

A 60 éves Európa Diploma Granadai Rendezvényének Rövid Jelentése

Az Európa Tanács által 60 évvel ezelőtt létrehozott Európa Diploma (European Diploma for Protected Area / EDPA) tiszteletére 2025. május 21-22. között egy jubileumi megemlékezést tartottak Granadában.

A tanácskozással egybekötött rendezvényre az Európa Tanács finanszírozásában és a Berni Egyezmény szervezésében a három magyarországi diplomás terület menedzsereit is meghívták. A Szénásokat Kézdy Pál és Németh Adél, Tihanyt Vers József, Ipolytarnócot pedig én képviseltem. A programot és a résztvevői listát az 1. sz. melléklet

A tanácskozás jól sikerült, tőlünk sikeres előadást tartott Vers József és Kézdy Pál is. Ami számomra külön érdekes volt, a tolmácsolást AI program végezte, a szinkron fordított szöveget az előadási vetítővászon legfelső részén jelenítették meg, még elég sok finomításra szorul a program.

Nem akármilyen bejelentéssel élt Jan Plesnick, az EDPA szakértői csoportjának vezetője sem. Felszólalásában külön kiemelte, ha lehetne Oszkár-díjat kiadni az éves jelentések színvonaláért azt egyértelműen a 3 magyar EDPA kapná!

Az 50 éves EDPA emlékére Kézdy Pál szerkesztésében 10 évvel ezelőtt összeállított kiadványunkból még volt néhány angol nyelvű példány, az illetékes szekcióvezető külön bemutatta, szinte elkapkodták.

A Berni Egyezmény is újra nyomatta, némi átdolgozással a 2014-es kiadványát, honlapjukon még a régi szerepel

<https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=0900001680479ec1>

Ezt azért említem, mert a 2014. évi verzió 17, a 2024.évi újranyomásnak a 13. oldalán ott van az ipolytarnóci ikonikus lábnyom fotóm és szöveges utalás a földtani örökségre.

Ennek ellenére a tanácskozás végén elfogadásra tervezett Granadai Nyilatkozatban csak a biodiverzitásról és élőhely védelemről volt szó. Némi kritikai éllel kértem a szövegtervezet átdolgozását, de a földtani örökség témája a módosításban sem jelent meg, emailben kértem a korrekciót, ennek anyagát a 2.sz melléklet tartalmazza.

Salgótarján, 2025.05.31.



Szarvas Imre

A rendezvényhez kapcsolódó linkek:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-convention/-/60th-anniversary-of-the-european-diploma-for-protected-areas>

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-convention/-/meeting-of-group-of-specialists-on-edpa>





Strasbourg, 15 May 2025

T-PVS/Agenda(2025)05

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Event to mark the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma for Protected Areas

21 May 2025

Venue: Carmen de los Mártires, Granada, Spain

AGENDA

Document prepared by the Secretariat

		Speaker	Content
<i>Wednesday 21 May</i>			
10.00	1. Opening of the event	<p>Mr Alberto Moral, Chief of the Support Unit, General Directorate of Biodiversity, Woods and Desertification, Ministry of Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge</p> <p>Mr José Enrique Borrallo Romero, General Director of Protected Areas Regional Ministry of Environment, Junta de Andalucía</p> <p>Mr Rafael Benítez, Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment Council of Europe</p>	<p>Welcome of the participants</p> <p>Welcome of the participants</p> <p>Welcome of the participants and presentation of the European Diploma, its successful story and its significance for the conservation and management of natural and cultural heritage</p>
10.30 - 10.45	2. Interventions of the municipal authorities	Ms Marifran Carazo Mayor of Granada	

10.45 - 11.30	3. Thematic interventions	<p>Mr Claude Origer Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention</p> <p>Mr Antonio Sandoval Birder and nature writer <i>What are the protected areas good for?</i></p>	<p>Welcome of the participants and contribution of the European Diploma to the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention)</p> <p>A sensitive and sensible approach to the area-based conservation policy which goes well beyond the ecosystem services provided by the protected areas</p>
11.30 - 12.00	4. Awarding ceremony of the European Diploma to the Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato	<p>Mr Rafael Benítez Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment Council of Europe</p> <p>Ms Antonella Logiurato, Head of the regional office parks and protected areas</p> <p>Mr Marco Delorenzo Director of the Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato, Italy</p>	<p>Official award of the European Diploma to the Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato resulting from the adoption of Resolution CM/ResDip (2020)1 by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.</p> <p>Intervention of the Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Mr. Rafael Benítez, on behalf of the Council of Europe</p> <p>Interventions of Ms Antonella Logiurato -Head of the regional office parks and protected areas- and Mr Marco Delorenzo, Director of the park, from the Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato, accepting the award.</p>
12.30 – 13.00	Visit to the traditional products stands		
13.00-14.00	Reception buffet / concert of Andalusian music		
14.00	<i>End of the celebratory event</i>		



