunters Union (PZL Pol., PHU Eng.). They can manage one or a few districts, sometimes they even have the land in different voivodeships and different forest management enterprises subordinated to the State Forest Directorate within the Ministry of Environment of Poland. Not all hunters are members of the hunters circle, but all of them are members of the PHU and pay annual membership fees. Thus, PHU unite not only hunting clubs but also hunters, which comprises of a total of nearly 104 thousand hunters.

Hunter’s circles are a structural and organizational basis of the PHU and, simultaneously, the hunting industry entity in Poland. As of March 31, 2012 there were 2536 circles (they rent 4.8 thousand districts). Hunter circles have existed in Poland for more than 100 years and are considered to be one of the most important features of the Polish hunting management model. Circles have legal tax status and therefore full economic independence.

Hunting team of the circle should consists of at least 15 hunters and rent the grounds with the area of at least 3 thousand ha. However, sometimes, a team can exist without the hunting grounds. Hunting grounds in Poland consisting one totally covered piece of land and are separated by distinct natural limits (river, road, mountain ridge, track, etc., which may not coincide with the current administrative boundaries (see Figure 1 in Appendix 4 for example).

Hunter’s circles in Poland can have land in various voivodeships. If the association due to violations or for some other reasons is deprived of the right to rent the grounds, then these grounds are put on hold under the protection of the state forestry.

PHU also includes 16 research institutions (centers) with the hunting grounds and centers for the acclimatization and breeding of animals and birds, as well as special hunting judges and hunting guard, including elected hunters circle warden (the person who monitors hunting management and gaming, and acts as an intermediary between hunters and the public), who must be in every association and is not always a hunter.

Each hunters circle nominates its own **management board**, consisting of a head, hunting expert (gamekeeper), secretary, treasurer, and the audit commission and also always hires a hunting warden. If the association is large, it can elect a bigger management board. All selected members of the management board work on a voluntary basis, except for hunting warden and in some associations - an accountant. They have the advantage from the rest of the hunters in the circle that they don’t performing any work, which is mandatory for every member of the association. Membership fees and all taxes are paid by the hunter’s association to a local fund at the place of registration. Taxes on membership fees are not paid. Hunters pay taxes for the meat of shot animals.

There are no restrictions on the number of members in the circle. Each team member pays annual hunting fees. A hunter may be a member of several circles, but may be elected to the management board only in one (parent) circle.

PHU national management is elected every five years by the All-Polish Congress. The main governing body of the PHU is the main hunting council which elects a presidium and the presidium elects a PHU chairman, to which voivodeship PHU chairmen and managers of research centers for game development are subject. Voivodeships are uniting the hunting circles, which are formed by the hunters.

PHU chairman appoints deputies who are subordinated to the chairman and are responsible for particular areas of work and report to the PHU main hunting management board. Deputies are appointed for the following areas:

- Research (game management, hunting management);
- Law;
- Hunting justice (consideration of hunter etiquette and membership in a union);
- Honors and awards;
- Culture and tradition;
- Gundog breeding;
- Examination board;
- External relations;
- Administration and management.

In Poland, at the national level, there are **specialized independent hunting courts**, and at the voivodship level – there are their disciplinary observers who consider only the issues related to hunting disputes, hunting, gaming, and other internal PHU issues. The head, his/her deputies and judges are funded from the PHU's own budget.

Also, in Poland, operates only **state hunting guard**. It is endowed with more rights than the police, prosecutor's office or other law enforcement agencies. It is equipped with transportation (4 wheels drive) with the right to use special emergency lights and sirens, night vision devices, firearms and other modern ammunition. It is authorized to carry out inspections, without a court or a prosecutor office order of any private or public institution, residential unit, vehicle or any other facility.

Every Polish citizen has the right to hunt. The right to hunt comes from the state ownership right to wild animals and is not directly associated with the ownership of the land.

Hunting grounds

Hunting grounds are leased by hunter's circles and are owned by a local government (voivodship and gmina) for fields or by a regional Directorate of State Forests (for forests where more than 40% of the surface is covered with forest). Most of these districts are administered by the State Forestry Directorates while others are managed by scientific institutions, the State Land Ownership Agency and PHU.

The Law "On hunting" (in particular Art. 29, p.1) stipulates that hunting grounds are leased based on the application by PHU, with the agreement of the local authority (mayor) and relevant regional agricultural management authority:

- 1) Forest hunting grounds – Director of Regional Directorate of State Forests;
- 2) Field hunting grounds – Local Governor who performs duties in public administration.

Grounds should be leased by the hunter's circles for a period of at least 10 years or could be excluded from the lease with the purpose of using for scientific, educational purposes or for game rearing – as the basis for the introduction and settlement. After this period, the existing user has preference rights to extend the lease for a further period. Such extensions are agreed only by the local authority only, but state forestry directorate may recommend not to extend the lease.

Landowners of the leased hunting grounds are authorized to correct annual plans for removal of hunting species (shooting plans) through the village administration.

Hunters circle can be deprived of the right to use the hunting grounds in the following cases:

- Unsatisfactory hunting management;
- Violation of the law on hunting;
- If within a period of six months, hunting team consists of less than 15 members;
- If the grounds are located in several gminas and one of them did not extend the lease term due to which the hunting territory became less than 3,000 ha.

Hunting inventory does not exist. Terms such as carrying capacity, minimum density, average annual growth, etc. are doesn't exist.

Control over the hunting management is exercised by the state forestry enterprise, voivodship administration and PHU hunting experts. Financial control is exercised by the state financial bodies.

Lease and other costs

Each hunting association pays the **rent for the hunting grounds** lease. The fee is differentiated and depends on many factors. Firstly, on the infrastructure of a given territory, forest coverage and a hunting grounds quality, the game list and its numbers, the presence of natural fodder, etc.

Payments for hunting grounds in Poland are determined depending on the category of hunting grounds by multiplying the number of hectares of the leased land by rye cash equivalent using the conversion factor, which cannot be higher than 0,07 q (according to the law) of rye per 1 hectare (Annex 7).

Rent for the state forest grounds is paid to the appropriate local forestry units of Regional Forestry Directorates and for the rest of the hunting grounds – to gminas.

Failure to meet shooting plans that leads to the increase in the costs of forest protection from the damage by animals is as follows: for each 1% of the planned but non-fulfilled annual target for shooting elk, deer, fallow deer, roe deer - the share is 1% of the costs incurred by the forestry management to prevention the damage – believing that one deer is 0.3 elk = 2 fallow deer = 5 roe deer.

In case of the division of the hunting ground or change in its boundaries, the amount of rent paid by the user, and the costs of the territory development for the past two years that preceded the change in land boundaries are recalculated. The recalculated amount is paid by new user of the re-established hunting grounds to the former user.

Every year, hunter's circles invest a lot of finances into the development of hunting grounds. For example, in the 2000/2001 season, within the framework of the indicated statutory tasks, they allocated: 8.5 million PLN for rent and the forest protection cost from wild animals; 12 mln PLN – for hunting inventories; 5 mln PLN - for improving the game living conditions; 13 mln PLN – for feeding the animals in winter; 6 mln PLN – for keeping the hunting guards; 19.5 million PLN – for the payment of game damage to crops. Members of the union worked in the hunting grounds over 3 million of hours by confiscating poaching tools, setting feeding fields, feeding the animals, etc. Conversion of such labor at the same rates throughout the country (8 PLN per one hour) equals nearly 25 mln PLN per 1 year of labor investment. Overall in 2002 the expenses of hunting associations were more than 116 million PLN and along with hunter's labor assigned for hunting management development reached more than 140 mln PLN in cash equivalent. In the case of other legislative form decisions, the state would be required to cover most of these costs. The clubs gained over 84 mln PLN for the game meat sold to the special game collecting stations in 2002. Apparently, this revenue exercise did not completely cover the cost of the hunting

management. The only source to cover the deficit is contributions, donations and additional fees paid by the association members.

How to become a hunter?

To become a hunter in Poland, a person must first submit an application to the association and undergo an apprenticeship. The exam can be taken twice, in case a failure, a candidate must undergo new training.

There is no age requirement for the apprenticeship; it lasts for at least a year in a very young age at any hunting club or animal breeding center at PHU. Training is not required only for the employees of the state forestry with higher or special forestry and hunting education.

Candidates can become hunters after they turn 18. Each trainee has a guardian who determines training program and keeps a diary which is passed on to the district examination board and is taken into account during the exams. Trainees undergo special training in hunting animals and bird biology, gundog breeding, hunting culture and traditions, hunting legislation and rules of conduct and safety of hunting with the hunting firearms. They attend a course of lectures at the district voivodship center for two to three months. After the training, a candidate takes theoretical exams (game biology, the rules of conducting and safety during the hunting with hunting firearms) and practical exams (handling of firearms, shooting accuracy: target shooting, plates and running hare shooting) accuracy level should be at least 30%. Firearms permit can be obtained after the person turns 21.

After passing successfully the exams, the candidate receives a hunter's permit. He/she pays the entry fee and becomes a PHU member. PHU entry fee is about 290 PLN (\$100); team (circle) entry fee is not more than 2500 PLN (\$ 800). Annual PHU member fees is \$ 100, including compulsory insurance against accidents at hunting. The amount of membership fees of each circle (association) depends on the club economy, the number of game, needs for feed, damage compensation levels in agriculture and forestry.

Table 2. Distribution of hunters, depending on occupation

Number of hunters by the place of work (occupation)		%
including:	Company owners	14
	Farmers who have their own farm	10
	Private sector employees	12
	State forestry workers	10
	Military and police	5
	Scientists	1
	Young people who are studying at schools	1
	Other	20
Pensioners and disabled		25
Foreigners members of the Polish Hunters Union		1
Unemployed		1

The process of hunting game

The club members hunt on their grounds free of charge and hunters without membership - for an appropriate fee which substantially exceeds the annual membership fees. Each club and its members are personally responsible for damages caused by hunting animals to agriculture crops or forestry. If the hunting association does not have enough funds for compensation, the amount of damages is divided proportionally among all members and is compulsorily levied in accordance with national law.

Firearms permit is issued on the basis of a certificate issued by the regional hunting association in which the hunter has passed the hunting exam.

Hunting in Poland is carried out with the following documents:

- Hunting permit;
- Firearms permit (gundogs or other hunting animals or birds);
- Game shooting permit indicating species, bag limit and territory (valid for one month). A unified form issued by the club gamekeeper to specific hunting enterprise for an individual hunting specifying the species and the number of game within the limit of the club. The permit may be extended once per hunting season and a new one is issued. It is a formal reporting document with a unique number and duplicated; a copy is stored in the office of the club.

Specifics of the hunting:

- Right before starting hunting, but no earlier than 24 hours before the hunt, a hunter must make a record in a hunting log book;
- Right after the hunt, regardless of its result, a hunter must make a record about the end of hunting in the same book;
- When hunting birds, a hunter should be with a gundog (with its own hunting permit), or there should be at least one gundog per three hunters;
- Individual hunting can take place at night only for wild boar, muskrat and carnivores (raccoon dog, fox, mink and raccoon). During such hunting, a hunter must have an optical sight, regardless of a firearm type, a flashlight and binoculars. Night vision devices and artificial lighting cannot be used for shooting but only for observations;
- Individual hare hunting is prohibited, group hunting is only permitted during one light day, with beaters and at least six hunters who hunt accordingly to special rules: throughout one year - on one half of the grounds, throughout the second year - on the second half of the grounds;
- Group hunting takes place only in the daytime without a permit, but within the limits. Hunting report is drawn up for hunters and beaters.
- In case of group hunting, hunters can shoot at animals in the direction of chasing at a distance of up to 40 m; the number of participants is not limited, but no less than two.
- Hunting males of the deer, fallow deer, and wild boars is permitted only when using rifled firearms with kinetic energy over 1200J; for young boars, deer and roe deer females can be used only shotguns with bullets. Rifles should be only specifically designed for the hunting purpose but not military; with the caliber of at least 5.6 mm of 22 Hornet type.

Hunting is allowed only on certain (game) species and during the established hunting season (more information on this subject is in the 4.3 paragraph).

The game can be used in two ways:

- The hunter can leave the carcass for him/herself by paying the appropriate amount for meat to the hunter's circle.
- The hunted game, other than rabbits and birds should be delivered to specialized shops that are licensed to buy out game meat. The game is evaluated according to quality class, and the money is credited to the circle's account. All game is delivered with skin and head and eviscerated. The trophies belong to the hunter from the circles and he/she receives them free of charge. Game meat is sold through the commercial network, but 20% belongs to the hunter who has caught it, the remaining part is bought by the shop from the hunter's circle. The club pays taxes to the state for the meat sale in the amount of 22%.

Inventory of game population and hunting limits

Inventory of game population is held by the hunting management once a year (February - March) and the limits for the current hunting season are determined under the general rules (sample of counted livestock on the part of the area are interpolated to the entire area – incomplete counts method). If State Forestry or District Center has doubts as to the inventory results, the independent inventory using the incomplete counts method is used. Control inventory is performed only using the incomplete counts method on the part of the area of hunting grounds - jointly agreed with the State Forestry.

Each circle has a hunting season plan. The plans are made on the basis of inventory (incomplete counts method) conducted by the circle members in late February-early March on 10% of the area. Inventories are kept by the hunters during hunting season. Both inventories are compared and summarized. Plans are approved by the chief-forester and gmina mayor (head of the village council) where the grounds are situated.

According to the limit, it is permitted to hunt no more than:

- 5% of the deer actually counted;
- 5% of the roe deer
- 60-100% of the wild boar (newborns are not taken into account).

For example there are accounted 100 heads of wild boar, practically it is possible to hunt 100 wild boars, but of different ages, different sexes and in different period of the hunting season, namely 40 heads of young boars, 30 females and 30 males, it is permitted to hunt females and the previous year's young boars from October to January.

Compensations

The law on game management determines that the hunting grounds user must compensate damages inflicted to forest species and agricultural crops by wild boar, elk, deer, fallow deer and roe deer.

Inspection of the damaged areas and assessment of damages, as well as an assessment of compensation for damages is carried out by the representatives of the hunting grounds manager or user. At the request of the parties, a representative of the respective territorial agricultural management is involved in the inspection and assessment of the inflicted damage and determination of the amount of compensation.

The main bylaw in Poland that regulates the procedure of damage assessment and payment of compensation for damage caused to crops and forest is the Decree of the Minister of Environment

of July 15, 2002, issued on the basis of the Law on hunting. It defines: the procedure for receiving and reviewing applications about damage from the owners of the land; procedure for the inspection of damaged areas; persons who are authorized to carry out damage assessment and calculation of damage; procedure for the issuance of the relevant documents; procedure for the compensation of damage.

The main provisions of the Decree are presented in Annex 8 (in Ukrainian).

After the preliminary assessment (inspection which is held within 7 days of the date of filing application about the damage) of the damaged areas by the authorized persons, "assessors" (representatives of the hunting ground user, victim, representative of the regional agricultural administration) hold final evaluation and determination of damage to forest plantations or agricultural crops.

4.2.2. Slovakia

General information

In Slovakia, there are two hunting associations: Slovak Hunting Union (Slovenský Poľovnícky Zväz, founded in 1940) and Slovak Hunters Chamber (founded in 2009). Both associations are headed by the same person elected by the Congress in Bratislava once every five years. At the same time there are elected a vice president and heads of the regional and district chambers.

The operation of the associations is guided by Law on hunting management. By this law, each hunter must be a member of the Hunters Chamber while Hunting Union is engaged in gundog breeding and public work only, however, it remains the owner of a large number of hunting properties: buildings, bases, boats, etc. purchased with dues back in the last century. Each hunting group (združenie) is a legal entity and pays contributions to both associations. The amount of financial contributions by a hunting society group to the Chamber is €700 per year. Heads of the groups, regional and district Chamber representations operate on a voluntary basis. The law previously stipulated that per 100 hectares there should be not more than 1 hunter - a member of the Association, now this rule is abolished.

In Slovakia, there are 23 state forestries. Minimum management area, according to the Law, shall be: for small game – one thousand hectares, for large game – two thousand hectares.

There are forestries that are not engaged in hunting management on their territory and provide all their land for the use of hunting organizations.

Protection of hunting grounds

Hunting grounds are protected by police, forestry government employees and hunting (game) security (guard). Hunting security guard is a voluntary position whose duties include protection of hunting ground with the area of 500 hectares.

The police also have the right to inspect hunters for hunting rules observance. If during hunting the police capture a drunken hunter, he/she will be deprived of the right to possess the firearms and imposed a fine.

How to become a hunter?