Strasbourg, 13 May 2025

T-PVS/Agenda(2025)08

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Roundtable of the Managers of the Diploma holding areas

21 - 22 May 2025

Venue: Parque de las Ciencias, Granada, Spain

AGENDA

Document prepared by the Secretariat

		Documents	Expected results
Wednesday 21 May 2025			
14.30 – 15.00	<p>1. Opening of the roundtable and keynote speech</p> <p>Mr Rafael Benitez, Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Council of Europe</p> <p>Mr Claude Origer, vice-Chair of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention</p> <p>Mr Jorge Bonache, jefe de Servicio de Conservación, Organismo Autónomo Parques Nacionales (OAPN)</p>	<p><i>The Spanish National Park network and the representativity criteria for the selection of potential candidates for declaration</i></p>	<p><i>Mr Benitez opens the meeting, welcomes the participants and moderates the Roundtable.</i></p> <p><i>The Secretariat informs participants of the working method and of the logistical issues</i></p> <p><i>The Spanish representant addresses the managers of the Diploma holding areas and presents the Spanish National Park Network and the relevance of the representativity criteria in its definition</i></p>
15.00 – 16.00	<p>2. Session 1: Adaptation of mountain parks / protected areas to climate change</p> <p><i>Introduction by Mr Francisco Asis Muñoz Collado, Director of the Sierra National Park</i></p> <p><i>Managers of Diploma holding areas showcase their experience and participants are invited to exchanges views on the extent to which the case studies presented can inspire other Diploma holding areas.</i></p>	<p>For discussion</p>	

	<p>2.a Case study of the Sierra Nevada National Park (Spain): Sierra Nevada, Global Change Observatory</p> <p><i>Presentation by Mr Regino Zamora, University of Granada, Sierra Nevada Observatory of Global Change</i></p>	Based on the case studies presented and in the light of the outcomes of the discussion, participants identify relevant practices for addressing climate change in mountainous protected areas.
	<p>2.b Case study: Effects of climate change in the Swiss National Park: mitigate or accept?</p> <p><i>Presentation by Mr Ruedi Haller, Director of the Swiss National Park</i></p>	
	<p>2.c Case study: Actions adopted to mitigate climate change effects in the Carpathian Biosphere Reserve (CBR), Ukraine</p> <p><i>Presentation by Ms Iryna Yonash, manager of the CBR</i></p>	
Coffee break		
16.30 – 17.30	<p>3. Session 2: Water management and protected areas</p> <p><i>Introduction by Mr Michael Schimek, independent expert of the European Diploma</i></p> <p><i>Managers of Diploma holding areas showcase their experience and participants are invited to exchanges views on the extent to which the case studies presented can inspire other Diploma holding areas.</i></p>	

	<p>3.a Case Study of the Sierra Nevada National Park (Spain): Ancestral nature-based solutions for the water management of Sierra Nevada</p> <p><i>Presentation by Mr Sergio Martos-Rosillo, Researcher of the Geological and Mining Institute of Spain – Spanish National Researcher Council (IGME-CSIC)</i></p>	<p>For discussion</p>	<p>Based on the case studies presented and in the light of the outcomes of the discussion, participants identify relevant practices for managing water protected areas.</p>
	<p>3.b Case study: Farming for Water – A Burren Case Study (Ireland)</p> <p><i>Presentation by Dr. Brendan Dunford, The Burrenbeo Trust</i></p>		
<p>17.30 – 18.45</p>	<p>4. Session 3: Tourism and protected areas</p> <p><i>Introduction by Ms Çigdem Adem, independent expert of the European Diploma</i></p> <p><i>Managers of Diploma holding areas showcase their experience and participants are invited to exchanges views on the extent to which the case studies presented can inspire other Diploma holding areas.</i></p>	<p>For discussion</p>	<p>Based on the case studies presented and in the light of the outcomes of the discussion, participants identify relevant practices for managing tourism in protected areas.</p>
	<p>4.a Case study: Contribution of the Tourism Sustainability Plans to protected areas in Spain</p> <p><i>Presentation by Mr. Ricardo Blanco, Tourism Secretary of State</i></p>		

	4.b Case study: nature tourism / eco-tourism in the Kuscenneti National Park (Türkiye) <i>Presentation by Ms Oya Bumin, City Planner, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</i>		
18.45	End of the afternoon session		
21.00	Departure from the hotel to the Alhambra visit		
22.00	Visit of the Alhambra		
Thursday 22 May 2025			
8.45: Intervention of Mr Jan Plesnick, Chair of the EDPA Group of Specialist			
8.45– 10.20	5. Session 4: Successful examples of recovery, rehabilitation or restoration of habitats / species <i>Introduction by Ms Renata Krzyściak-Kosińska, independent expert of the European Diploma</i> 5a: The European bison – a story of successful recovery from extinction in the wild <i>Managers of Diploma holding areas showcase their experience and participants are invited to exchanges views on the extent to which the case studies presented can inspire other Diploma holding areas.</i>		

	<p>5.b Case study: the recovery of the Iberian Lynx (<i>Lynx pardinus</i>) and other big carnivores in the Iberian Peninsula</p> <p><i>Presentation by Dr Eloy Revilla, Director of the Doñana Biological Station</i></p>	For discussion	Based on the case studies presented and in the light of the outcomes of the discussion, participants identify relevant conservation or restoration practices of species and / or habitats.
	<p>5.c Case study: restoring natural dynamics in the Boschplaat Nature Reserve (the Netherlands)</p> <p><i>Presentation by Mr Joeri Lamers, Boswachter, Staatsbosbeheer, Team Terschelling</i></p>		
	<p>5.d Case study: reintroduction of the European ground squirrel (<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>) in the Volcanic phenomena of the Tihany Peninsula (Hungary)</p> <p><i>Presentation by Mr Vers József, manager of the Volcanic phenomena of the Tihany Peninsula</i></p>		
Coffee break			
10.40 – 12.00	<p>6. Session 5: Parks and their inhabitants: relationship with local stakeholders</p> <p><i>Introduction by Mr Pierre Galland, independent expert of the European Diploma</i></p> <p><i>Managers of Diploma holding areas showcase their experience and participants are invited to exchanges views on the extent to which the case studies presented can inspire other Diploma holding areas.</i></p>		

	<p>6.a Case study of the Sierra Nevada National Park (Spain): The experience of being locals living in protected areas: the Pampaneira Experience in the Sierra Nevada NP. <i>Presentation by Mr Angel Pérez, Major of Pampaneira, Alpujarra region. President of AMUPARNA.</i></p>	For discussion	Based on the case studies presented and in the light of the outcomes of the discussion, participants identify relevant practices for constructive cooperation with local stakeholders.
	<p>6.b Case study: the role of local stakeholders in the Szénás Hills Protected Area (Hungary) <i>Presentation by Mr Pál Kézdy, Manager of the Szénás Hills Protected Area</i></p>		
	<p>6.c Case study: the contribution of sheep breeders to the conservation of "The Queen of the Alps" (<i>Eryngium alpinum</i>) in the Mercantour National Park (France) <i>Presentation by Mr Xavier Fribourg, Head of the Ubaye Verdon Territorial Service</i></p>		
12.00 – 12.45	<p>7. Presentation of the conclusions of the roundtable and adoption of the Granada Declaration <i>Summary of the discussions and presentation of the conclusions by the General rapporteur, Mr Christian Kayser, member of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas.</i></p>	<p>Draft final declaration TPVS/DE(2025)06</p>	Participants agree on the terms of a final declaration.