Hunter candidate training lasts for two years, in particular – a year of practical training (firearms, studying the biology of animals, biotechnology in the grounds, hunting service, etc.) and a year of theoretical learning (on weekends) with exams (tests) at the end of the training. All training

processes are organized by the Chamber, theoretical lessons cost varies depending on the region: within € 500-1000. After the completion of the practical and theoretical courses, the candidate must take two exams - shooting and theoretical knowledge of animal biology, first aid, hunting ethics and culture, knowledge of the hunting rules, etc. Examinations are held by an independent board from Bratislava.

After the exam, a hunter receives a hunting permit which gives the right to buy arms (firearms permit is valid for 10 years) and to hunt, for which the hunter must pay a membership fee to the Hunters Chamber of €120; permit is valid for 5 years. Annual hunter membership fee for the member of the hunting club varies and depends on the number of members and other factors. This contribution is set by each group and can range from € 50 to 100 or more per year. Also, each group member during the year must score 80 points for his/her physical work on the grounds.

Use of hunting grounds

In order to be able to lease the hunting grounds, one needs to sign an agreement with the landowners where the boundaries of the hunting grounds are located, and then to register the organization in the forestry government (regional representatives of the General Directorate of Forests of Slovakia). Forest government operates in each administrative district – one to three regional representatives of the forest government operate for several districts. The law stipulates that landowners cannot refuse to allow a hunting society group to use their land. If the landowner does not want to permit hunting on his/her land, he/she must fence in his/ her territory.

The minimum payment to landowners for land use for the hunting purposes: for fields – € 0.50 per 1 ha for forest – € 2-5 per 1 ha. Contracts with the landowners are signed for 15 years, and the price is fixed. Hunting ground user is responsible for the damages caused to the farmer, only if the preliminary agreement was concluded between them, and the farmer used all means for the protection of his/her own property – livestock and crops.

The process of hunting and hunted game

Game is distributed within the club members accordingly to the annual removal plan, which is approved by the regional forest government and the Chamber.

Group hunting is conducted only for wild boar (twice a year) and pheasant, in other cases hunting is individual. Deer gaming is permitted only with the rifle; the other game can be shot using the smoothbore shotguns.

Special numbered a hunting document is issued for gaming (animal hunting license - see Fig. 1 in the Appendix 5) in which a tag number issued for labeling big hunted game is specified.

Hunting season in Slovakia opened every day during the permitted period (for more information on hunting species and the seasons go to the paragraph 4.4).

Before hunting, a hunter, who is a group member – should make an entry in the appropriate register which is always stored in the hunting club office where all the data on planned hunts are recorded (date, time, place, game, etc.). Lack of relevant records will result in severe penalties and even criminal liability for the hunter, as it will be treated as poaching. If boar or deer are hunted, a tag with the number that corresponds to a particular hunting area and indicates the date of hunting is attached to their leg (see Fig. 2 in Appendix 5). The tag costs €5 and is issued by the Chamber.

The club member hunters do not pay anything for hunting but only for the hunted animal. If during hunting he/she harvests a male deer – the payment is € 35 which goes to the organization for the meat (entire carcass), and can be further sold afterwards; the trophy is free of additional charge. If

the hunter doesn't want to pay for the carcass € 35 this meat can be sold the organization to other hunters or to other customers, for example deer meat will cost 1.30 EUR / kg (in August), in December quality increases and the cost raises to € 2.8 per 1 kg.

However, a completely different and more complex payment system (much more costly) exists for foreign hunters invited to hunt.

On the clubs hunting grounds none group members can hunt also if an agreement with the group was reached and on the payment condition. Before the hunt, a hunter must make an advance payment and gets a hunting license.

There is a separate hunting license for foreign hunters issued for the period of hunting – for a day, week, month, and year. The cost of hunting for foreigners on state hunting grounds is based on a single price list issued at the beginning of the season and hunting on the grounds is possible by an agreement with the hunting organization. As an example a hunting price list for all the forest enterprises hunting grounds for the season 2015/2016 could be found at:

http://www.lesy.sk/files/polovnictvo*/hunting-price-list-2015_2016-ok.pdf. Thus the total cost of hunting for foreigners will include the cost of hunting license, compulsory insurance, accommodation, depending on a number of days, type of hunting (organizational characteristics), the number of people, game animal species and trophy characteristics, etc.

Inventories and limits

In the past, according to the old law, inventories were held in accordance with a certain method and in a certain time period. In recent years, the process is being conducted based on a different accounting approach. Now the hunters have inventory sheets, where, while on the hunting grounds, identified animals are recorded. Later this information is summarized showing the bigger picture about the number of game. The main indicator is a removal plan and its implementation.

4.2.3. Hungary

General information

The global reputation of Hungary for gaming and hunting management is based on the excellent trophy quality of a large game, as well as the well-organized hunting services. The best Hungarian trophies are in the top ten global ranking every year. Since the first official trophies demonstration (1871), the inventory includes about 5 thousand antlers which have received medals, including 375 gold winners. For roe deer trophies, Hungary keeps the world record since 1965. Therefore, the number of hunters who visit the hunting grounds is steadily growing. Permission for hunting is bought by 25 thousand foreign hunters annually.

Hunting system

Hunting is overviewed and controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development and the Ministry of Environment and Water Resources. In Hungary, there is also the National Hunters Association (Országos Magyar Vadászati Védegylet). There are 715 hunting organization with their own grounds and 400 organization without the land.

Hunting grounds are granted for use by the state regional hunting management administration for 10 years, and hunting management plan is always developed for each hunting organization for the indicated period. The minimum land area for hunting management purposes is 3000 hectares.

Primary, local hunting society organization (chamber) belongs to a regional chamber and a regional chamber is a part of the state chamber. It is not necessary to belong to the regional chamber; this decision is made by the team of the primary local hunting society organization.

Provision of the right to hunt and game belongs to the state. These rights may be assigned to hunting chambers that rent grounds for different periods. Grounds are provided to 83% of hunting clubs, the remaining 17% hunt under the state supervision.

So called "Hunting Management" is a separate, independent state entity with its own hunting grounds which it manages. But most hunting organizations are public. If hunting plans on the state hunting grounds are not met, hunters from other organizations, both state and public, are often invited to fulfil the removal plan.

Hunting and gaming in Hungary are regulated by the Law "For the protection of game, game management and hunting"; it is supplemented by other forest laws and laws on environmental protection (Law on Forestry and the Law on Nature Protection).

Legal methods of hunting include hunting with firearms and hunting with bow. Traps and hunting with hounds are illegal.

The availability of liability insurance to third parties is mandatory.

Effectiveness of the hunting industry is largely provided by the foreigners who pay for the service. The industry continues to maintain its typical export orientation, as Hungary visit 25-30 thousand of foreign hunting tourists annually, mostly from the European Union.

Foreign hunters can hunt on the grounds of the organization and have legal relations straight with the chamber members, without intermediaries. The cost of hunting for foreigners is the same as for local hunters according to the pricelist; they even may have a 15% discount.

Among the European countries, Hungary firmly holds the leading position in the deer, mouflon, wild boar, roe deer and the red deer trophy hunting. The country is also the global leader in the pheasant rearing and hunting – more than half a million is harvested a year.

Hunting grounds

The right to hunt and for the game belongs to the state, but it can be assigned to hunting clubs which are allowed to lease the land for any period. Thus in Hungary up to 83% of the grounds is leased. Chambers pay rent, they breed and protect game, compensate for damages at their own expenses. Each year, the hunting plans are developed and must be approved by the local forest administration. Incomes of the hunting clubs consist of membership fees, proceeds from the sale of meat, hunting organized for foreign tourists, and export of animals.

Relations with landowners are rather simple. Hunting management must be agreed on, but in case if private land is fenced. Grounds fee is arranged by law and only in the form of non-cash payment, the average cost is € 0.5-1 per hectare, but in most cases the agreement is made through natural products – game, and the most owners do not even require financial compensation.

Hunting organizations often create fodder fields for feeding animals. If there are no such fields, the group members (hunters) give part of their own crop fields for game feeding. There is also compulsory work - two days a year when each team member must participate in the accomplishment of biotechnical tasks, protection, etc.

Most of the hunting management related costs are the compensations to farmers for damage inflicted by game. The damages itself are determined by an independent expert.

The process of hunting and hunted game

Inventories are held by the gamekeepers once a year – in February. Inventory results are transferred to the regional department of hunting management depending on which the game removal plan for the next game hunting season is approved. Failure to comply with the plan is punishable by a fine imposed on hunters in the club.

Most of the game stock lives free, in their natural surroundings. Some forestries formed so called „game preserves” in their territories as well, especially for wild boar.

Membership gives the team an opportunity to participate in every group rabbit and pheasant hunting (10-14 hunts per year). Membership also gives the right to individual and hunting in groups for wild boar, roe deer and without purchasing any additional permits (shooting permits, licenses, etc.). Wild boar and fox hunting are held throughout the year. A detailed list of game species and appropriate hunting seasons period are described in the next subsection 4.4.

Usually, hares and pheasants are taken by hunters, but deer and wild boar up to 80% are delivered to private processing companies, which then sell the meet on the domestic and foreign markets.

Given that interest in hunting for wild boar has fallen slightly, this year it is planned to introduce compulsory boar hunting twice a month for the club members. Each hunter can take free of charge four boars weighing up to 50 kg. If the hunter needs more meat he/she can buy it for a nominal fee from the team. Other harvested boars are delivered by the team to the processing office. Boar meat costs from 0.5 to 1 EUR per 1 kg, depending on the grade, and the grade – on the place where the bullet has entered. Deer meat costs up to 4 EUR per 1 kg.

Each game sector of the hunting club has a log book where every hunter who plans to go hunting must register at least four hours or a day at the most in advance. The register includes following data: name, place of hunting, time of hunting and game species to be hunted. After the hunt, a record is made again: end time of a hunt, if shots were taken and the harvested species.

In the case of harvesting game, a special tag is used and its unique number is entered in the log book. The presence of tags at the foot of the animal is very important; otherwise the game will be considered illegally harvested. It is also important to stick to the object of harvesting that the license is issued for. If during the hunting for wild boar the hunter harvested a deer, he/she may lose the right to hunt for two years and shall be fined €1,000 (this issue is within the court competence).

Protection of hunting grounds

The violators of the hunting rules are severely fought against. All gamekeepers have a police ranger status, are registered, have a special warrant and a badge "Rangers Service", communication means, truncheons, handcuffs and service firearms - guns. A ranger has the right to stop the car and inspect it with the mean of identification of illegally harvested game.

How to become a hunter?

Hunter candidates must take a training course; afterwards take an exam organized by the State Examination Board.

The test consists of theory (knowledge of hunting legislation, biotechnology, hunting techniques and methods, firearms, biology and physiology of animals, hunting ethics) and practice (handling of firearms, shooting in the dash, first aid).

More applied models of hunting management in Poland, Slovakia and Hungary are described in the annexes 4-6.

4.3. Hunting fauna and conservation specifics of rare and endangered species

Poland

In Poland a list of species for which hunting is allowed is established by the Ministry of Environment together with the Ministry of Agriculture, the State Council for Nature Conservation and the Polish Hunting Union.

Minister of Environment may authorize animals shooting for scientific purposes.

In Poland hunting legislation all animals that are allowed to hunt are divided into two groups: large and small game. Predators (fox, badger, raccoon dog, American mink and stone marten, European polecat, common racoon) belong to small game as isolated subgroup. A few years ago all bird species were removed from the list of game. Until recently several species of predatory and black butterfishes were included to the list.

List of game species

Birds:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Common pheasant | (<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>), |
| 2. Grey partridge | (<i>Perdix perdix</i>), |
| 3. Mallard (wild duck) | (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>), |
| 4. Eurasian teal | (<i>Anas crecca</i>), |
| 5. Common pochard | (<i>Aythya ferina</i>), |
| 6. Tufted duck | (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>), |
| 7. Greylag goose | (<i>Anser Anser</i>), |
| 8. Bean goose | (<i>Anser fabalis</i>), |
| 9. Greater white-fronted goose | (<i>Anser albifrons</i>), |
| 10. Eurasian coot | (<i>Fulica atra</i>), |
| 11. Common wood pigeon | (<i>Columba palumbus</i>) |
| 12. Eurasian woodcock | (<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>), |
| 13. Hazel grouse | (<i>Tetrastes bonasia</i>) |

Mammals:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 14. Elk | (<i>Alces alces</i>), |
| 15. Red deer | (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>), |
| 16. Fallow deer | (<i>Dama dama</i>), |
| 17. Spotted deer | (<i>Cervus nippon</i>), |
| 18. European roe deer | (<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>), |
| 19. Hog wild | (<i>Sus scrofa</i>), |
| 20. Wild goat | (<i>Ovis musimon</i>), |
| 21. Badger | (<i>Meles meles</i>), |
| 22. European polecat | (<i>Mustela putorius</i>), |
| 23. Marten | (<i>Martes martes</i>), |
| 24. Stone marten | (<i>Martes foina</i>), |

25. Raccoon Dog	(<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>),
26. American Mink	(<i>Mustela vison</i>),
27. Common raccoon	(<i>Procyon lotor</i>),
28. Muskrat	(<i>Ondatra zibethica</i>),
29. European hare	(<i>Lepus europaeus</i>),
30. Wild rabbit	(<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)

Hunting season for Poland or any part thereof is established by the Minister of Environment under approval of the Minister of Agriculture after consultation with the State Council for Nature Conservation and the Polish Hunting Union (table 3).

Table 3. Game and hunting seasons in Poland for the main species

Game species	Open seasons	
	Male	Female
Roe deer	11/05 - 30/09	01/10 – 15/01
Brown hare	15/10 – 15/01	
Wild boar	01/04 - 28/02	01/08 – 15/01
Red fox	01/10 – 28/02	
Moose	01/09 – 31/11	01/10 – 30/12
Red deer	21/08 - 28/02	01/09 – 15/01
Fallow deer	01/10 – 15/01	
Wolf	01/11 – 28/02	
Pheasant	01/10 – 28/02	-
Wild ducks	01/09 – 21/12	
Partridge	11/09 – 21/10	

However a local authority (local governor) has the right to shorten hunting periods within the territory of their county under approval of the Polish Hunting Union.

For example throughout Poland hunting for the bean goose and the white-fronted goose is authorized for the period until 21/12 but in the Lyublin, Veluko Polske and Zahidpomorske counties only until 31/01. Also for the gray goose hunting should be closed until 21/12 but in the same counties it is allowed until 15/01. In habitat areas of blackcock, wood grouse, introduction of hare, partridge and pheasant the hunting is allowed whole year for fox, American mink and common raccoon. On the territory of fish farms hunting for muskrat is permitted whole year also.

Rare species and their removal

In Poland there are several different protected lists relating to the conservation of animals. Firstly, there is the one that includes the EU lists of protected species. In addition there are national lists: a list of animals under strict protection (from 2014), species on the Red List and Red Data Book of Poland.

Animals under strict protection in Poland (from 2014) – a list of taxa animals under strict protection according to the order of the Minister of Environment on October 6, 2014 on the animal protection.

Polish Red Book of Animals – a list of endangered species in Poland, includes 130 species of vertebrates.

Red List of threatened and endangered animals in Poland – a list of species which for various reasons endangered in the country. Compared with the Polish Red Book contains more species but is limited to the record of species with varying degrees of threat (without description and characteristics of individual species), states the category of threat or a general description of the situation of the group of species (e.g. class or order). The Polish edition devoted most attention to the invertebrates. The latest version was published in 2002.

The Directorate of Environment is responsible for the protection of rare species. Accordingly the damage to agricultural crops or domestic animals caused by rare animals (e.g. wolves, brown bears, etc.) is compensated by the state (represented by the Ministry of Environment) for damage caused by hunting animals – appropriate hunting societies on which territory the damage has occurred. For example only in Subcarpathian county the amount of reimbursement for the damage caused by beaver activity was 10 million PLZ in 2014.

Hunting is prohibited on all animal species protected by EU legislation. However in Poland some exceptions exist. In particular at special permission from a nature protection direction at some fish farms hunting for otter is permitted. Also in exceptional cases using the same permission a beaver can be hunted.

However for extraction of rare species there are special rather high fines. However, in practice, not all the hunters are able to recognize rare species in nature. Thus the hunters are trained every year with the lessons on recognition of rare species. There is no exam after these trainings.

Hunting Legislation for Nature Conservation

The law on game protection defines, besides of principles laid down in provisions on environmental protection, the creation of conditions that ensure wildlife welfare (prohibits animals removal in any way (outside of those organized by Polish Hunting Union) take eggs and chicks and destroy hopes, dens and birds' nests).

However for feeding purposes, as well as export and science, the animals catching in nets and traps are permitted. Minister of Environment may authorize the rearing and feeding out animals indoors in non commercial premises for the purpose of research, training, industrial settlement or export.

Minister of Environment in agreement with the PHU in the form of a decision can cancel the lease of hunting grounds and transfer them for a period not shorter than 10 years for management for feeding animals purposes to whom, in addition to hunting, are related following activities:

- 1) Scientific research;
- 2) Reproduction of endangered wildlife populations;
- 3) Rearing native species of animals for the purpose of settling capture places;
- 4) Rearing of wild animals including those which are useful for forest biomes.

One of the objectives of state hunting guards is to control the implementation of the provisions of the statute, including protection of animals.

Member of state hunting guards could become a person who (besides a number of other requirements) passed with a positive result a test program envisaged by the Minister of Environment.

Slovakia

Lists of game species

Despite the fact that the Law on Hunting in Slovakia contains a fairly large species list not all of them could be a subject of hunting.

Birds:

Colorful pheasant	(<i>Syrmaticus reevesii</i>),
Common pheasant	(<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>),
Black-headed gull	(<i>Larus ridibundus</i>),
Bustard	(<i>Otis tarda</i>),
Mountain Thrush	(<i>Turdus pilaris</i>),
Raven	(<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>),
Ringdove	(<i>Columba palumbus</i>)
Stock dove	(<i>Columba oenas</i>),
European turtle dove	(<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>),
Eurasian collared dove	(<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>),
White-fronted goose	(<i>Anser albifrons</i>),
Greylag goose	(<i>Anser Anser</i>),
Short-goose	(<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>),
Had goose	(<i>Anser erythropus</i>),
Bean	(<i>Anser fabalis</i>)Common Pochard,
Tufted duck	(<i>Aythya fuligula</i>),
Gray partridge	(<i>Perdix perdix</i>),
Hazel grouse	(<i>Tetrastes bonasia</i>),
Goshawk	(<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>),
Mallard	(<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)
Fistula	(<i>Anas penelope</i>)
Green-winged teal	(<i>Anas crecca</i>),
Garganey	(<i>Anas querquedula</i>),
Gadwall	(<i>Anas strepera</i>),
Northern shoveler	(<i>Anas clypeata</i>),
Pintail	(<i>Anas acuta</i>),
Jackdaw	(<i>Corvus (Coloeus) monedula</i>),
Raven	(<i>Corvus corax</i>),
Greek partridge	(<i>Alectoris graeca</i>),
Red partridge	(<i>Alectoris rufa</i>),
Coot	(<i>Fulica atra</i>),
Snipe	(<i>Capella gallinago</i>),
Wild turkey	(<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>),
Common buzzard	(<i>Buteo buteo</i>)
Rough-legged buzzard	(<i>Buteo lagopus</i>),
Woodcock	(<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>),
Jay	(<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>),
Magpie	(<i>Pica Pica</i>),
Wood grouse	(<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>),

Black grouse	(<i>Lyrurus tetrrix</i>),
Grey Heron	(<i>Ardea cinerea</i>),
Raven black / grey	(<i>Corvus corone corone</i> / <i>Corvus corone cornix</i>)
Mammals:	
European beaver	(<i>Castor fiber</i>),
Fallow deer	(<i>Dama dama</i>),
Wild boar	(<i>Sus scrofa</i>),
Ermine	(<i>Mustela erminea</i>),
Badger	(<i>Meles meles</i>),
Red deer	(<i>Cervus elaphus</i>),
Spotted deer	(<i>Cervus nippon</i>),
Alpine chamois	(<i>Rupicapra rupicapra rupicapra</i>),
Chamois	(<i>Rupicapra rupicapra tatraica</i>),
Wild rabbit	(<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>),
Stone marten	(<i>Martes foina</i>),
Here	(<i>Mustela nivalis</i>),
Moose	(<i>Alces alces</i>),
Fox	(<i>Vulpes Vulpes</i>),
Wild cat	(<i>Felis silvestris</i>),
Brown bear	(<i>Ursus actros</i>),
Common raccoon	(<i>Procyon lotor</i>),
Mouflon	(<i>Ovis musimon</i>),
Muskrat	(<i>Ondatra zibethica</i>),
White-tailed deer	(<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>);
Raccoon dog	(<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>),
Lynx	(<i>Lynx lynx</i>),
European roe deer	(<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>),
Alpine marmot	(<i>Marmota marmota</i>),
Jackal	(<i>Canis aureus</i>),
Russian polecat	(<i>Putorius evermanni</i>),
European polecat	(<i>Putorius putorius</i>),
Wolf	(<i>Canis lupus</i>),
River otter	(<i>Lutra lutra</i>),
European hare	(<i>Lepus europaeus</i>),
European bison	(<i>Bison bonasus</i>),
American mink	(<i>Mustela vision</i>),
Freshwater nutria	(<i>Myocastor coypus</i>)

Hunting season

It is allowed to hunt game animals only during the authorized periods (see the Table 4 for the information on the main species).

In Slovakia, hunting is opened every day during the highlighted periods and for the whole year for fox, badger, stray dogs, martens, polecats, raccoon dog; including such birds as grey crow, magpie, jay but outside the nests periods only.

Table 4. Game and hunting seasons in Slovakia for the main species

Game species	Open seasons	
	Male	Female
Roe deer	16/05 - 30/09	01/09 – 31/12
Red deer	01/08 - 15/01 (in the game preserve until 31.01)	01/08 – 31/12
Mouflon	01/08 – 15/01 (in the game preserve whole year)	01/08 – 31/12
Fallow deer	01/09 – 15/01 (in the game preserve until 31.01)	01/08 – 31/12
Chamois	01/09 – 31/12	
Wild boar	16/07 - 31/12 (in the game preserve until 31.01)	
Young wild boars (piglets, yearling)	whole year	
Fox	whole year	
Wolf	01/11 – 15/01	
Badger	01/09 – 30/11	
Hare	01/11 – 31/12	
Pheasant	01/10 – 28/02	
Wild ducks	01/09 – 31/01	
Wild turkey	15/03 – 15/05, 01/10 – 31/12	
Woodcock	01/09 – 30/11	
Hazel grouse	01/10 – 15/11	

Besides the hunting periods the hunting on gaming species may be a subject to a permission from the district hunting administration in exceptional cases (where necessary in the interests of agricultural or forestry production, hunting management, nature protection, improvement of animal health - to reduce the number of particular species).

Ministry of Agriculture gives a hunting permit if there is a necessity to hunt some species for scientific or veterinary purposes or aiming at protection of property and public health.

In the fenced vineyards, orchards, gardens, fruit and vegetable nurseries it is permitted individual hunting for hare, wild rabbit during the year with a permit made by a regional forest authority and a hunting license.

Without any permission and at any time the members of the hunting guard and all the hunters have the right to kill a dog on the hunting grounds area if it is further than 200 meters away from the nearest residential building or if a dog constantly persecute animals or frighten them (this does not apply to the hunting dogs) and kill stray cat in the area of hunting grounds if it is on a same distance of more than 200 meters away from the nearest residential building or if it is caught at a distance of less than 200 m while persecuting and killing birds.

Rare species and their removal

In some cases there may be exceptions from the ban on the removal of rare animals from the wild. Thus, western capercaillie, European lynx, European otter, chamois and brown bear are protected species in Slovakia in accordance with the Nature Conservation Act and a number of international conventions. But for example, for the extraction of Brown bear, special permission from the Ministry of Environmental Protection can be obtained on the conditions of danger to human health or significant economic losses. Every year Slovakia hunters apply with more than 100 applications, of which 30-40 cases are granted the permission to extract the animals (mostly for the individuals up to 100 kg).

Wolf is not on endangered list in Slovakia but the annual quota for the extraction of wolves was 80 individuals in the season 2014/2015.

In case of the rare animal extraction that don't belong to the game species list (i.e. hunting for which was not allowed) the hunter must immediately inform a competent authority, a regional forest department and a nature protection body – providing detailed description on the situation in general and how the death has occurred.

License to hunt birds, wolf and jackal is given by the Ministry of Agriculture under certain conditions, such as: a threat to public health and safety; in the interest of air space safety; to prevent significant damages to agricultural crops and livestock; forests, fisheries and water management; flora and fauna protection; research; population restorations; re-introduction of animals to their previous habitats. Ministry of Agriculture should inform the relevant Commission of the European Union about such an activity authorization.

Damages caused by rare animals (for domestic animals, destruction of apiaries, etc.) are compensated by the state in accordance with the Law on Nature Conservation and Landscape (No 543/2002).

Hunting Legislation for Nature Conservation

The Law on hunting in Slovakia is focuses on health of game species and fauna in general. This is associated with the protection against harsh conditions, in particular due to the lack of natural food presence, the harmful effects of people's actions, animal diseases, protection of biological species under the nature conservation and landscape protection.

According to this law, the purpose of big hunting enterprises is to manage hunting grounds and to control hunting areas in such a way as to ensure good animal health, the optimal quantity and quality of relevant age structure and the structure of game and other animals as an integral part of the ecosystem.

This law also prescribes necessary means to preserve the animals, in particular: the protection of animal's gene pool, as well as saving endangered species. For this purpose it is prohibited: to introduce and spread types and subtypes of animals (other than mentioned game listed species) for the purpose of cultivation and use; cross animals of different species, subspecies, etc.

Import and export of live animals, eggs, embryos, animals sperm is possible only with the permission of the Ministry of Agriculture and under conditions therein mentioned. Species that are subject to special requirements should be allowed to import and export under a special permission; part of the application for such permission must be provided by a regional veterinary and a food authority.

Import and export of animals that do not live in Slovakia is possible only to the preserves and requires prior authorization of the Ministry of Agriculture with approval of the Ministry of Environment.

Burning of bushes, hedges, grass, dry weeds and reeds is prohibited on all hunting grounds.

Hungary

Lists of game species

List of game species is provided by Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development and is subject to approval by the Minister of Environment and Water.

Birds:

Common pheasant	<i>(Phasianus colchicus),</i>
Ringdove	<i>(Columba palumbus)</i>
Eurasian collared dove	<i>(Streptopelia decaocto),</i>
White-fronted goose	<i>(Anser albifrons),</i>
Greylag goose	<i>(Anser Anser),</i>
Bean	<i>(Anser fabalis)</i>
Gray partridge	<i>(Perdix perdix),</i>
Mallard	<i>(Anas platyrhynchos)</i>
Green-winged teal	<i>(Anas crecca),</i>
Coot	<i>(Fulica atra),</i>
Jay	<i>(Garrulus glandarius),</i>
Magpie	<i>(Pica Pica),</i>
Raven black / grey	<i>(Corvus corone corone / Corvus corone cornix)</i>

Mammals:

Fallow deer	<i>(Dama dama),</i>
Wild boar	<i>(Sus scrofa),</i>
Badger	<i>(Meles meles),</i>
Red deer	<i>(Cervus elaphus),</i>
Spotted deer	<i>(Cervus nippon),</i>
Wild rabbit	<i>(Oryctolagus cuniculus),</i>
Stone marten	<i>(Martes foina),</i>
Fox	<i>(Vulpes Vulpes),</i>
Common raccoon	<i>(Procyon lotor),</i>
Mouflon	<i>(Ovis musimon),</i>
Muskrat	<i>(Ondatra zibethica),</i>
Raccoon dog	<i>(Nyctereutes procyonoides),</i>
European roe deer	<i>(Capreolus capreolus),</i>
Jackal	<i>(Canis aureus),</i>
European polecat	<i>(Putorius putorius),</i>
European hare	<i>(Lepus europaeus)</i>

In Hungary introduction of animal species that are not native for the purposes of hunting is possible only with the permission of the Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development and in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Water.

Hunting season

The Ministry of Agriculture and Regional Development (in harmony with the Ministry of Environment and Water) developed terms when the game can be hunted but also their keep their rights to change the rules at any time (Table 5).

Table 5. Game and hunting seasons in Hungary for the main species

Game species	Open seasons	
	Male	Female
Roe deer	15/04 - 30/09	01/10 – 28/02
Red deer:		01/09 - 31/01
- trophy	01/09 - 31/10	
- cull	01/09 - 31/01	
Mouflon	whole year	01/09 – 28/02
Fallow deer	01/10 – 31/01	01/10 – 28/02
Wild boar	whole year	
Fox	whole year	
Jackal	whole year	
Badger	01/06 – 28/02	
Hare	01/10 – 31/12	
Rabbit	01/09 - 31/01	
Polecat	01/07 – 28/02	
Beech-marten	whole year	
Musquash	whole year	
Raccoon dog and Raccoon	whole year	
Pheasant	01/10 – 28/02	01/10 – 31/01
Partridge	01/10 – 31/01	
Wild ducks	15/08 – 31/01	
Coot	01/09 - 31/01	
Bean Goose	01/10 – 31/01	

Hunting is prohibited for the hooded crow (*Corvus cornix*), common magpie (*Pica pica*), Eurasian jay (*Garrulus glandarius*) in the period from 15.02 to 15.07.

Without any permission and at any time the members of the hunting guard and all the hunters have the right to kill a dog on the hunting grounds area if it is further than 200 meters away from the nearest residential building or if a dog constantly persecute animals or frighten them (this does not apply to the hunting dogs) and kill stray cat in the area of hunting grounds if it is on a same distance of more than 200 meters away from the nearest residential building.

Rare species and their removal

In the case of hunting (obtaining) an animal that does not belong to the game species a hunter is required to compensate the costs associated with its recovery. Each rare species of birds have legislation prescribed cost recovery. Thus, the minimum penalty is 10,000 HUF (35 USD) – for an individual of European turtle dove (*Streptopelia turtur*), and maximum – 1,000,000 HUF (3,500 USD) for the lesser white-fronted goose (*Anser erythropus*). For northern shoveler ducks (*Anas clypeata*) and the vast majority of others a fine equals to 50,000 HUF (174 USD).

To avoid confusion of hunters with game species vs. protected species, there are specially designed guidelines indicating the species, which can be confused; and special training is developed in preparation for the exams.

For the protection of migratory waterfowl species in Hungary special guidelines with information where and when to hunt is created for the hunters.

Hunting Legislation for Nature Conservation

In Hungary the hunting legislation already was adopted for international requirements stipulated in the Directives(on the protection of birds, habitats) and in the Agreements (Ramsar, Rio, Washington, Berne, Bonn).

As it was stated previously hunting in Hungary is regulated by the law 1996/LV (laws for the protection of game, game management and hunting). The law does not apply to wild not game species living in their natural habitat, as well as the animals kept in fenced areas with other than hunting. It is completed by other laws regulating forestry (law 1996/LIV) and nature conservation (law 1996/LIII). Also among other hunter responsibilities there are the requirements on protection of wildlife and their habitats.

Special attention is paid to the preservation not only the game but wild animals also. There is a separate chapter related to the protection of wildlife and places of their settlements (habitats). The Law emphasized the inadmissibility of threats during the hunting for not game species. For this purpose during the examination process for obtaining a hunting permit there are presented the questions related to environment protection. Among the assignments there are the questions related to knowledge of rare animals, including the determination of birds by the silhouettes of flying ducks.

In order to preserve wildlife it is forbidden to destroy their habitats, feeding and breeding places. It is forbidden to hunt and harass birds on nests in places where they nest or otherwise disturb them, damage their place of settlement.

However the hunting authority with the prior approval of the special state authorities can make an exception to the hunting rules if it is justified for the protection of wildlife and to prevent some damages.

4.4. The relationship between hunters and local communities: legal and practical aspects

Issues of mutual relationships between hunters and local communities to some extent are regulated by hunting related legislation in Poland, Slovakia and Hungary.

In particular, in the *Polish Law on hunting* these aspects are taken into account in a number of articles that regulate: 1) preparation of annual plans for the game removal; 2) leasing process of hunting grounds; 3) rent payment beneficiaries; 4) obtaining compensation for damages caused by game species or while hunting, and 5) damages descriptions and its evaluation process.

Thus, according to the **Article 8, para 3a** of the mentioned Law, annual hunting plans are prepared by hunting grounds users with the approval of local communities representatives – wojt (from “gmina – local commune”), burmistrz (from towns up to 100,000 inhabitants) or a prezydent (from cities) who is a mayor in fact. According to the **Article 29, para 1** – hunting grounds could be given for leasing on the base of a proposal made by the Polish Hunters Union. They have to be approved by wojt (burmistrz, city prezydent) and the head of the relevant institution: hunting field districts –

with a village chief approval, who comply with relevant obligations in the local administration; in case if hunting district is located in more than one county – by a chief of the county, in which there is the largest part of hunting district is allocated.

Article 31 requires the lessor to share the received payment for the hunting grounds lease between appropriate state forest enterprises and gminy (local governments - then LG). To this end forest enterprise receives a share which corresponds to the area located within the state forest and local commune receives the payment for the rest of the land area of hunting grounds. Manager of hunting grounds removed from the lease is paying rent equal to the average rent paid for similar hunting districts located in this county or nearby.