	<i>Participants are invited to discuss and adopt a final declaration</i>	For discussion and decision	
12.45	End of the meeting		
12.45– 13.00	Presentation of the Sierra Nevada National Park and introduction to the visit		
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch offered by the Sierra Nevada National Park</i>		
14.45 – 19.30	(Departure from the hotel at 14.45) Visit of the Sierra Nevada National Park (Back to Granada at 20.00)		

DIRECTORATE OF SOCIAL RIGHTS, HEALTH
AND ENVIRONMENT

PO ► 844457
Ref ► Let08e(2025)

Strasbourg, 14 March 2025

**CONVOCATION FOR THE CELEBRATIONS OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EUROPEAN
DIPLOMA FOR PROTECTED AREAS (EDPA)**

The Secretariat of the Bern Convention has the honour to convene this meeting of the above-mentioned event, which will be held as follows:

Opening of the meeting	Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 9.30 (CET)
Closing of the meeting	Thursday 22 May 2025 at 18.00 (CET)
Place	Carmen de los Martires, Granada, Spain / Parque de las Ciencias, Granada, Spain
Subjects to be covered	See draft agendas
Website	Celebratory Event of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma for Protected Areas
Secretariat contact	Pep AMENGUAL Policy Advisor Secretariat of the Bern Convention For practical information: Mark BARLOW Administrative Assistant e-mail: bern.convention@coe.int

The Secretariat of the Council of Europe has the honour to convene the above-mentioned Event, which will be held as follows:

In December 2023, the Spanish delegate to the Bern Convention informed the 43rd Standing Committee to the Bern Convention that the Sierra Nevada National Park would apply for the European Diploma and host the celebration event organised within the frame of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma in 2025.

In agreement with the authorities of the Sierra Nevada National Park the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma will take place on 21 and 22 May 2025 in Granada. A celebratory event is planned for the morning of 21 May 2025, followed by a Roundtable of Managers of the areas awarded the European Diploma in the afternoon of 21 May and the morning of 22 May. The celebrations will be concluded by the adoption of a declaration and a visit of the National Park. We expect a total of about 80 participants.

For your convenience, you will find enclosed the draft agendas of the celebratory event and of the Roundtable of Managers. I am pleased to inform you that the Secretary General of the Council of Europe will be represented by Mr Rafael Benitez, Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment.

Participants

Each European Diploma holding area is invited to send a representative to attend and participate in the Celebratory Event. One representative for each attending area will be funded by the Secretariat of the Bern Convention.

The Secretariat of the Bern Convention shall arrange prepaid tickets for **funded representatives**. Travel shall be arranged by the most economic route (e.g. plane trip in economy class) and making use of reduced transport fares where possible. Accommodation for **funded representatives** will also be organised and paid for by the Bern Convention. Some meals and refreshments will also be provided by the hosts of the event. Please note that the daily allowance for **funded representatives** has been set for each meeting day at €195 for 2025. This will be subject to adjustment due to the provision of accommodation and meals during the event. By virtue of Article 3 of the Rules, all claims for reimbursement of travel expenses for all means of transport must be accompanied by a copy of the relevant ticket and evidence of the expenditure actually incurred, such as an invoice or by preference at the moment its digital version. In no case shall the amount reimbursed exceed the actual expenditure incurred. Please note that the reimbursement of your expenses will be done after the visit by bank transfer.

European Diploma holding areas are also welcome to send **additional attendees**, who will be self-funding.

The Celebratory Event will be held with Spanish/English interpretation. Attendees of the Roundtable of Managers meeting should be able to communicate sufficiently in English.

An insurance policy taken out by the Council of Europe with the insurers AIG EUROPE (Policy number 9.502.001) covers risks related to official journeys such as medical expenses for illness, accident and medical repatriation for persons up to their 80th birthday. The following help line AIG EUROPE Assistance 24 Hours can be called in case of need: +32 2 739 9990/+32 2 739 9991.

Attendees (funded representatives or additional attendees) are responsible for obtaining any visas necessary for their journey and may use this invitation letter to do so. By virtue of the Statute of the Council of Europe (London, 5 May 1949) and the General Agreement on Privileges and Immunities (Paris, 2 September 1949), where required the Spanish authorities are kindly requested to grant a visa to the holder of this convocation letter as soon as possible. Please contact the Secretariat if a signed personal invitation letter is required.

Visa expenses will be reimbursed for funded representatives upon presentation of the supporting documents of payment, such as the receipt or by preference at the moment its digital version, and a copy of the passport page showing the visa in it.

Should you require any further information regarding this event, please feel free to contact the Secretariat (bern.convention@coe.int).