According to the **Articles 46-47** tenant or manager of hunting grounds is obliged to pay compensation for damages caused to farmlands by game or for damages caused while hunting. Caused damage is not paid if the crop was not harvested at the appropriate time. Aiming to minimize damage from the wildlife hunting societies encourage owners of hunting grounds to build special fences. In dispute on damage evaluation the parties may apply to the appropriate commune authority as to a mediator in the peace settlement.

The issue of **access of local communities to forest resources in the game preserves** is regulated by the **Article 12**. After obtaining a permission of the owner or manager of a territory, ground users and managers of hunting districts can identify and impose a ban on an access to the territory, which is the habitat place of certain wild animals. In practice, such restrictions are not a problem for the local population, which depends very little on non-timber forest resources and firewood. Thus there are no conflicts between hunters and local people on this issue.

Therefore, according to the Polish law on hunting, local communities are actively involved in the management process of hunting organizations through having impact on such issues as hunting annual planning, allocation of hunting grounds, having the opportunity to participate in presenting their cases after financial harm as a result of a game management. In addition, local communities receive funds to the local budget as payment for leasing their grounds for hunting. These legislative provisions are fully allowing them to carry out and represent their interests in the hunting sector.

Law on hunting in Slovakia (since 2009) signifies fewer interests of local communities in hunting. In fact, it regulates only a matter of damage compensations caused by game animals and while hunting. According to **§ 26** of the Law users of hunting grounds and hunting territories are obliged to conduct an agreement (**§ 13**) aiming to minimize damage from game. This agreement prevents possible disputes and intervention of third parties, including representatives of local communities. According to **§ 26, para 7** user of hunting grounds should not reimburse damage caused by animals: on areas that are not assigned to hunting or vineyards, which are not protected against harm that may be caused by animals; not fenced gardens, fruit, vegetable and flower nurseries, trees nurseries; crops that were not collected in the corresponding period; created forest stands located on hunting grounds and if the owner has not taken measures to adequately protect these stands from damage; as well as in forest unprotected by fence, mechanical or chemical means against nibbling.

The issue of access of local people to the forest resources inside the game preserves - fenced forest areas for rearing and hunting the game species – is not regulated by Law at all, but practically an access to these areas for the local population is prohibited. However, in Eastern Slovakia, where the local population have low living standard and depend more on mushrooms, berries and twigs than in Poland, preserve employees of state forest enterprises enable access to



these forest areas in the relevant period through a specially constructed entrance points in the fence. That permits to prevent possible conflicts between hunters and local communities.

Thus local communities are not involved in hunting management. Hunting Societies rather deal with specific users of hunting lands, rather than with LG, as representatives of the local communes.

Law on Hunting in Hungary takes into account the interests of local communes and involve to some extent the local communes in hunting management. In particular **§ 45 para 2** indicates that the work plan of hunting management for 10 year period should be authorized by a hunting management department with an approval made by special local communities authority if hunting grounds are in use by local communities. The Law regulates also questions of damage compensations (**§ 75**), caused in agriculture by large ungulate hunting animals; in orchards and vineyards and nurseries caused by a roe deer, hares and pheasants. Compensation will be paid if the loss is more than 5%. Similarly, the compensation is paid to owners of farmland, orchards and vineyards for damage caused while hunting (**§ 76**).

In according to **§ 78** for the prevention of damages caused by game species and while hunting the hunting organizations has the right to request the owners of hunting land to build protective construction. These protective constructions are financed by the hunting organizations.

Determination of the amount of damage is regulated by **§ 81**: in accordance with **paragraph 2**, the damage caused by wild animals and while hunting is evaluated by an expert who has the appropriate education; **paragraph 3** is determining that if the parties cannot resolve the issue of appointment of such an expert or if the victim require a compensation not through the court, according to the joint request of the parties an expert shall be appointed by a secretary of the local government of that community where the event has occurred.

Access of local communes to forest resources in the game preserves is not regulated by the Law, but breaking into the fence is prohibited. But this does not have a crucial importance for the local population, as the locals rarely visit the forest to collect mushrooms or berries. Each basket of mushrooms from the forest in Hungary must undergo a compulsory procedure checks by an expert on content of poisonous mushrooms and costs 2000 Ft (equivalent to 6-7 EUR).

Conclusion: The Law on hunting in Poland fully ensures the rights and possibility of local communities to participate in the hunting management, represent and protect their interests, which prevents the conflicts in hunting.

Relevant legislation in Hungary also provides certain rights to local communities to participate in the hunting management, at least during the development of work plans or the determination of assessment and compensations from damages caused by wild game and while hunting.

In Slovakia, local communities are not legally involved in the hunting management. But in practice, there are examples of some concessions to the local population in order to avoid conflicts, such as access to forest resources at the preserves during the relevant period.

Legal provisions compare that regulate involvement of local communes in the hunting management and representing their interests in Poland, Slovakia and Hungary is presented in the table below.

Table 6. The involvement of local communes in the hunting management process (comparison in terms of the three EU countries)

Forms and methods of involvement	Poland	Slovakia	Hungary
Approval of hunting work plans for 10 year period, if the user of hunting grounds is the local community	-	-	With special bodies of local communities
Approval of the annual plan of hunting	By wojt (burmistr, city prezydent)	-	-
Approval of decision of leasing of hunting grounds	By wojt (burmistr, city prezydent), village head and county head	-	-
Allocation to local budgets for the leasing of hunting grounds	For open spaces (field) hunting ground	-	-
Dispute resolving issues for damage compensations	LG representatives of local communes	Agreement	Secretary LG of local communes
Determination of amount of lease payment for hunting grounds	-	-	With the involvement of local communes*
Access for locals to forest resources at fenced preserves	Prohibited	Prohibited. Provided special entrance points for locals*	Prohibited

*practice, do not regulated by the Law

5. Analysis of hunting management efficiency in foreign countries

In most member states of the European Union and North America countries (USA, Canada) hunting is a highly advanced and profitable sector of the economy despite the relatively high development of industry, agriculture and forestry, high population density, a developed network of roads. Hunting abroad is substantially different from that in Ukraine and is characterized by:

- High number of main game species (these figures are tens or even hundreds times higher than in Ukraine);
- High level of financial provisions and biotechnological activities;
- Ownership form of forests and forest land. They may be in private, state or public ownership, indicating absence of state monopoly on hunting;
- Decentralized hunting management and development of regional hunting policy;
- Large share of certified forests that belong to hunting grounds;
- High level of development of trophy gaming and hunting tourism, presented by a variety of alternative hunting methods;
- Large number of game breeding centres and preserves farms;
- Integrated relationship between hunting and agriculture, forestry, etc.

We compared the hunting costs for hunters between some countries. Obligatory costs include license (hunting authorisation document), firearms license, insurance, etc. Depending on the country they range from 6 to 10% of the total costs. Although this percentage is relatively low, if payment is repeated year after year, for most hunters find it disproportionately large. The cost of the annual right to hunt consists of rent for the area potentially selected for hunting. In countries with high population density such costs are higher due to the limited area of land suitable for hunting. These funds are intended for landowners, game keepers and other personnel. The proportion of the total cost varies depending on the country, from 0 to 25% (15-18% on average).

In **Germany**, the total area of hunting grounds is 319 thousand sq. km (89% of the area of the country) (Schaller, 2007). State management of the hunting economy is entrusted with the relevant territorial-administrative bodies subordinated to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture. 80% of German hunting grounds are privately owned (German forests, 2010).

A right to organize a hunting management unit belongs to the land owner who can manage it himself/herself, or rent (lease) out to hunting clubs or other interested landowners. According to the "Federal Law on Hunting" and regional regulations, the landowner who owns a plot of over 75 hectares (except Bavaria, where this area should be not less than 81,755 ha), has the right to decide who will be gaming in the area (Hunting in Germany, 2003; Schaller, 2007). This approach is also used in other European countries. In particular, in Finland this area should be at least 500-1,000 ha, in Latvia - 200-2,500 ha (depending on the gaming and hunting management type), the Czech Republic - 500 hectares, Estonia - 5,000 hectares (Maaomaniku õiguste ..., 2010). Due to the fact that Germany does not have many private areas of the required size, landowners join together in cooperatives to create the so-called "Hunting rever". The average area of the rever is 450 hectares and there are about 70 thousand of them (Schaller, 2007). Price rent for the use of hunting grounds depends on many factors (location, forest cover, demand for products, number of

game animals) and ranges from 1 to 150 EUR per 1 ha. In Germany, average ground user pays around €7,000 per year (Schaller, 2007).

As of 2014, 369.3 thousand hunters were registered in Germany, which is one of the lowest numbers in Europe in relation to population (Deutscher Jagdverband, 2014). But every year the number of hunters in Germany is growing.

Licensing fees for the right to hunt in Germany differ depending on the location of the hunting lands (federal state) and the period for which the hunter acquires a license.

In 2013/14 season, German hunters harvested 2,212.9 thousand pcs. of small game and 1778.9 thousand heads of hoofed game, which is almost 8 times higher than the general population and 140 times the number of harvested hoofed game in Ukraine.

Sales of gaming products (meat, skin, down) in 2013 brought € 218,940,000. The highest income was received from the sale of meat and skins of hoofed animals – € 199,180,000 (91%) (Deutscher Jagdverband, 2014). It should be noted that the cost of ungulate meat and of small game has been unchanged for the past four years, indicating the stability of the sector and the economy in general.

Despite the many positive aspects of hunting management in Germany, there are certain problems directly related to excessive game populations and its death on the roads. Another problem is associated with the negative impact of the game on forestry, which causes conflicts between hunters and forest owners. Current German legislation provides for compensation of forestry damages caused by game. Its calculation is based on economic valuation of natural resources, but does not account for environmental and social impacts that may arise in the future.

Hunting policy of Germany is aimed at preservation of wild flora and fauna, the economic incentive of hunting in compliance with national traditions of gaming, conducting biotechnical measures undertaken so as to eliminate the negative impact of game on agriculture, forestry and fisheries, as well as the protection and improvement of habitats of these animals. Basically, the protection of game animals, fodder removal and feeding is performed by hunters themselves. They conduct systematic monitoring of hunting grounds which allows obtaining information on the status of wildlife populations in a timely manner.

An effective tool for economic policy in Germany is hunting tax system. Owners of land where forestry and hunting are located pay land tax, property tax, sales tax and income tax (Forest Policy, 2008). Locally, hunting ground owners pay tax on hunting management and gaming. The tax rate is set by local authorities (municipalities) and embedded in local tax laws, and the amount of the fee depends on the cost of rent or the amount of annual revenues from the sale of the right to hunt when hunting grounds are not leased. Depending on the region, the tax rate in Germany is 10-20% and it is spread throughout the country, except in Bavaria and cities of national importance - Berlin, Bremen and Hamburg (Inventory of Taxes, 2002).

Interesting is the experience of hunting management in *northern European countries (Sweden, Finland)*, with long and rich history, it is characterized by a significant percentage of forest cover. In Sweden, forest vegetation covered 60% of the country (51% - private property), in Finland - 69% (59% - private land). The average area of private forestries in Sweden is 47 hectares and there are 350 thousand forest owners (Maaomaniku õiguste ..., 2010).

The system of hunting management in Sweden and Finland is mainly based on private property. Revenue from hunting grounds lease, hunting management and gaming is the main part of the revenue of majority of landowners (Maaomaniku õiguste ..., 2010). Management, control and

regulation in the hunting economy and hunting policies are entrusted with the Agency for Natural Resources of Sweden and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland.

Territorial and administrative structure of Finland provides for the division of the territory into 15 hunting regions and 298 hunting districts. Hunting grounds are formed on the basis of private and public forests rented to individuals or local hunting clubs whose amount is about 4 thousand. In turn, local hunting clubs unite in hunting associations whose task is to monitor game, economic incentives for the hunting and gaming development, render consulting and legal services to hunters. Local hunting clubs are responsible for the state of hunting economy and gaming, taking biotechnical measures, the fight against poaching, etc. (Maaomaniku õiguste .., 2010).

In Finland, 37 species of animals and birds can be hunted. Hunters mainly hunt hoofed animals (elk, deer, white-tailed deer) and a variety of small game. Deer gaming totals more than 12 thousand heads, roe deer - over 90 thousand head per year. The amount of hunted fallow deer, wild pig and mouflon is much lower (Hoyetskyi, Pokhalyuk, 2014).

One of the incentive instruments of the hunting policy in the Nordic countries is an annual fee paid by hunters. It amounts to € 300 in Sweden and € 28 in Finland and includes the insurance coverage in case of injury or other insured event (Matilainen, 2010). The funds are allocated for the development of hunting, protection, restoration and sustainable use of resources of game animals.

Gaming is allowed only on appropriate hunting grounds with an area of at least 1,000 hectares and with a license for which one must pay a fixed cost. Licenses are valid for one hunting season and are mainly issued by hunting clubs.

A fee for the right to hunt small game ranges from 5 € per day to 170 € per year. For foreign hunters, the fee can be revised and ranges from € 7 to € 400. These funds, near €5.5 million a year, are accumulated by state and used to prevent the negative impact of game and to compensate for environmental damage caused by them to forestry and agriculture sector (Matilainen, 2010).

Almost identical system of hunting organization and management is used in Sweden. During hunting season, hunting right holder can shoot in their hunting grounds as much game as they want. Permission for harvesting hunting animals (license) is issued by local authorities.

Responsibility for good-quality hunting management (both of game and land) lies with the landowner (resident or holder of hunting rights).

Most hunters and owners of hunting grounds belong to the Swedish Association of Hunters and Hunting, which is the main coordination centre. The organizational structure of the association envisages division of the territory into 9 hunting regions, 24 hunting areas and 377 hunting districts. Under present conditions in Sweden the most popular hunted game is elk - over 100 thousand animals and roe deer - about 200 thousand animals (Zakharenko, 2002).

Similar approaches to the ownership of forest land, hunting organization and management, development and implementation of hunting policy objectives are used *in Estonia and Latvia*. The typical feature of Estonia is that in the state forests, hunting grounds are used by the government agency RMK (public forests management center in Estonia) rather than hunter and hunting organizations. State agency RMK is reporting to the Forest Department of the Ministry of Environment and owns the rights to hunting management and gaming on the lands of the state forest fund of Estonia, and monitors the hunting grounds and the presence of game there; performs the function of monitoring compliance with the rules of hunting; develops strategic plans of forestry development and hunting management. In Latvia, the responsibility for control and monitoring of hunting economy and gaming is assigned to the state (National Board of Forestry

under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development). Fee for the use of public hunting areas in Estonia is not charged, and in Latvia, by contrast, the fee is intended only for the use of public lands which are transferred to users for hunting management and gaming (Ozoliņš et al., 2004).

As a hunting policy tool, auction sale of licenses is also used *in the United States*. In addition, the US license for the rarest game animals is sold through the lottery drawing. Funds raised at the auction, lotteries and from the sale of licenses are a constant source of income allocated to finance the development of hunting, research in this area, preservation of habitats of the most rare and valuable game animals and compensation for damage caused by wild animals to agriculture and forestry (Big game .., 2010). Yearly income from hunting in the US is \$24-36 bln. (Balysheva, 2007).

In reviewing the organizational aspects of hunting and the use of hunting grounds, the most interesting experience for Ukraine is the Czech Republic and Hungary and Poland (which are discussed above).

The total area of hunting grounds of the *Czech Republic* is 6.8 mln. ha, of which 56.6% is occupied by the agricultural land, 37.8% - forest land, 1.4% - wetland, 4.2% - other. Hunting grounds are formed by private and public lands. 1,940,000 ha (28.3%) of hunting grounds is private property, of which 0.97 million ha (50.1%) is leased by hunting organizations (Czech statistical.., 2010; Game management... 2005).

In the Czech Republic, there are 205 hunting grounds. Each hunting area covers an average area of 385 sq. km and for each region has an average of 28 hunting grounds. In 2010, hunters harvested 305.5 ths. heads of ungulates and about 1 million head of small game (Czech statistical.., 2010). The central body of the hunting economy of the Czech Republic is the Ministry of Agriculture, whose main function is to develop environmentally sustainable and cultural environment in the hunting grounds, provide training and promotion of environmental culture among the population, settle disputes between landowners and hunters, and monitor wildlife populations. The actual hunting management is carried out at the district level by local municipalities that provide control over the biotechnical measures and conduct an economic evaluation of damage caused by game (Game management .., 2005).