Yours sincerely,



Mr Mikaël POUTIERS
Secretary of the Bern Convention

Annexes:

- Agenda of the celebratory event, 21 May 2025
- Agenda of the Roundtable of Managers, 21 – 22 May 2025

Appendix

List of funded attendees who have registered for this event:

Title	First Name	Family Name	EDPA
Mr	Brendan	Dunford	The Burren Region
Mr	Wouter	Wubben	De Oostvaardersplassen
Mr	Bogdan Ioachim	Bulete	Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve
Mr	Ruben	Achter de Molen	National parc of Weerribben-Wieden
Ms	Angela	Ciliberti	Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato
Mr	Joeri	Lamers	Boschplaat
Mrs	Kaja	Lotman	Matsalu National Park
Mr	Ryszard	Pręcki	Bieszczady National Park
Mr	Rudolf Michael	Haller	Swiss National Park (Parc Naziunal Svizzer)
Mr	Mircea	Verghet	Piatra Craiului National Park
Mr	Miguel Angel	Jaramillo Serrano	Bullerö-Långviksskär
Mr	Tit	Potočník	Triglav National Park
Mr	Hartmut	Friedl	"Weltenburger Enge" Nature Reserve
Ms	Gemma	Longman	Peak District National Park
Mr	Sergey	Aleksandrov	Central Balkan National Park
Mr	Alin-Flavius	Alimpest	Retezat National Park
Mr	Besik	Kusidi	Vashlovani Protected Areas
Mr	Doug	Bartholomew	Beinn Eighe National Nature Reserve
Mrs	Satu Annukka	Rasinmäki	Ekenäs Archipelago National Park
Mrs	Lena	Götz	Lüneburg Heath Nature Reserve
Mr	Tigran	Stepanyan	Khosrov Forest State Reserve
Mr	József	Vers	The volcanic phenomena of the Tihany Peninsula
Mr	Juha Pekka	Vesterinen	Seitsemien National Park
Mr	Mykola	Rybak	Carpathian Biosphere Reserve
Mr	Vasyl	Pokyncherda	Carpathian Biosphere Reserve
Mr	Siegfried	Roth	Nature Reserve Wurzacher Ried
Mrs	Paola	Ciampelli	Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve
Ms	Adél	Németh	Szénás Hills Protected Area
Mr	Imre	Szarvas	Ipolytarnoc Fossils EDPA
Mr	Giovanni	Quilghini	Réserve naturelle de l'île de Montecristo
Mrs	Zuzana	Bartušová	Poloniny National Park
Mrs	Jana	Durkošová	Dobročský prales
Mr	Xavier	Fribourg	Parc national du Mercantour
Mrs	Oya	Bumin	Kuşçenneti National park
Mr	Pedro Manuel	Millán del Rosario	Parc National du Teide
Mr	Carmine	Gentile	Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, Lazio e Molise
Mr	Pavel	Müller	Podyjí National Park
Mr	Christian	Übl	Thayatal National Park

Strasbourg, 16 May 2025

Ref ► Let11e(2025)

**CONVOCATION FOR THE CELEBRATIONS OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EUROPEAN
DIPLOMA FOR PROTECTED AREAS (EDPA)**

The Secretariat of the Bern Convention has the honour to convene this meeting of the above-mentioned event, which will be held as follows:

Opening of the meeting	Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 9.30 (CET)
Closing of the meeting	Thursday 22 May 2025 at 18.00 (CET)
Place	Carmen de los Martires, Granada, Spain / Parque de las Ciencias, Granada, Spain
Subjects to be covered	See draft agendas
Website	Celebratory Event of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma for Protected Areas
Secretariat contact	Pep AMENGUAL Policy Advisor Secretariat of the Bern Convention For practical information: Mark BARLOW Administrative Assistant e-mail: bern.convention@coe.int

**Subject: Celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma for Protected Areas, Granada, 21 May 2025;
Roundtable of the Managers of the Diploma holding areas, 21 - 22 May 2025.**

The Secretariat of the Council of Europe has the honour to convene the above-mentioned events, which will be held as follows:

With the support of the authorities of the Sierra Nevada National Park, the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma will take place on 21 and 22 May 2025 in Granada. A celebratory event is planned for the morning of 21 May 2025,

followed by a Roundtable of Managers of the areas awarded the European Diploma in the afternoon of 21 May and the morning of 22 May. The celebrations will be concluded by the adoption of a declaration and a visit of the National Park. We expect a total of about 80 participants.

In your capacity as an additional attendee of a protected area, you are invited to attend the annual meeting of the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma.

For your convenience, you will find enclosed the draft agendas of the celebratory event and of the Roundtable of Managers.