The hunting grounds of *Hungary* are almost identical by their structure to that in Ukraine, in particular 68% are occupied by agricultural land and 17% - by forests. Despite the fact that the area of the hunting grounds of Hungary is six times smaller than that of Ukrainian, annually, 100 thousand heads of ungulates and 800 thousand of head of small game are harvested there (Principles .., 2010). It is estimated that in 2009, in Hungary there were 85 thousand deer heads, 27 thousand heads of fallow deer, 350 thousand heads of roe deer, 10 thousand heads of moufflon and 100 thousand boar heads (Hungary, 2014).

Hungarian hunting policy aims to create a three-tier system of hunting management (national, regional and local). The main purpose of hunting policy is to create a flexible system for the restoration and protection of hunting resources, taking into account the principles of environmental-friendly (sustainable) development and integration of hunting with forest and agriculture sector (Zakharenko, 2002).

In Poland, state ownership of forests dominates (78.3%). The right to use them is owned by the state enterprise "State Forests of Poland" and the right to use non-forest lands is entrusted with local government (gmina and voivodship). Area of hunting grounds in Poland is 29 mln. ha, including forests - 8 mln. ha (27.9%). Every year Polish hunters harvest over 100 thousand boars,

30-40 thousand deer, 120-160 thousand roe deer (Delegan, Shpilchak, 2009). The hunting grounds are leased by public hunting associations and societies that form private collective hunting entities. Functions of hunting ground protection and of monitoring compliance with the hunting rules in Poland are represented by public hunting security which is endowed with wider powers than the police, prosecutors and other law enforcement agencies (Burmas, 2011).

Hunting management in Poland is characterized by planned nature and complexity, as evidenced by its close relationship with the forest and agriculture.

Conclusion. In countries with developed market economy dominates regional policy approach on hunting management with the use of state regulation in the most complex and socially important areas, including international cooperation and management of territories under special protection, etc. Hunting management activities in foreign countries are cost-effective and aimed at achieving optimum number of game in hunting areas. Thus Ukraine should as much as possible widely apply these principles in legislation to address existing problems of corruption, cultural, scientific and law enforcement nature.

6. Comparison and relevance of the historical experience of Galicia (Halychyna) in late XIX - early XX for state hunting regulation in modern Ukraine

Galicia, as part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, had its historically formed experience in gaming. Galicia's practice in the organization of hunting management by the governmental enforcement bodies had positive aspects that remain relevant at the present stage of Ukraine's history. For example, when comparing management state functions in hunting sector in Galicia and in modern Ukraine, there are differences mostly caused by socio-political systems, scientific and technical progress, humanitarian development of society, etc. Thus, in Galicia hunting revere (grounds) registration under the Hunting Act of Galicia of 1897 was established by state county authorities - similar to the current district administration, while in modern Ukraine hunting grounds are provided by the regional council after the coordination with the regional state administrations, the state Department of Environmental Protection in the region, state regional forestry and hunting agency, owners / users of land, which in practice makes it impossible to provide hunting grounds for use in a legal way.

According to the current national legislation, a standard contract stipulating the conditions of hunting management which duplicates the requirements of the national legislation regarding conditions for hunting has been developed. The agreement on typical hunting conditions is concluded between the public authority represented by Regional Forestry and Hunting Administration and the users of hunting grounds.

According to the historical experience and law enforcement in Galicia, an agreement on hunting conditions then was concluded between the user of hunting grounds and the owner / user of the land where hunting management was exercised. This agreement conditioned the peculiarities of hunting management in a particular area, based on the peculiarities of its agriculture management (ways and methods of crops cultivation, vesting periods, etc.). It was possible to limit gaming period and hunting methods.

Such an approach could be used in national legislation, stipulating the responsibilities of hunting grounds users and compensation conditions for damages caused by game animals.

Present legislation includes a problematic issue according to which the lease of hunting grounds could be agreed by temporary land users. Thus, hunting grounds under Article 22 of the Law of Ukraine "On Hunting Economy and Gaming" are provided for a period of not less than 15 years, while the land owners provide its land mostly to farmers for growing crops for a much shorter period during which does not give the tenant an authority to agree on the provision of its land plots for hunting purposes. To address this issue, it is necessary to establish the regulation according to which the right to coordinate the provision of hunting grounds should fall within the exclusive competence of the land owner.

Amendment of the Law of Ukraine "On amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding the activities of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine, Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine and other central executive bodies, whose activities are directed and coordinated through the relevant ministers" of 16.10.2012 made to the Law of Ukraine "On Hunting Economy and Gaming" stipulated that if the land owner does not want to agree to provide the land for hunting, pursuant to Article 1 of the Law of Ukraine it receives the status of state hunting grounds

reserve. Hunting on such hunting grounds is prohibited, and their protection is carried out by territorial bodies of central executive authority on hunting (Regional Forestry and Hunting Administrations). The administrations are entrusted with the protection of state hunting fund and financed solely from the state budget. But the budgets of these bodies do not include costs for funding gamekeeping service, biotechnical measures and other financial support to hunting management and inventory.

The main factor encouraging land owners not to provide their grounds for hunting is the lack of payment for the use. The legislative body of Ukraine constantly postponed the payment period for hunting grounds set on January 1 2010 until 2015. The absence of such rules caused financial losses to the land owners on the one hand and to the hunting industry on the other - negative economic impact through the removal of large areas of land from hunting management. In this regard, the experience of Galicia is extremely important because hunting laws envisaged mandatory fees for the use of hunting grounds, and the funds were received by the land owners. Experience in solving this social issue could have been taken from the organization of enforcement activities of government hunting agencies of other countries. For example, in Poland before the Second World War, tax had to be paid for the use of hunting grounds and for the gaming right (Law of Poland "On the payment of hunting grounds tax" of August 11, 1923). The gaming right was based on the land ownership or lease (Art. 19). Rural and urban communes were allowed to impose municipal tax for the right to hunt.

The transfer of hunting grounds from one user to another after the use period expiration – remains unregulated, as well as the issue of covering the cost of buildings, structures and other property that was acquired or built by the previous user of hunting grounds in case if the right to hunting grounds use is transferred to another user under Article 30 of the Law of Ukraine "On Hunting Economy and Gaming". In addition, the method for assessing the immovable property or biotechnical facilities is not stipulated in the legislation. It is also important to establish statutory limit for investing funds in immovable property by the hunting grounds user.

Article 31, guaranteeing protection of the rights of hunting grounds users, determines reimbursement for hunting management for three years by the next user of hunting grounds in the case of early termination of the right to use hunting grounds through no fault or without the initiative of the hunting grounds user. To address this issue, it is necessary to establish procedures that would determine investment or maximum limit of compensation based on 1 thousand hectares of hunting grounds.

An agreement to lease hunting grounds in Galicia was concluded for a period of six years, and in modern Ukraine – the minimum period for providing hunting grounds is 15 years, which is positive for the effective hunting management, because as practice shows, users of hunting grounds try to increase limits of game hunting by damaging the fauna populations while approaching the lease expiration date.

The lowest statutory hunting territory in Galicia under the Hunting Act 1897 was 115 ha, and according to the law of 1927, it was reduced to 60 hectares. Rivers under this Act were not included in the hunting territory, while in modern Ukraine they are included and belong to wetland types of hunting grounds.

It should be noted that the increase in the minimum allowable hunting area in modern Ukraine under Article 22 of the Law of Ukraine "On Hunting Economy and Gaming" to 3000 hectares, has positive impact on the organization of hunting, as the game habitats areas are not limited to 115 hectares, and for certain types of big game it reaches 5-7 thousand ha. However, on the other

hand, given the requirement of modern legislation, on the approval of the use of territories for hunting economy with all owners or users of land, increase in the minimum allowable area makes organizing hunting management unit rather long procedure, especially if there are a lot of land owners. Thus, it is reasonable to use the experience of Galicia when small plots of land were granted for hunting management, but the general plot of land for the establishment of hunting management unit had to be continuous. Such a requirement does not exist in the national legislation, which allows hunting management on the minimum area of 3 thousand ha, and which may consist of several separate sites located in several areas. The absence of this requirement hampers hunting management from the economic and legal aspects of organizing the hunting process of game. Breach of gaming rules becomes customary since due to the mosaic leasing of the hunting ground it is impossible to access these lands, and it is prohibited to stay with the firearms outside the hunting grounds. In addition, the mosaic nature of the hunting ground eliminates the possibility of rational hunting management with respect to rearing game, as it will often change on a small area, and thus offset investment of material resources and funds in the game rearing.

It should also be emphasized that in Galicia, in XIX – XX, gaming was restricted in some areas: at cemeteries, fortifications and religious buildings, but the boundaries of settlements did not belong to this. At present time, it is legally forbidden to hunt within settlements, and as to the other above-mentioned territorial restrictions are not included in the legislation, the hunters are guided by the customary law. Thus, the legislation should include the requirement according to which gaming is forbidden at the cemeteries and in a radius of 500 meters from the religious buildings.

While forming territory of a hunting management unit in the past, the opinion of land owners was considered to be defining, they have formed professional unions and leased the right to hunt to others. Today, in Ukraine, a major factor in the provision of hunting grounds for use is the organizational and administrative action of three state and two local governments. There are no transparent criteria and clear algorithm for selecting the most effective applicant for obtaining hunting grounds for use. The authorities are trying to bridge this gap in the legislation by forcing candidates to use hunting grounds to assume more obligations than stipulated by the current legislation, namely: investing in hunting economy, ensuring excessive number of hunter service employees, additional logistics of the hunting ground. However even legal requirements are not implemented in practice, and statistics show that one third of users of hunting grounds does not fulfil even the minimum requirements for the number of hunter service employees. The authorities have no leverage to make hunting ground users to fulfil the assumed high liabilities. To address this issue, the possibility of amending the "Agreement on hunting management conditions" should be investigated.

There are significant differences in the definition of gaming in preserves. The Hunting Act of Galicia of December 3, 1927 did not consider hunting actions performed in the fenced areas (preserves) pheasant yards to be named "gaming". However, modern legislation in Ukraine requires license for hunting in preserves, and therefore name hunting in preserves to be "gaming". It would be reasonable to apply the experience of Galicia where permits or licenses were not required for gaming in cages.

7. Proposals for adapting positive experience in state hunting management from the European Union

In general, the structure and content of the law of Ukraine "On Hunting Economy and Gaming" largely corresponds to the relevant laws of Poland, Slovakia and Hungary.

However, as the result of historical, economic, social and cultural development of the Ukrainian society, established traditions, particularly in the field of hunting and gaming, hunting in Ukraine has not reached the level of development as compares to those countries.

Environmental legislation in the EU is more clearly and logically thought out and is effectively implemented. State law enforcement and judicial authorities perform their functions providing "right" signals to society, that is – enforcement is working. To improve the situation in Ukraine, it is proposed to adopt the best experience in hunting management of neighbouring countries. To create a model of effective hunting management, it could be used both modern European experience and past experience of Galicia.

7.1. Key proposals

- Increase the role, autonomy (independence) and responsibilities of lower hunting teams. The analysis shows that in most countries democratic form of hunting management is much more effective. This particularly applies to low level community groups. The team, as a primary group, is a legal entity, performs all financial transactions and has low dependence on the "add-ons". It sets the cost of fees and services according to the needs. The obtained funds are used primarily for the protection of game which, respectively, profitability management is related to. However, hunters are not only entitled but obliged to control the number of game fauna, maintain the number of wild animals within certain limits, optimal for wildlife and people.

One of the main reasons hampering the development of the hunting industry is complete exclusion of commune hunting groups of the Ukrainian Society of Hunters and Anglers from the economic process. The first structural unit in this society is the regional association of hunters of 1-1.5 thousand persons who are provided with the area of 100 thousand or more hectares under the land lease. This results in low number of game and a prevalence of poaching culture.

- Improving the mechanism for hunting grounds lease. The lack of clearly stated and competitive mechanism for hunting grounds use in the legislation of Ukraine leads to corruption, and sometimes also to social conflicts in some regions. Therefore, there is a need to consider the interests of local communities in the hunting grounds lease process.

- Development of a mechanism of payment for the hunting grounds use. In Ukraine, the main factor that is not conducive to establishing business relations between land owners and hunting societies is the lack of possibility of receiving payment for the use of ground plots. In many countries, between hunters and owners of land used as hunting grounds there are financial relations. The absence of such relations causes financial losses to the land owners on the one hand and on the other - negative economic impact through the removal of large areas of land from the hunting process. Hunting management on the areas owned by the state or private individuals, hunting association or enterprises, should be supplemented by the rent payment. Such approach should encourage hunting grounds to invest in projects to increase the number of hunting fauna.

Hunting legislation should include payment for the use of hunting grounds, while funds can also be received by the landowners.

- Improving hunting service and game management. Low number of hunting service affects the efficiency of hunting management, the population of game species and animals listed in the Red Book of Ukraine. In many countries, the hunting service (gamekeepers) has the right and authority of the police (and often more), which makes it possible to effectively combat poaching. Elimination of the problem of insufficient number of rangers in the hunting ground as well as limited material and financial support may need increasing the authorities and responsibilities of the hunting service. The rights and duties of the rangers and officials should be clearly regulated.

The level of professional training and education of game managers, and scientific support of the hunting management is also important. Low efficiency of the game managers and hunting services is caused by a large area of land serviced (sometimes over 10 thousand ha per a manager).

- Developing a hunting culture. This process should start and be developed while obtaining a hunting permit. Such practice is implemented in many countries, which allows developing the hunting culture. Future hunter must take special courses, to work as a volunteer in a hunting organization and get approval from the fellows at a general meeting of the hunting association. When gaming, the hunter must not only have all the documents, but must also note in a special log book where he/she is going and what he/she aim to hunt, and afterwards write down time of ending and its results of hunting. This allows other hunters (or law enforcement officers, inspection, forestry) to control and distribute the hunters over the territory to prevent poaching, keep records of hunted animals. The feeling of belonging to a hunting association promotes compliance with rules concerning not only hunting established by the association, but the general rules of behaviour, a certain code of an honour of the hunter. This is facilitated by conducting different kinds of hunting feasts, festivals, competitions, development of hunting traditions, etc.

- Improving the mechanism of damage compensations from game species. Effective hunting management does not only promote hunting fauna development, but also stimulates control over its population. Excessive numbers of some animals can inflict damage to agriculture of communities, as well as forestry. In this case, the owners of agricultural land affected by wild animals receive compensation for the damages inflicted. It would be reasonable to apply the Polish model here: damages caused by game species shall be compensated by hunting management units on whose territory it happened, while the protected animal damages are compensated for by Ministry of Environment.

- Rationale for the possibility of local communities influence on managing hunting grounds in their territory. Law on hunting in Poland fully ensures the rights and opportunities of local communities to influence the hunting management process, represent and protect their interests, which prevents conflicts in hunting. Relevant legislation in Hungary also provides certain rights to local communities to participate in the hunting management at least during the development of business plans or when settling disputes on the assessment and game damage and hunting compensations. In Slovakia, local communities are not legally involved in hunting management. However, in practice, there are examples of some concessions to the local population to avoid conflict situations, such as access to forest resources in the territories of game preserves in the relevant period.

- Development of the trophy business. Due to a small number of animals harvested via hunting, trophy business is not well developed in Ukraine. Additional charges for hunting a trophy game significantly contribute to the economic development of hunting management units or their

infrastructure. Wealthy trophy hunters pay big price to local developed hunting management teams for permits that grant them a choice to hunt the best mature the largest body size or largest antlers or horns game specie. Because trophy hunting is the selective hunting of wild game the experts say the **regulated** hunts help to raise much a good financial support to local communities, conservation efforts and help to manage wildlife populations. In most neighbouring countries, such gaming has selection functions because together with a hunter there is a specialist (game keeper) who authorizes the shooting based on a specific assessment of the spotted individual animal.

- Approximation of Ukrainian legislation on hunting with the European Union regulations.

The legal basis of hunting management and gaming in Ukraine should be brought into line with the international requirements, including Birds Directive, Habitats Directive, Firearms Directive, a number of other conventions (Ramsar, Rio de Janeiro, Washington, Berne, Bonn, etc.). For many cases, this has already been done with a few exceptions.

Article 1 of the national “Law on Hunting and Gaming” states that one of the main objectives of hunting is to protect wild animals, which in practice means subordination of hunting regulations to the principles of environmental protection. The above elements should be fully incorporated into the national hunting politics.

Conclusion

It is important that the hunting industry is organically merged into the ecological and economic system of the country, ensuring the use of favourable natural conditions and resources and contributing to economic growth in the regions, their self-financing. It is necessary to take into account the factor that the EU does not limit additional production capacity provided to hunting grounds via quotas.

Thus, hunting culture, ethics and responsibility makes it possible to have hunting grounds with sufficient amount of game, conduct efficient and cost-effective game management programmes and maintain optimum number of wild animals thereby contributing to the protection and restoration of wild fauna biodiversity of Ukraine.