The celebratory event will be held with Spanish/English interpretation. Attendees of the Roundtable of Managers meeting should be able to communicate sufficiently in English.

An insurance policy taken out by the Council of Europe with the insurers AIG EUROPE (Policy number 9.502.001) covers risks related to official journeys such as medical expenses for illness, accident and medical repatriation for persons up to their 80th birthday. The following help line AIG EUROPE Assistance 24 Hours can be called in case of need: +32 2 739 9990/+32 2 739 9991.

You are responsible for obtaining any visas necessary for your journey and may use this invitation letter to do so. By virtue of the Statute of the Council of Europe (London, 5 May 1949) and the General Agreement on Privileges and Immunities (Paris, 2 September 1949), where required the Spanish authorities are kindly requested to grant a visa to the holder of this convocation letter as soon as possible. Please contact the Secretariat if a signed personal invitation letter is required.

Should you require any further information regarding this event, please feel free to contact the Secretariat (bern.convention@coe.int)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Mikaël POUTIERS', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr Mikaël POUTIERS
Secretary of the Bern Convention

Annexes:

- Agenda of the celebratory event, 21 May 2025;
- Agenda of the Roundtable of Managers, 21 – 22 May 2025.

Appendix

List of unfunded attendees who have registered for this event:

Title	First Name	Family Name	Associated EDPA
	Andy	Bleasdale	The Burren Region
	Hans-Erik	Kuijpers	De Oostvaardersplassen
	Marco	Delorenzo	Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato
	Aleksei	Lotman	Matsalu National Park
	Barbara	Frei Haller	Swiss National Park (Parc Naziunal Svizzer)
	Antonella	Logiurato	Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato
	Vincenzo	Grippo	Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato
	Erika	Ottone	Regional Park Gallipoli Cognato
	Tamar	Khakhishvili	Vashlovani Protected Areas
	Iryna	Yonash	Carpathian Biosphere Reserve
	Pál	Kézdy	Szénás Hills Protected Area
	Helen	Carty	The Burren Region
	Massimo	Stufani	Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, Lazio e Molise
	Zsófia	Liska	Szénás Hills Protected Area

----- Eredeti üzenet -----

Tárgy: from Imre with remarks Re: Granada Declaration - revised version

Dátum: Kedd, Május 27, 2025 08:42 CEST

Feladó: "Szarvas Imre" <szarvas.imre@bnpi.hu>

Címzett: "BARLOW Mark" <mark.barlow@coe.int>

Másolat: "bern convention" <bern.convention@coe.int>, "POUTIERS Mikael" <Mikael.POUTIERS@coe.int>, "AMENGUAL Jose" <jose.amengual@coe.int>, "Szarvas Imre" <szaimka@gmail.com>

Dear Mark,

I apologize for my English:

Please emphasize that the Memory of the Earth should be included in the text as much as many places as possible, this statement should include not only the protection of landscape-geomorphological, but also geological-palaeontological heritage.

As I noted at the meeting, the Bern Convention, if it really wants/is able to represent the EDPA, should forget about only talking about biodiversity and habitat protection guidelines, otherwise... (a more difficult case, beyond this statement, that in the near future, recognizing that these topics are not included in its framework, it is advisable to modify and expand its mission statement accordingly.)

And the importance of establishing and maintaining contact with other nature conservation categories and their representatives (European Network of UNESCO Global Geoparks, MAB, WH, EU) should also be emphasized in the text - as in the case of NATURA 2000, which is already valid - to show that we are not only following others, but also opening new initiatives. The prestige of the EDPA must be regained.

As a new level, cross-border, transnational EDPA creations should also be encouraged. It was painful for me to watch a presentation where Spain was shown in detail on the projected map of the Iberian Peninsula, while Portugal was a white, empty space. We need to show that European nature conservation should encourage nature conservation without borders, and the mindset of the participants should be expanded to this desired outcome.

Good luck and all the best to you all!

Imre Szarvas from the Ipolytarnoc Fossils EDPA, which is the main gateway to the Slovak-Hungarian, transnational Novohrad-Nograd UNESCO Global Geopark

----- Eredeti üzenet -----

Tárgy: Granada Declaration - revised version

Dátum: Hétfő, Május 26, 2025 16:28 CEST

Feladó: BARLOW Mark <mark.barlow@coe.int>

Címzett:

Másolat: bern convention <bern.convention@coe.int>, POUTIERS Mikael <Mikael.POUTIERS@coe.int>, AMENGUAL Jose <jose.amengual@coe.int>

Dear participants in the roundtable of managers of Diploma holding areas,

I hope you had a safe trip back home after our successful events in Granada last week. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank you once again for the success of these events, and especially Fran and his team.

Please find attached the revised version of the Granada Declaration. I hope it reflects the various remarks made following the roundtable.

I invite you to send us your final comments and suggestions (in track-change mode in the attached document) on this document by tomorrow evening (Tuesday 27 May 2025), at the latest (mark.barlow@coe.int / bern.convention@coe.int). We hope to publish it online as soon as possible.

Thank you very much in advance for your understanding.

Best regards,

(on behalf of)

Mikaël

Mikaël POUTIERS

Secretary of the Bern Convention on the Conservation of
European Wildlife and Natural Habitats /
*Secrétaire de la Convention de Berne relative à la conservation
de la vie sauvage et du milieu naturel de l'Europe*

Co-Secretary of the ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the
Environment (GME) /
*Co-Secrétaire du Groupe ad hoc Multidisciplinaire sur
l'Environnement (GME)*

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Strasbourg, ~~13~~22 May 2025

T-PVS/DE(2025)06 final

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas

~~DRAFT~~ GRANADA DECLARATION

adopted by managers of Diploma holding areas in Granada, Spain, on 22 May 2025

*Document prepared by the
Secretariat of the Bern Convention*

The creation of the European Diploma for Protected Areas in 1965 represents a milestone in the Council of Europe's commitment to the preservation of the continent's natural heritage. Recognising the need to identify and preserve areas of vital importance, the award distinguishes protected natural or semi-natural areas of an exceptional European interest for the conservation of biological, ~~geological or landscape~~ diversity in its all three levels, i.e. genetic, species and ecosystem, the latter including also the landscape. Ecosystems include both abiotic environment and biota. The Diploma is awarded to them by virtue of their scientific, cultural or aesthetic interest if they have an appropriate protection system, eventually also in conjunction with programmes of action for sustainable development, thus at the same time~~also~~ representing an important contribution to the Pan-European Ecological Network.

Sixty years later, the Diploma's community has grown to include 66 protected areas in 27 European countries¹. Representing a range of exceptional natural sites, the Diploma has also become a very dynamic community mobilising the managers and the authorities responsible for their protection and conservation. Thanks to their outstanding work, this community has reached an incontestable level of maturity and exemplarity.

To mark the 60th Anniversary of the European Diploma for Protected Areas, a Conference was held in Granada (Spain) on 21 – 22 May 2025 organised by the Council of Europe in cooperation with the Spanish authorities. The event was attended by ~~about XXX~~ 72 participants from ~~XX~~ 24 countries, convening managers of the Diploma holding areas, representatives of national, regional and local authorities, and nature conservation NGOs. Participants had an opportunity to celebrate the progress achieved, to discuss remaining and emerging challenges, and to call for a renewed commitment towards nature conservation.

A number of very positive developments were welcomed at the Conference. These include the recovery or the improvement of the conservation status of species, ~~and~~ habitats and ecosystem processes, the strengthening of the participation of local communities in the management of protected areas, and the development of communication, educational and awareness raising activities ~~targeting among the general public and specific target groups such as~~ schools and youth.

At the same time, participants noted with concern that unsolved tensions in the coexistence of protected areas with other land use make it increasingly difficult to implement area-based conservation policies.

Despite the adoption of multilateral international agreements with ambitious targets for mitigating global warming, halting biodiversity loss and drastically reducing pollution, progress remains slow. The need for urgent action led the Council of Europe Heads of State and Government to commit to strengthen the Organisation's work in this area. The refore, the Reykjavik Declaration adopted at the 4th Summit of the Council of Europe in May 2023 calls for measures to counter the triple planetary crisis of pollution, climate change and loss of biodiversity and its impact on human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Diploma has an important role to play in the implementation of the Summit Declaration.

The Council of Europe went also a step further with the adoption in May 2025 of two groundbreaking instruments for a better protection of the environment: a new Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law providing the basis for a more coherent criminal justice response by states to environmental crime, including across borders; and a new long-term Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment aimed at addressing the accelerating environmental crisis through the lens of human rights, democratic governance, and the rule of law. The Secretary General of the

¹ Status as of May 2025

Council of Europe also announced a new Democratic Pact for Europe in which environmental protection plays a major role.