7.2. Example of a roadmap for the legislative regulation of the problems in hunting

Table 7. Roadmap for the legislative regulation of the problems in hunting (proposal)

No.	The main issues	Legislative regulation	Schedule, terms
1	Reforming the hunting sector regulation by creating a clear vertical state hunting institution from the district, regional level to the specialized administrative unit (department) in the central state authority	Management reorganization through an Order of the relevant ministry of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine or other authorized body	
2	Simplify procedure for leasing	The Law of Ukraine "On hunting	

No.	The main issues	Legislative regulation	Schedule, terms
	the hunting grounds	management and gaming", amendments to Article 22 "Procedure for leasing hunting grounds".	
3	Optimization of the hunting grounds size provided to one user	The Law of Ukraine "On hunting management and gaming", amendments to Article 22 "Procedure for leasing hunting grounds". (Optimize hunting ground area from 3,000 to 30,000 ha)	
4	Develop payment procedure and fee estimation for the hunting grounds use.	The Law of Ukraine "On hunting management and gaming", amendments to Article 24 "Fee for hunting grounds use". Fee for hunting grounds use shall be credited to the budget of local governments. Area of hunting grounds is 37 mln ha, which will provide an opportunity to provide local budgets with additional 37 mln UAH per year (if to estimate 1 ha for 1 UAH). Today the payment is received by the landowners and hunting grounds users.	
5	Strengthening control over the duties of the hunting grounds users on the protection and reproduction of game animals, rational use of resources	The Law of Ukraine "On hunting management and gaming", introduce amendments to Article 30 "The rights and obligations of hunting grounds users". Administrative Code of Ukraine art.255 (on the right to write protocols).	
6	Improving regulation of the quantity of predators and undesirable for hunting purposes wildlife	The Law of Ukraine "On hunting management and gaming", amendments to Article 33 (encourage hunters to gather wolf, fox, raccoon dogs)	
7	Creating conditions for the development of hunting services and product market and promotion of hunting tourism and trophy hunting	The Law of Ukraine "On hunting management and gaming", amendments to Article 35 "Hunting products, hunting trophies"	
8	Extending the rights and duties of gamekeepers and the hunting grounds user	The Law of Ukraine "On hunting management and gaming", amendments to Article 39 "The rights of employees	

No.	The main issues	Legislative regulation	Schedule, terms
	managers and of the hunters	authorized to exercise control in hunting management and gaming". Art.255 of the Administrative Code cancelled the right of the hunting service of the hunting grounds users of public ownership to write protocols (which is 80% of the hunting grounds users)	
9	Management of hoofed game populations (species identity development, breeding selection, formation of optimum age-sex structure in order to increase the percentage of males with high trophy qualities)		
10	Development of a mechanism for game damage compensations to forestry and agriculture industry	Development of appropriate regulation	
11	Liability for violations of the current legislation on hunting and gaming both by the citizens and hunting grounds users	Administrative Code of Ukraine, amend Article 85 (concerning the increase in fines). The Criminal Code of Ukraine amend art.248 - definition of a "substantial damage", replacing 250 non-taxable minimums to 5, as during criminal proceedings the social tax benefit is taken into account (the current fine is approximately 111 thousand UAH which does not allow to bring the offender to justice)	
12	Development of an effective system of training, retraining and advanced training for hunting management staff, improving specialized knowledge of hunters, increasing responsibility and careful attitude to nature to enhance their authority among local communities		Constantly
13	Promoting hunting and	By initiating festivals, fairs, exhibitions of	Constantly

No.	The main issues	Legislative regulation	Schedule, terms
	biodiversity conservation as part of the common culture	trophies, holding hunting competitions, start the tradition of celebrating "Hunter's Day" and other appropriate event	
14	Enhancing the role of public hunting organizations and local communities influence of the hunting management		

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ANNEX 1: Extracts from the Directive 2009/147/EC Annexes on the protection of wild birds regarding of hunting

ANNEX II

(the species referred to in Part A may be hunted in the geographical sea and land area where this Directive applies. The species referred to in Part B may be hunted only in the Member States in respect of which they are indicated)

PART A

ANSERIFORMES	Phasianidae
Anatidae	<i>Alectoris graeca</i>
<i>Anser fabalis</i>	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>
<i>Anser anser</i>	<i>Perdix perdix</i>
<i>Branta canadensis</i>	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
<i>Anas penelope</i>	GRUIFORMES
<i>Anas strepera</i>	Rallidae
<i>Anas crecca</i>	<i>Fulica atra</i>
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	CHARADRIIFORMES
<i>Anas acuta</i>	Scolopacidae
<i>Anas querquedula</i>	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>
<i>Anas clypeata</i>	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
<i>Aythya ferina</i>	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>
<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	COLUMBIFORMES
GALLIFORMES	Columbidae
Tetraonidae	<i>Columba livia</i>
<i>Lagopus lagopus scoticus et hibernicus</i>	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
<i>Lagopus mutus</i>	

Part B

ANSERIFORMES	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>
Anatidae	<i>Mergus serrator</i>
<i>Cygnus olor</i>	<i>Mergus merganser</i>
<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	GALLIFORMES
<i>Anser albifrons</i>	Meleagridae
<i>Branta bernicla</i>	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>
<i>Netta rufina</i>	Tetraonidae
<i>Aythya marila</i>	<i>Bonasa bonasia</i>
<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	<i>Lagopus lagopus lagopus</i>
<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	<i>Tetrao tetrix</i>
<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	<i>Tetrao urogallus</i>
<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Phasianidae



Francoelinus francoelinus

Alectoris barbara

Alectoris chukar

Coturnix coturnix

GRUIFORMES

Rallidae

Rallus aquaticus

Gallinula chloropus

CHARADRIIFORMES

Haematopodidae

Haematopus ostralegus

Charadriidae

Pluvialis apricaria

Pluvialis squatarola

Vanellus vanellus

Scolopacidae

Calidris canutus

Philomachus pugnax

Limosa limosa

Limosa lapponica

Numenius phaeopus

Numenius arquata

Tringa erythropus

Tringa totanus

Tringa nebularia

Laridae

Larus ridibundus

Larus canus

Larus fuscus

Larus argentatus

Larus cachinnans

Larus marinus

COLUMBIFORMES

Columbidae

Columba oenas

Streptopelia decaocto

Streptopelia turtur

PASSERIFORMES

Alaudidae

Alauda arvensis

Muscicapidae

Turdus merula

Turdus pilaris

Turdus philomelos

Turdus iliacus

Turdus viscivorus

Sturnidae

Sturnus vulgaris

Corvidae

Garrulus glandarius

Pica pica

Corvus monedula

Corvus frugilegus

Corvus corone

	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	
Cygnus olor					+														+									
Anser brachyrhynchus	+			+						+																		+
Anser albifrons	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+		+	+	+		+		+		+		+		+		+	+	
Branta bernicla				+	+																							
Netta rufina								+	+																			
Aythya marila	+			+	+		+		+	+			+					+					+					+
Somateria mollissima				+		+			+	+																+	+	
Clangula hyemalis				+		+			+	+			+													+	+	+
Melanitta nigra				+	+	+			+	+			+													+	+	+
Melanitta fusca				+	+				+	+			+													+	+	+
Bucephala clangula				+		+	+		+	+			+	+		+			+				+			+	+	+
Mergus serrator				+						+								+								+	+	
Mergus merganser				+						+																+	+	
Bonasa bonasia						+			+				+						+	+			+		+	+	+	
Lagopus lagopus lagopus																										+	+	
Tetrao tetrix	+				+				+		+		+							+						+	+	+
Tetrao urogallus		+			+				+		+		+							+				+		+	+	+
Francoelinus francoelinus												+																
Alectoris barbara								+			+																	
Alectoris chukar		+						+				+																
Coturnix coturnix		+						+	+	+		+	+					+		+		+	+					
Meleagris gallopavo			+		+														+						+			
Rallus aquaticus									+		+							+										
Gallinula chloropus	+							+	+		+							+				+	+					+
Haematopus ostralegus				+					+																			
Pluvialis apricaria	+			+				+	+	+								+	+			+						+
Pluvialis squatarola				+					+									+										+
Vanellus vanellus	+			+				+	+	+	+	+						+										
Calidris canutus				+					+																			
Philomachus pugnax									+		+						+											
Limosa limosa				+					+																			
Limosa lapponica				+					+																			+
Numenius phaeopus				+					+																			+
Numenius arquata				+					+	+																		+
Tringa erythropus				+					+																			
Tringa totanus				+					+		+																	+
Tringa nebularia				+					+																			
Larus ridibundus	+			+	+	+		+								+			+						+			+
Larus canus				+	+	+																					+	+
Larus fuscus				+	+																							+
Larus argentatus	+			+	+	+						+														+	+	
Larus cachinnans								+								+												

	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK
Larus marinus				+	+	+																				+	+
Columba oenas							+	+	+			+										+	+				
Streptopelia decaocto		+	+	+					+			+				+							+		+		
Streptopelia turtur		+						+	+		+	+					+						+				
Alauda arvensis								+	+		+	+					+						+				
Turdus merula								+	+		+	+					+					+					+
Turdus pilaris							+	+	+		+	+					+		+			+	+		+	+	
Turdus philomelos								+	+		+	+					+					+	+				
Turdus iliacus								+	+		+	+					+					+	+				
Turdus viscivorus								+	+		+	+					+					+	+				
Sturnus vulgaris		+						+	+		+	+				+	+					+	+				
Garrulus glandarius	+			+	+				+		+				+	+		+				+	+	+	+	+	+
Pica pica	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+		+	+	+		+	+		+				+	+	+	+	+	+
Corvus monedula		+					+	+			+							+				+			+	+	+
Corvus frugilegus		+					+		+					+		+							+		+		+
Corvus corone	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+		+				+	+	+	+	+	+

AT = Österreich, BE = Belgique/België, BG = България, CY = Κύπρος, CZ = Česká republika, DE = Deutschland, DK = Danmark, EE = Eesti, ES = España, FI = Suomi/Finland, FR = France, GR = Ελλάδα, HU = Magyarország, IE = Ireland, IT = Italia, LT = Lietuva, LU = Luxembourg, LV = Latvija, MT = Malta, NL = Nederland, PL = Polska, PT = Portugal, RO = România, SE = Sverige, SI = Slovenija, SK = Slovensko, UK = United Kingdom.

+ = Member States which under Article 7(3) may authorise hunting of the species listed.

ANNEX IV

(In respect of the hunting, capture or killing of birds under this Directive, Member States shall prohibit the use of all means, arrangements or methods used for the large-scale or non-selective capture or killing of birds or capable of causing the local disappearance of a specie)

- (a) — Snares (with the exception of Finland and Sweden for the capture of Lagopus lagopus lagopus and Lagopus mutus north of latitude 58° N), limes, hooks, live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys, tape recorders, electrocuting devices,
— artificial light sources, mirrors, devices for illuminating targets, sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter,
— explosives,
— nets, traps, poisoned or anaesthetic bait,
— semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition;
- (b) — aircraft, motor vehicles,
— boats driven at a speed exceeding five kilometres per hour. On the open sea, Member States may, for safety reasons, authorise the use of motor-boats with a maximum speed of 18 kilometres per hour. Member States shall inform the Commission of any authorisations granted.

ANNEX 2: Extracts from the Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora regarding of hunting

ANNEX IV (extraction)

ANIMAL AND PLANT SPECIES OF COMMUNITY INTEREST IN NEED OF STRICT PROTECTION

The species listed in this Annex are indicated:

- by the name of species or subspecies, or
- by the body of species belonging to a higher taxon or to a designated part of that taxon.

The abbreviation "spp." after the name of a family or genus designates all the species belonging to that family or genus.

(a) ANIMALS

VERTEBRATES

MAMMALS

INSECTIVORA

Erinaceidae

Erinaceus algirus

Soricidae

Crocidura canariensis

Talpidae

Galemys pyrenaicus

MICROCHIROPTERA

All species

RODENTIA

Gliridae

All species except Glis glis and Eliomys quercinus

Sciuridae

Citellus citellus

Sciurus anomalus

Castoridae

Castor fiber

Cricetidae

Cricetus cricetus

Microtidae

Microtus cabrerai

Microtus oeconomus arenicola

Zapodidae

Sicista betulina

Hystriidae

Hystrix cristata

CARNIVORA

Canidae

Canis lupus (Except Spanish populations north of the Duero and Greek populations north of the 39th parallel)

Ursidae

Ursus arctos

Mustelidae

Lutra lutra

Mustela lutreola

Felidae

Felis silvestris

Lynx lynx

Lynx pardina

Phocidae

Monachus monachus

ARTIODACTYLA

Cervidae

Cervus elaphus corsicanus

Bovidae

Capra aegagrus (natural populations)

Capra pyrenaica pyrenaica

Ovis ammon musimon (natural populations - Corsica and Sardinia)

Rupicapra rupicapra balcanica

Rupicapra ornata

ANNEX V (extraction)

ANIMAL AND PLANT SPECIES OF COMMUNITY INTEREST WHOSE TAKING IN THE WILD AND EXPLOITATION MAY BE SUBJECT TO MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The species listed in this Annex are indicated:

- by the name of the species or subspecies, or
- by the body of species belonging to a higher taxon or to a designated part of that taxon.

The abbreviation "spp." after the name of a family or genus designates all the species belonging to that family or genus.

(a) ANIMALS

VERTEBRATES

MAMMALS

CARNIVORA

Canidae

Canis aureus

Canis lupus (Spanish populations north of the Duera and Greek populations north of the 39th parallel)

Mustelidae

Martes martes

Mustela putorius

Phocidae

All species not mentioned in Annex IV

Viverridae

Genetta genetta

Herpestes ichneumon

DUPLICIDENTATA

Leporidae

Lepus timidus

ARTIODACTYLA

Bovidae

Capra ibex

Capra pyrenaica (except Capra pyrenaica pyrenaica)

Rupicapra rupicapra (except Rupicapra rupicapra balcanica and rupicapra ornata)

ANNEX VI

PROHIBITED METHODS AND MEANS OF CAPTURE AND KILLING AND MODES OF TRANSPORT

(a) Non-selective means

MAMMALS

- Blind or mutilated animals used as live decoys
- Tape recorders
- Electrical and electronic devices capable of killing or stunning
- Artificial light sources
- Mirrors and other dazzling devices
- Devices for illuminating targets
- Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter



- Explosives
- Nets which are non-selective according to their principle or their conditions of use
- Traps which are non-selective according to their principle or their conditions of use
- Crossbows
- Poisons and poisoned or anaesthetic bait
- Gassing or smoking out
- Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition

FISH

- Poison
- Explosives

(b) Modes of transport

- Aircraft
- Moving motor vehicles

ANNEX 3: Extracts from the text of the Association Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part regarding of hunting

TITLE IV

TRADE AND TRADE-RELATED MATTERS

...

CHAPTER 13

Trade and sustainable development

Article 289

Context and objectives

1. The Parties recall Agenda 21 on Environment and Development of 1992, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation on Sustainable Development of 2002 and the internationally agreed policy agendas in the employment and social policy fields, in particular the International Labour Organization (hereinafter referred to as the "ILO") Decent Work Agenda and

the 2006 Ministerial declaration of the UN Economic and Social Council on Full Employment and Decent Work. The Parties reaffirm their commitment to promoting the development of international trade, in such a way as to contribute to the objective of sustainable development and to ensuring that this objective is integrated and reflected at every level of their trade relationship. EN29.5.2014 Official Journal of the European Union L 161/121

2. To this end, the Parties recognise the importance of taking fully into account the economic, social and environmental best interests of not only their respective populations but also future generations and shall ensure that economic development, environmental and social policies are mutually supportive.

Article 290

Right to regulate

1. Recognising the right of the Parties to establish and regulate their own levels of domestic environmental and labour protection and sustainable development policies and priorities, in line with relevant internationally recognised principles and agreements, and to adopt or modify their legislation accordingly, the Parties shall ensure that their legislation provides for high levels of environmental and labour protection and shall strive to continue to improve that legislation.

2. As a way to achieve the objectives referred to in this Article, Ukraine shall approximate its laws, regulations and administrative practice to the EU acquis.

...

Article 292

Multilateral environmental agreements

1. The Parties recognise the value of international environmental governance and agreements as a response of the international community to global or regional environmental problems.

2. The Parties reaffirm their commitment to the effective implementation in their laws and practices of the multilateral environmental agreements to which they are party.

3. Nothing in this Agreement shall limit the rights of a Party to adopt or maintain measures to implement the multilateral environmental agreements to which it is a Party. Such measures shall not be applied in a manner which would constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between the Parties or a disguised restriction on trade. ENL 161/122 Official Journal of the European Union 29.5.2014

4. The Parties shall ensure that environmental policy shall be based on the precautionary principle and on the principles that preventive action should be taken, that environmental damage should as a priority be rectified at source and that the polluter should pay.