There is indeed a clear need for a new impetus to the [nature](#) conservation strategy based on protected areas, and the European Diploma can serve undoubtedly to this purpose, contributing to achieving the targets of the Bern Convention and [its Vision and Strategic Plan for the period to 2030 as well as](#) the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Europe's biodiversity in all its components is vital to European citizens and their [well-being and](#) quality of life, a critical asset for the conservation of an increasingly threatened natural heritage, and a tool to ensure the sustainable development of the region. Promoting exemplary management of European protected areas, contributes to a cleaner, more sustainable, resilient and diverse environment and guarantees the preservation of natural resources for the future, which in turn will foster a more healthy and peaceful society.

Participants therefore encouraged European countries which have protected areas of exceptional European interest and managed in an exemplary to submit an application for joining the European Diploma. The recent application of the Sierra Nevada National Park, Nature Park and Biosphere Reserve is particularly welcomed, as its inclusion in the community will suppose protection for habitats and species which are so far underrepresented, like those of Mediterranean high-altitude ranges.

The Granada Declaration captures the European Diploma community's commitment and [calls](#) for an increase in the number, the diversity and the geographical coverage of the Diploma's protected areas. It also calls for the allocation of resources ensuring their sustainable management and for measures to better integrate these areas' needs in the development and implementation of policies affecting them.

GRANADA DECLARATION

We, managers of Diploma holding areas, meeting on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma in Granada, declare the following:

- 1) There is an urgent need to designate more protected areas and expand the community of the European Diploma in the coming years. This will help European countries to achieve the Vision and Strategic Plan of the Bern Convention for the period to 2030, the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment, the objectives of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global [Biodiversity](#) Framework adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and fulfil the obligations adopted towards other [multilateral](#) international agreements like the Barcelona, Ramsar and [Migratory Species-Bonn](#) Conventions [and its agreements](#).
- 2) There are clear gaps in the representativeness of the community of the European Diploma, both in terms of geographical coverage and of habitat types and species protected. The marine realm is specially underrepresented. We encourage Parties to the Bern Convention to designate protected areas and apply for the European Diploma if they haven't done so yet and for [natural](#) habitat types and species under or not represented so far.
- 3) Protected areas are still under financed, and several of them still lack a Management Plan. We invite the responsible authorities to [fund adequately provide the necessary funding to](#) the Diploma

holding areas, providing sufficient human and financial resources and to adopt, implement and regularly monitor and update Management Plans.

- 4) We acknowledge the crucial role of local communities in the sustainable use of the territory and in preserving and promoting local traditions. We commit to actively involve the local communities in the conservation and development of protected areas in a fair, equitable and gender balanced way.
- 5) The environmental crisis we are facing will not be solely solved through the designation of protected areas. Standardised environmental data should inform policies affecting land and waters, like energy, farming, fisheries, transportation, and/or urban development. A comprehensive spatial planning which prioritises environment protection over these sectorial policies is fundamental to achieve the biodiversity targets for the period to 2030.
- 6) We echo the Reykjavik Declaration of Heads of State and Government at the 4th Summit of the Council of Europe who affirmed that human rights and the environment are intertwined and that a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is integral to the full enjoyment of human rights by present and future generations. In this regard, we call for full implementation of the new Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment.
- 7) We invite States to consider signing and ratifying [Council of Europe related conventions including the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats \(Bern Convention\), the Landscape Convention \(Florence Convention\) and](#) the new Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law ~~in order to be better equipped to combat environmental crime.~~
- 8) We call on ~~responsible~~ national, regional and local authorities, local communities, nature conservation NGOs, [youth, academia](#) and the Council of Europe, to work towards the strengthening and further development of the Diploma's network and community in co-ordination with other existing networks, increasing its visibility and impacts, and mobilising the necessary political and financial support [and call on the Council of Europe to provide the necessary resources to the environment activities of the Organisation in line with the Reykjavik Declaration.](#)

The participants ~~in the event for at~~ the 60th anniversary of the European Diploma [ceremony and round-table](#) express their warm thanks to the Regional Government of Andalusia, the Municipality of Granada, the Director of the Sierra Nevada National Park and its staff, the Spanish Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge for their invitation and generous hospitality, as well as to the Council of Europe for its continued support.

Adopted in Granada, Spain, 22 May 2025