5. The Parties shall cooperate in order to promote the prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources in accordance with the objective of sustainable development with a view to strengthening the links between the Parties' trade and environmental policies and practices.

Article 293

Trade favouring sustainable development

1. The Parties reaffirm that trade should promote sustainable development in all its dimensions. The Parties recognise the beneficial role that core labour standards and decent work can have on economic efficiency, innovation and productivity, and they highlight the value of greater coherence between trade policies, on the one hand, and employment and social policies on the other.

...

TITLE V

ECONOMIC AND SECTOR COOPERATION

CHAPTER 6

Environment

Article 360

The Parties shall develop and strengthen their cooperation on environmental issues, thereby contributing to the long-term objective of sustainable development and green economy. It is expected that enhanced environmental protection will bring benefits to citizens and businesses in Ukraine and in the EU, including through improved public health, preserved natural resources, increased economic and environmental efficiency, integration of environment into other policy areas, and higher production as a result of modern technologies. Cooperation shall be conducted in the best interests of the Parties on the basis of equality and mutual benefit while also taking into account interdependence existing between the Parties in the field of environmental protection and related multilateral agreements.

Article 361

Cooperation shall aim at preserving, protecting, improving, and rehabilitating the quality of the environment, protecting human health, prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources and promoting measures at international level to deal with regional or global environmental problems, inter alia in the areas of:

(a) climate change;

- (b) environmental governance and horizontal issues, including education and training, and access to environmental information and decision-making processes;
- (c) air quality;
- (d) water quality and water resource management, including marine environment;
- (e) waste and resource management;
- (f) nature protection, including conservation and protection of bio and landscape diversity (eco-networks);**
- (g) industrial pollution and industrial hazards;
- (h) chemicals;
- (i) genetically modified organisms, including in the field of agriculture;
- (j) noise pollution;
- (k) civil protection, including natural and man-made hazards;
- (l) urban environment;
- (m) environmental fees.

Article 362

1. The Parties shall, inter alia:

- (a) exchange information and expertise;
- (b) implement joint research activities and exchange of information on cleaner technologies;
- (c) plan the handling of disasters and other emergency situations;
- (d) implement joint activities at regional and international level, including with regard to multilateral environmental agreements ratified by the Parties and joint activities in the framework of relevant agencies as appropriate.**

2. The Parties shall pay special attention to transboundary issues.

Article 363

Gradual approximation of Ukrainian legislation to EU law and policy on environment shall proceed in accordance with Annex XXX to this Agreement.

...

Article 365

The cooperation shall cover, inter alia, the following objectives:

- (a) development of an overall strategy on environment, covering planned institutional reforms (with timetables) for ensuring implementation and enforcement of environmental legislation; division of competence for the environmental administration at national, regional and municipal levels; procedures for decision-making and the implementation of decisions; procedures for promotion of integration of environment into other policy areas; identification of the necessary human and financial resources and a review mechanism;
- (b) development of sector strategies on air quality; water quality and resource management, including marine environment; waste and resource management; nature protection; industrial pollution and industrial hazards and chemicals, including clearly defined timetables and milestones for implementation, administrative responsibilities as well as financing strategies for investments in infrastructure and technology;

CHAPTER 16

Tourism

...

Article 400

1. Cooperation at bilateral, regional and European levels would be based on the following principles:

- (a) respect for the integrity and interests of local communities, particularly in rural areas;
- (b) the importance of cultural heritage;
- (c) positive interaction between tourism and environmental preservation.**

CHAPTER 17

Agriculture and rural development

...

Article 404

Cooperation between the Parties in the field of agriculture and rural development shall cover, inter alia, the following areas:

...

(c) promoting modern and sustainable agricultural production, respectful of the environment and of animal welfare, including extension of the use of organic production methods and the use of biotechnologies, inter alia through the implementation of best practices in those fields;

...

ANNEX IV TO CHAPTER 4 - COVERAGE

ANNEX IV-A TO CHAPTER 4

SPS MEASURES (extracts)

PART 1

Measures applicable to main live animal categories

I. Equidae (including zebras) or asinine species or the offspring of crossing of those species

II. Bovine animals (including *Bubalus bubalis* and Bison)

III. Ovine and caprine animals

IV. Porcine animals

...

XII. Other mammals

XIII. Other birds

...

PART 2

Measures applicable to animal products

I. Main product categories of animal products for human consumption

1. Fresh meat of domestic ungulates, poultry and lagomorphs, farm and wild game, including offal
2. Minced meat, meat preparations, mechanically separated meat (MSM), meat products
- ...
6. Eggs and eggs products
- ...
8. Rendered animal fats and greaves
- ...

II. Main products' categories of animal by-products:

...	...
In game trophies plants	Treated game trophies and other preparations of birds and ungulates, being solely bones, horns, hooves, claws, antlers, teeth, hides or skins
	Game trophies or other preparations of birds and ungulates consisting of entire parts not having been treated
...	...

ANNEX VIII TO CHAPTER 4 OF TITLE IV

PROVISIONAL APPROVAL OF ESTABLISHMENTS (extracts)

Conditions and provisions for provisional approval of establishments

1. Provisional approval of establishments means that the importing Party, for the purpose of import, approves provisionally the establishments in the exporting Party on the basis of the appropriate guarantees provided by that Party without prior inspection by the importing Party of the individual establishments in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4. With the same procedure and under the same conditions, the Parties shall modify or complete the lists provided for in paragraph 2 to take account of new applications and guarantees received. Only as regards the initial list of establishments verification may be part of the procedure in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4(d).

2.1. The provisional approval shall initially be applied to the following categories of establishments

2.1.1. Establishments for products of animal origin for human consumption:

- Slaughterhouses for fresh meat of domestic ungulates, poultry, lagomorphs and farm game (Annex IV-A, Part I)
- Game handling establishments
- Cutting plants

— Establishments for minced meat, meat preparation, mechanically separated meat and meat products

...

Establishments for:

— eggs products

...

— treated stomachs, bladders and intestines

...

2.1.2 Approved or registered establishments producing animal by products and main categories of animal by-products not for human consumption

Type of approved or registered establishments and plants	Product
Slaughterhouses	Animal by-products to be fed to fur animals
	Animal by-products for the manufacture of petfood
	Blood and blood products from equidae to be used outside the feed chain
	Fresh or chilled hides and skins of ungulates
	Animal by-products for the manufacture of derived products for uses outside the feed chain
...	
Other facilities for the collection or handling of animal by-products (i.e. unprocessed/ untreated materials)	...
	Fresh or chilled hides and skins of ungulates
	...
	Bones and bone products (excluding bone meal), horns and horn products (excluding horn meal) and hooves and hoof products (excluding hoof meal) for uses other than as feed material, organic fertiliser or soil improvers
	...
	Wool and hair
Game trophies plants	Treated feathers, parts of feathers and down
	Treated game trophies and other preparations of birds and ungulates, being solely bones, horns, hooves, claws, antlers, teeth, hides or skins
...	Game trophies or other preparations of birds and ungulates consisting of entire parts not having been treated

3. The importing Party shall draw up lists of provisionally approved establishments as referred in 2.1.1 and shall make these lists publicly available.
4. Conditions and procedures for provisional approval:
 - (a) If import of the animal product concerned from the exporting Party has been authorised by the importing Party and the relevant import conditions and certification requirements for the products concerned have been established;
 - (b) If the competent authority of the exporting Party has provided the importing Party with satisfactory guarantees that the establishments appearing on its list or lists meet the relevant health requirements of the importing Party and has officially approved the establishments appearing on the lists for exportation to the importing Party;
 - (c) The competent authority of the exporting Party must have a real power to suspend the activities for exportation to the importing Party from an establishment for which that authority has provided guarantees, in the event of non-compliance with the said guarantees
 - (d) Verification in accordance with the provisions of Article 71 of the Agreement by the importing Party may be part of the provisional approval procedure. This verification concerns the structure and organization of the competent authority responsible for the approval of the establishment as well as the powers available to that competent authority and the guarantees that it can provide in regard to the implementation of importing Party's rules. These checks may include on the spot inspection of a certain representative number of establishments appearing on the list or lists provided by the exporting Party.

Taking into account the specific structure and division of competence within the European Union, such verification in the European Union may concern individual Member States.
 - (e) Based on the results of the verification provided for in subparagraph (d), the importing Party may amend the existing list of establishments.

ANNEX XXX TO CHAPTER 6 OF TITLE V

ENVIRONMENT (extracts)

Ukraine undertakes to gradually approximate its legislation to the following EU legislation within the stipulated timeframes:

Environmental governance and integration of environment into other policy areas

Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (codification)

For projects falling under the Treaty establishing the Energy Community all the Directive's provisions shall be implemented by 1.1.2013 as indicated in the Protocol concerning the Accession of Ukraine to this Treaty. For other projects the following provisions shall be applicable:

— adoption of national legislation and designation of competent authority/ies

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

— establishment of requirements that Annex I projects shall be made subject to environmental impact assessment and of a procedure to decide which Annex II projects require EIA (art. 4)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 3 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- determination of the scope of the information to be provided by the developer (art. 5)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 3 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- establishment of a procedure for consultation with environmental authorities and a public consultation procedure (art. 6)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- establishment of arrangements with neighbouring countries for exchange of information and consultation (art. 7)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 3 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- establishment of measures for notifying the public of the outcome of decisions on applications for development consent (art. 9)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

...

Directive 2003/35/EC providing for public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment and amending with regard to public participation and access to justice Directives 85/337/EEC and 96/61/EC

- adoption of national legislation and designation of competent authority/ies
- establishment of a mechanism for providing the public with information (art. 2.2a and 2.2d)
- establishment of a mechanism for public consultation (art. 2.2b and 2.3)
- establishment of a mechanism for public comments and opinions to be taken into account in the decision-making process (art. 2.2c)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

...

Nature protection

Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds

- adoption of national legislation and designation of competent authority/ies

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- assessment of bird species requiring special conservation measures and regularly occurring migratory species

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- identification and designation of special protection areas for bird species (art. 4.1)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 4 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- establishment of special conservation measures to protect regularly occurring migratory species (art. 4.2)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented by 1.1.2015 as indicated in the Protocol concerning the Accession of Ukraine to the Energy Community Treaty.

- establishment of a general system of protection for all wild bird species of which the hunted species are a special subset and prohibition of certain types of capture/killing (art. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.1 and 9.2)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 4 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

Directive 92/43/EC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora as amended by Directive 97/62/EC, 2006/105/EC and Regulation (EC) 1882/2003

- adoption of national legislation and designation of competent authority/ies EN 29.5.2014 Official Journal of the European Union L 161/1955

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- preparation of inventory of sites, designation of these sites and establishing priorities for their management (including completion of the inventory of potential Emerald sites and establishment of protection and management measures for these sites) (art. 4)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 4 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- establishment of measures required for the conservation of such sites (art. 6)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 4 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- establishment of a system to monitor conservation status of habitats and species (art. 11)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- establishment of a strict species protection regime for species listed in Annex IV as relevant for Ukraine (art. 12)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

- establishment of a mechanism to promote education and general information to the public (art. 22)

Timetable: these provisions of the Directive shall be implemented within 2 years of the entry into force of this Agreement.

Industrial pollution and industrial hazards

...

ANNEX 4: Information about a hunting management unit on an example of a local hunting cooperative, hunting grounds of which are located on forest enterprises territory in Poland

March 11, 2015, Tomaszów, Lublin region. Poland

Introduction of work of Tomaszów Forest District of Regional Directorate of State Forests in Lublin and a local hunting cooperative "Hermes" of Polish Hunting Union.

Communication with supervisor engineer *Gregor Dzugaj*, a trophy expert *Zenek Kukutovicz*, a member of the local hunting society "Hermes."

March 12, 2015, Krosno, Poland

Introduction of work of Regional Directorate of State Forests in Krosno.

Communication with a Head of the Department of Ecosystems *Piotr Brewczynski* and its Director of Forestry – *Marec Marecki*.



Fig.1. Map of hunting grounds of Regional Directorate of State Forests in Krosno

Total area of Tomaszów Forest District is 18.5 thousand hectares and hunting territory is 18 thousand ha and does not correspond with the area of the forestry.

Local hunting group "Hermes"

Local hunting group has 50 hunters. Member of the group may be any hunter from any local residence. Admission to the organization is conducted at general meetings which are held once a year. In order to become a member of the Polish Hunting Union a person should receive a volunteer experience for one year in the organization, then – to get theoretical knowledge (75 hours of lectures during the weekend, the cost - 1200 PLN (8,400 UAH), take the exams (theoretical tests - 100 questions and a practical one – handling of firearms, shooting accuracy). The candidate must be at least 17 years old. The exam can be taken maximum twice and if person do not succeed he or she should take theoretical and practical classes again. Permission for weapon could be received from 18 years at the request of the hunting society.

There are no restrictions on the number of group members. Each group member pays annual hunting fee. Hunter may be a member of several local hunting groups but could be elected as official only ones (in the parent group).

The annual membership fee which is paid by every hunter to the Polish Hunting Union is 380 PLN and the money is transferred to the main governing body in Warsaw. The group covers its costs at the expense of economic activity and only if there are not enough members in the group the meeting could set additional contributions which last for a season, in "Hermes" it was 320 PLN. Contributions to the society could be increased during the year if the cost spent on hunting increase.

The Polish Hunting Union head quarter is in Warsaw and finances its 49 provincial (voivodship) units. Each unit has two employees.

Any hunter can hunt within local hunting society grounds even if he or she isn't a society member but the hunter must be invited by a member of the hunting group. A member of the hunting society has the prior right on getting a trophy.

Extraction limits

Each group has a hunting plan for each season. Plans are formed on the basis of accounting (incomplete counts method) conducted by the society members in late February-early March in the area of 10% of the hunting territory. There are also records done by the hunters during a hunting season. Both accounting are compared and summarized. Plans are approved by head of forest enterprise and particular village (gmina) council head (wojt).

Hunting grounds

Each hunting society has to use their own hunting grounds. In "Hermes" there are two hunting territories. First hunting territory has an area of 6 thousand ha of hunting grounds from which 3.6 thousand ha is forest. The second hunting territory of the group belongs to the city Radom (which is in the centre of the country).

Local hunting society pays certain defined amount to land owner and in addition pays game damage compensations. Each hunting society is a legal entity with its statute, stamp, accountant (or hire outsourcing company).

Local hunting society "Hermes" pays to owners for land leasing in average (hunting territory 6,000 ha) - 5 thousand zł (35 000 UAH). Annually the society sows 7 hectares of crops for feeding purpose. The same time the society receives PLN 800 from the EU funds for supporting agriculture in Poland.

Game

Table 8. Annual extraction of game in a hunting society "Hermes"

Specie	Extraction, individuals
Red deer	14
Roe deer	50
Boar	60
Ducks	100
Badger	10
Raccoon	15
Fox	60

For the extraction of predators a hunter receives compensation from the hunting society.

The extracted game can be used in two ways:

- The hunter can leave the carcass for him/herself by paying the appropriate amount for meat to the hunter's circle.
- The the corpse of a hunted game can be taken to the warehouse where it could be sold in accordance with the quality class and money will be transferred to the group. Warehouse has a refrigerator room where meat is tested for the disease, processed and then sold to stores, restaurants, etc. Companies involved in that activities should have a special permission. Also warehouse decides if meat will be sold at a domestic market or forwarded for export.

The cost of meat: boar – 4 PLN (28 UAH) / kg, deer – 8 PLN (56 UAH) / kg, roe deer – 16 PLN (112 UAH) / kg.

ANNEX 5: Information about a hunting management unit on an example of a local hunting cooperative, hunting grounds of which are located on forest enterprises territory in Slovakia

March 13, 2015, Sobrance, Slovakia

Introduction to the work of local hunting society (zdruzheniya).

Communication with the Director of the State Forest Enterprise Sobrance *Peter Pšak* and a chief engineer *Jozef Staško* and hunting specialist *Matúš Hanko*

Forest Enterprise Sobrance

In Slovakia there are 23 state forest enterprises. The area of State Forestry Enterprise Sobrance is 39 thousand ha. Species composition of forests has 7% of conifers and 93% of deciduous trees. There are also 7 hunting management units (revere). According to the law – minimum area for hunting purposes of one unit shall be: for small game – 1,000 hectares, for large game – 2,000 ha.

But there are also forest enterprises that are not providing gaming within its territory and provide all their hunting grounds for use to other hunting public organizations. Area of hunting grounds of Forestry Enterprise Sobrance is 24 thousand ha of which forest lands - 17 thousand ha. The enterprise gave 15 thousand ha of hunting grounds for a lease to other public association of hunters.

Forest enterprise expenses for hunting are 95 thousand EUR and an income – 130 thousand EUR. 80% of the revenue is payment for hunting services; other 20% is received from selling game meat, game resettlement and payment for land lease by other public organizations.

Forest enterprise has a game preserve which covers the area of 366 ha. There is employed one gamekeeper with a monthly salary of 500 EUR. The enclosure is aimed mostly for hunting for those hunters who have money but do not have time to hunt, so there are always a good rest provided and a desired trophy. In the past hunting season in preserve there were extracted 36 deer and 34 wild boar individuals. The general number is 150 of wild boars, 150 of a fallow deer and 10 of a red deer. Last year's revenue of the preserve was 30 thousand EUR. In 2015 it is planned to increase preserve revenue. A new modern hunting house was built on the territory, where accommodation will be 10 EUR per day per person.

It the city municipality of Sobrance district, there are registered 19 hunting groups. At the territory of the Forestry Enterprise, which is located on the area of 6 districts there are registered 73 hunting groups.

A characteristic feature of the hunting rules in Slovakia is that for hunting, there is issued a special numbered hunting license (a game capture paper card - Fig. 2) in which the number of the issued tags are specified that a hunter must attach to the wrist of an extracted big game (Fig. 3).

POVOLENIE NA LOV ZVERI číslo AB **030228** * platné od: **10.3.2012** do: **28.2.2013**
 Toto povolenie oprávňuje p. _____ bytom: **SLOVANKA**
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Na lov týchto druhov zveri: (druh, pohlavie, vek, trieda, v čase od – do)	Záznam o love zveri a použitej značke				Evidencia vydaných značiek			
	druh zveri	uložené dátum	hod. lovu	značka s por. č.	por. číslo	séria	kód okresu	číslo značky
LANŠTIK DIVIAČIA (10.5. - 28.2.)	lanštiak	3.8.	20³⁰	1	1.	CH:809:31587		
SRNEC 1. VT (16.5. - 30.9.)	diviaca	27.8.	20³⁰	2	2.	CH:809:31707		
					3.			
					4.			
					5.			
					6.			
					7.			
					8.			

Oprávnenia na lov podľa § 29 ods. 2 zákona a § 71 ods. 4
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Odborný zástupca
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 3
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Fig.2. An example of how to fill the hunting license



Fig. 3. Disposable plastic marking tag for a hunted big game

ANNEX 6: Information about a hunting management unit on an example of a local hunting cooperative, hunting grounds of which are located on forest enterprises territory in Hungary

March 14, 2015, Nyíregyháza city, Tuzser, Hungary

Introduction to the work of local hunting society (barn).

Communication with *Sandor Ahij* a secretary of Kossuth Tuzser hunting society.

Kossuth Tuzser local hunting group

The group is a legal entity with its statute, financial account and a stamp. Accounting is complete by an outsourcing accountant company. The group has 31 members. A member may be a citizen of any country. To become a member – an entrance fee of 1,800 EUR must be paid. In Hungary, there are more elite teams exist with the best lands and big quantity of game but to become a member of such a group a hunter may need to wait 3-5 years and pay 10,000 EUR an entrance fee. Annual membership fee in Kossuth Tuzser is 240 EUR.

Hunting grounds

Hunting grounds of Kossuth Tuzser hunting club are located in the north-east of the country on the border with Slovakia and Ukraine. The hunting ground area is 9300 ha excluding railways, rivers and fenced territory, 20% of which is the forest and the rest – farmland, floodplains and bushes.

Budget and profitability

In general, hunting economy is not profitable but on the other side – does not bring large losses. 80% of revenue is coming from the hunting services, in particular from roe hunting. Membership fee consists only 5% of the revenue.

The biggest part of the management cost is game damages compensations to local farmers. The loss is specified by an independent expert. Significant costs are going to the gamekeeping service. Huntsmen are working part-time. Under responsibility of one huntsman there is 3,000 ha, each huntsman has a car and 40 liters of gasoline. Monthly salary is about 250 EUR, plus bonuses for extracted unwanted game predators (for fox - 8 EUR, crow - 3 EUR).

Game and hunting rules

The enterprise has three huntsman sections (rounds), each section has a register where every hunter who plans to go on a hunt must register in the period of minimum four hours before hunting and maximum one day before hunting. The book states who go on hunting, where, when and for which game. After hunting the hunter write the records in the log book: time of the hunting, if there were shootings and what was extracted. If a big game were hunted the hunter must apply a tag to a leg wrestle of the extracted animal and record the number in a log book. Otherwise the game will not be considered as legally extracted. If the hunter wrote that he is going to hunt wild boar and extracted a deer, he/she may be deprived of hunting rights for two years and fined on 1,000 EUR, but the decision is made by a court.

In the hunting society, there is a great attention to the hunting method of trophy males; their density in the population should not be critically reduced. The quality and quantity of

prospective male determines the quality of the future generations of the population. The male deer is considered perspective if he is less than 10 years old and for a roe deer up to 5 years old. At this period, hunters try not to extract the males. Despite the fact that trophy hunting is the most prestigious and most expensive, such hunting is provided only under the participation of a gamekeeper and only the gamekeeper defines and approves the extraction of an individual. Intensive hunting is conducted for deer male when such male left the perspective age or for young to middle age.

Hares and pheasants, which are extracted by hunters of the Kossuth Tuzser hunting society they takes for themselves but deer and wild boars up to 80% are sold to private companies, which then sell the game meet in the domestic and foreign markets.

Table 9. The number of game and their extraction part in the season of 2014-2015 (In Kossuth Tuzser hunting society, ps)

Specie	Number	Extraction
Red deer	70	8
Boar	150	120
Roe deer	700	70 (male), 140 (female)
Hare	800	150
Pheasant	2000	200
Fox		86

Protection and restoration

As for the game feeding the organization doesn't have feeding fields. Thus its members provide a part of their own field crops for game feeding purposes. There is also a working duty – two days in a year every member of the group should be involved in the biotechnology or other activities.

Foreign hunters

Foreign hunters can hunt in the chamber grounds and have the legitimate relationships with its members without third parties involvement. The cost of hunting for foreigners is the same as for local hunters according to the price list, but they may even have 15% discount.

Conclusions

In contrast to the Ukrainian model of hunting management in Hungary the tradition is more democratic, transparent and effective. This applies especially for local hunting groups.

In Hungary, the owners of the hunting grounds are in the first place the hunters and the societies to which they belong. A society is the basic unit. It is a legal entity, performs all financial transactions. They set their own fees of the contributions and services depending on their needs. Received payments are used primarily for restoration and protection of game. The same time they are responsible for the law enforcement and profitability.

Gamekeeping ranger service of the societies has the rights and power of the police allow dealing effectively with poachers. The hunting culture, ethics and responsibility allows having sufficiently high optimum number of game in hunting grounds natural conditions, effectively managing them resulting in viable economy of the organization.

ANNEX 7: Resolution of the roundtable participants "Foreign Experience and Hunting Development in Ukraine" held on May 13, 2015 in Lviv (<http://www.fleg.org.ua/news/911>)

Having considered foreign and historical experience in hunting management, the roundtable participants proposed their vision of addressing the issues of state regulation and enforcement, improving the efficiency of hunting management in Ukraine. Experts participating in the meeting believe that these proposals should be considered when improving (reforming) national model of hunting management and gaming in Ukraine, developing legislative and other regulatory documents.

The roundtable participants use the fact that hunting management is the direction of environmental activities in environmental management carried out in wildlife and aimed at preserving habitats, biotic diversity and genetic fund of wild animals to control their population, health, rearing, sustainable use to replenish and form optimum populations of game animals as the natural wealth and ecosystems component, provide gaming services to hunters, develop shooting hunting sport, dog breeding, falcon rearing, revival and enhancement of hunting traditions - an integral part of the national cultural heritage.

Proposals on addressing issues of state regulation and law enforcement, improving the efficiency of hunting management discussed at a roundtable using foreign and historical experience

1. Organize clear vertical state hunting regulation administration by creating the hunting management department (agency) whose responsibilities will include:
 - Development and submission of Hunting Development Strategy for approval by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;
 - Inventory of hunting grounds, creating a database of hunting grounds users, organizing work on systemization, maintenance and improvement of hunting grounds;
 - Review of materials and making decisions on the use of hunting grounds and hunting management establishment;
 - Approval of rules for the state record of game animals, procedure and rules for game animals removal, approval of limits on the use of gaming fauna, analysis of materials from the gaming fauna record
 - Issuing permits for the use of gaming fauna;
 - Scientific and technical supervision of the modern hunting management and hunting management activities audit;
 - State control in the field of hunting;
 - Establishing foreign economic relations and international cooperation in the field of hunting and gaming;
 - Setting limits under the legislation on the use of state hunting fund;

- Establishing procedures for issuing hunter licenses, development and approval of relevant training programs on hunting and gaming;
- Organization of work on concluding agreements on hunting management conditions with the hunting ground users and monitoring the implementation of these agreements;
- Maintaining the state cadastre of game on the territory of Ukraine;
- Exercise of other powers set by the laws of Ukraine.

2. Adapt hunting legislation in Ukraine to the European Union requirements by making appropriate changes to the national legislation.

3. Ensure effective development of the industry by converting Ukrainian hunting management into a modern and profitable sector of natural resources use through the adoption of the Concept as the strategic framework of the new hunting Law. Develop necessary legislation (establishing appropriate values and taxes) that would increase investments in hunting as public both by associations and private companies.

4. State the necessity of adopting a new law of Ukraine (or amending the existing law) "On hunting and gaming".

5. Assume that the hunting management objects are populations of game species that in the wild or semi-wild (in the preserves , enclosures).

6. Ensure sustainable development of the hunting industry through the requirements of Article 24 of the Law "On hunting management and gaming" by adopting legal act to determine the mechanism of payment for the use of hunting grounds, first, using a method for classification and site class determination of the hunting grounds.

7. Elaborate mechanism for implementing the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Wildlife" in terms of damage inflicted by hunting species of animals to the farmers: develop a legal act to settle the issue of recovering damage caused by the game species to the agricultural producers. Perhaps by introducing a fund money to which will be charged depending on the entity on whose territory destruction of crops by animal too place (50%), cost of the caught game and sales of the hunting equipment, etc. (50%). It should be noted that the very offer about the compensation fort eh destruction of crops by animal is quite problematic. First, it is necessary to clearly determine who owns the animals that inflicted damage, and then we can determine the subject of compensation.

8. Strengthen the administrative and criminal liability for gaming rules violation.

9. Strengthen personal responsibility of the grounds user for the failure to observe legislation.

10. Establish a single specialized supervisory authority exercising control over hunting management (including on site, in the districts) and eliminate duplicate functions and powers of other regulatory authorities. This authority will be funded from the local budgets.

11. Enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement in the hunting industry of Ukraine by the law enforcement and judicial authorities by analyzing in detail and making appropriate changes to the practice of their activities. Create separate structures within relevant agencies which will oversee provide management services on this issue.

12. Change the system for detecting and bringing hunting rules offenders to justice stimulating hunting protection via economic methods (entities should have the highest interested in protecting hunting fauna). On the other hand, the size of claims for damages to

hunting economy through illegal gaming and penalties for illegal hunting should be several times (at least 3 times) higher than the market value of the official hunting.

13. Develop provisions on equality rights of hunting industry workers of any type of ownership in identifying and recording (drawing up reports) violations of hunting rules on certain hunting ground.

14. Develop mechanisms for the seizure of firearms and vehicle belonging to offenders by making appropriate amendments to the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

15. Consider the need for a separate paramilitary civil service to combat the poaching and delegating it with broad authority typical of special units of the department of internal affairs (based on the experience of Poland, Hungary, etc.).

16. Optimize the size and boundaries of hunting grounds in accordance with hunting practices in the EU (natural limit, from 3 to 30 thousand hectares), which should to some extent solve the problem of low availability of hunting for the local population due to the small number of game animals, high cost of services and lack of proper competition in hunting industry.

17. Increase the role of local communities in addressing issues of hunting management. Low-level hunting teams have to become legal entities and receive hunting grounds for use (based on the experience of Poland, Slovakia, and Hungary).

18. Adopt amendments to the current Law of Ukraine "On hunting management and gaming" to transfer jurisdiction in providing hunting grounds for use and limit for harvesting to the relevant regional administrations.

19. Take into account the international experience on the participation of local communities in providing hunting grounds for use, harvesting limit in their territory.

20. Conduct decentralization in the provision of administrative services through the transfer function of administrative services provision from government agencies to local governments.

21. Stop the abuses in issuing shooting cards for the right to harvest fur and game birds by:

- Ensuring the issue of shooting cards exclusively by the territorial bodies of the hunting management;
- Introducing an effective mechanism for shooting cards record.
- Directing funds for licenses, taxes, fees from hunting grounds to the accounts of local budgets. Development of a clear and transparent procedure for the use of these funds in local budgets.

22. Improve the communication between the hunting ground users and hunters, ensure open access to the contact information of the hunting management in Ukraine (handbook, website) to coordinate work and share experiences.

23. Provide legislative assistance to the organization of the preserves rearing of game for maximum economic benefit.

24. Simplify the procedure for determining hunting period by giving hunting grounds users the right to set the hunting terms defined by the Law.

25. Develop measures to develop foreign hunting tourism minimizing the number of bureaucratic procedures on the issue of receiving foreign hunters:

- Give the hunting ground user the right to independently, without intermediaries, receive hunters from abroad;
 - Eliminate corruption dependence of users on all kinds of permits from other departments (licensing system of the MIA, veterinary services);
 - Simplify customs procedures to export / import legally harvested trophies and hunting firearms (excessive and unsubstantiated requirements about the number of documents during customs clearance), taking into account the requirements of the relevant EU Directives (#91/477/EC and #853/2004).
 - Streamline and improve the licensing system for foreign hunters in Ukraine: registration of licenses for trophies, hire of local firearms, etc.
26. Improve the education level of hunting management workers by introducing courses or short-term training for game managers and game keepers at scientific and educational institutions of the relevant profile.
27. Promote small and medium enterprises in the hunting industry at the national level (establishment of agencies organizing hunts and procedural support to customers, providing procurement, meat and trophies storage and sale services, etc.) to create market for the hunting products and services.
28. Ensure setting terms for logging taking into account the rearing season features (lactation, roar, etc) of the Red Book and game wild animals in the law or through legal documents.
29. Ensure scientific support to hunting economy which should be funded through the creation of a special fund to be replenished with the funds of hunting grounds users, from the state and local budgets. Implement international exchange of experience, especially with the neighboring states.
30. Promote biodiversity in ecological systems as one of the main prerequisites for increasing populations of game animals through the issuance of an order on the establishment and maintenance of wildlife inventory in hunting grounds.
31. Review and improve national standards for biotechnological measures.
32. Draw attention of the hunting grounds to the importance of and the need for hunting with the use of game animals populations biological control principles (rearing selection, formation of optimum age-sex structure to increase the percentage of males with high trophy qualities, especially shooting the animals with the best trophy qualities) depending on the type and level of hunting. In this regard, oblige hunting farms to conduct individual ungulates hunting in the presence of game keeper and make shots only with his/her consent.
33. Develop a system of effective measures to prevent diseases of game animals.
34. Optimize system of statistical reporting for a full objective analysis of the industry:
- Amend the existing statistical form providing for grouping of hunting grounds users by the type of ownership, subordination to the ministries, public hunting organizations, etc.
35. Investigate the impact of radiation contamination on populations of game species. Executive authorities shall fund measures to study the issue.
36. State authorities shall address the issue of ban on the use of lead shot by proposing changes in the relevant laws of Ukraine.

37. Promote hunting culture (improve the gaming culture, bring up intelligent hunter, revive ethical conduct and attitude towards nature, introduce hunter training), develop trophy hunting through the organization of thematic festivals, exhibitions, meetings, etc. of different levels.
38. Optimize organizational structure and hunter service and game manger for (submission, load, salaries, etc.).
39. Establish strict liability for businesses whose industrial activity may cause harm to wild animals and their habitats in order to avoid causing such harm. Set fines and compulsory compensation for damage to the hunting grounds users.
40. Provide for legislatively possibility of hunting industry funding from the environmental funds as well as from special funds based on deductions from the sale of hunting firearms, equipment, etc.

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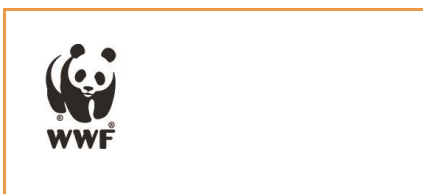
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