

**Species Action Plan for the Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus*
in the European Union**



Prepared by:



On behalf of the European Commission



Species action plan for the Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus percnopterus* in the European Union

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Milestones in the Production of the Plan

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First official consultation with Member states: 10 October 2008

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International Species Working Group

n/a

Reviews

This Action Plan should be reviewed and updated every ten years (first review in 2018). An emergency review should be undertaken if there is a sudden major change liable to affect the populations or subspecies.

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Geographical scope

This Action Plan covers primarily the range states of the Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus* in the European Union (9 Member States shown in bold in Table 1). In addition, it includes Croatia, FYR FYR of Macedonia and Turkey as accession countries. Given the significance of the populations of other range states outside the EU but within the geographical borders of Europe, and the fact that conservation problems, which affect the species in the whole region, are similar and transboundary, the geographical scope of the action plan was extended to the entire European breeding range of the species, including the Caucasus.

The species is migratory and spends important part of its life cycle in Africa where it may be facing significant threats. The limited available information from the non-breeding range of the species have been taken into account as far as possible when evaluating the importance of threats, knowledge gaps and priorities for action.

Map 1. Distribution range of the Egyptian Vulture (BirdLife International 2008)

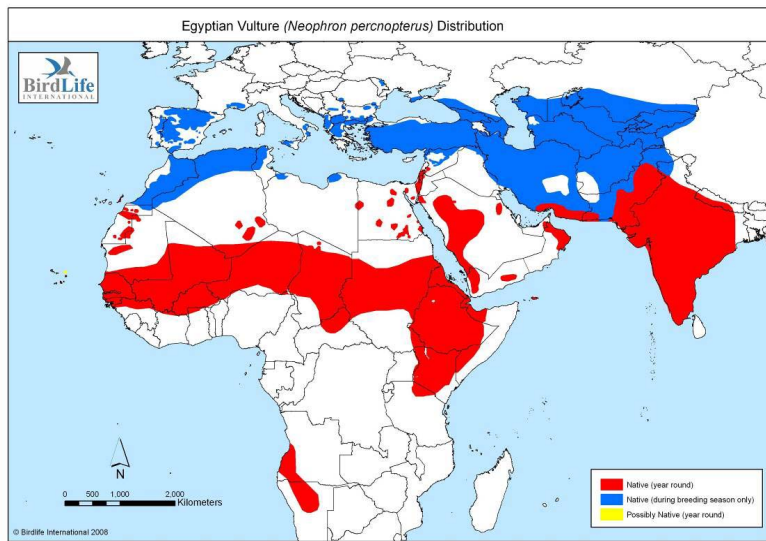


Table 1. Range states for which this Action Plan is relevant
(According to data on distribution by BirdLife International 2008)

Range states	Breeding	Wintering
Albania	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Armenia	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Austria	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Azerbaijan	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<i>possibly</i>	<i>no</i>
Bulgaria	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Croatia	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Cyprus	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
France	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Georgia	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Greece	<i>yes</i>	<i>occasionally</i>
Italy	<i>yes</i>	<i>occasionally</i>
Macedonia, FYR	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Moldova	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Montenegro	<i>possibly</i>	<i>no</i>
Portugal	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Romania	<i>extinct</i>	<i>no</i>
Russia (European)	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Serbia	<i>possibly</i>	<i>no</i>
Spain	<i>yes</i>	<i>occasionally</i>
Turkey	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
Ukraine	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>

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0 - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The biogeographical population of migratory *Neophron percnopterus percnopterus* subject of this action plan breeds across the Mediterranean region, Iberia, Balkans, Anatolia and the Middle East, from the Caucasus east to Central Asia and south to Pakistan. It migrates to wintering grounds that largely overlap with the range of the resident population of the same species in West Africa, Sahel, East Africa and Arabia. The most important breeding populations in the Europe are found in Spain with estimated ca. 1,300 breeding pairs and Turkey with probably 1,500-3,000 breeding pairs.

The Egyptian Vulture was up listed from Least Concern to **Endangered** in the **IUCN Red List** following a very recent and extremely rapid population decline in India combined with severe long term declines in Europe (>50% over the last three generations) and West Africa, plus ongoing declines through much of the rest of its range, owing to a variety of threats (BirdLife International 2008).

The species is included in Annex I of the EU Wild Birds Directive and in Appendix II of the Bern, Bonn and CITES Conventions. As a result of the important decline in Europe the species was classified as **Endangered** at European and EU level.

Based on the most up-to-date information on the biology, habitat requirements and conservation experience available about Egyptian Vulture, this Action Plan presents the prioritized threats, sets objectives and conservation measures that should prevent the imminent extinction of this species from large parts of its European range.

According to scientific evidence and experience with population management and population viability studies, the high mortality of adult individuals caused by poisoning, collisions with wind farms and power lines and electrocution and the loss of suitable habitats and food (i.e. reduced food availability and human disturbance) are considered the main threats leading to population decline. The drivers of these threats are changes in agriculture and rural economies leading to decline of grazing livestock farming, intensification of meat and milk husbandry and reduced animal mortality because of improved veterinary practices. The increasing development of renewable energy production and energy transporting infrastructure (wind farms, hydropower and power lines) plays an increasing negative role in the most important areas for the species in Europe by directly killing individuals (e.g. Southern Spain) or displacing breeding pairs from their habitat.

The overall **Goal** of the European Species Action Plan is to improve the conservation status of the Egyptian Vulture globally and in Europe leading to the down listing from current threat classification category in the Red List (Endangered) to Least Concern and eventually achieving a favourable conservation status of the species across its European range.

The **Objective** of the present action plan is to achieve the down listing of the European population to Vulnerable at European level by 2018 following a

population increase after 2015.

Indicators for the objective:

- The trend of the breeding population size stabilizes or becomes positive by 2015 as evidenced by national and regional monitoring programmes.

- Population growth rates of key national populations, as evidenced by local and national monitoring programmes, are positive and above the mean annual rate of 3% at least in the following countries: Portugal, Spain, France, Bulgaria, Greece and FYR FYR of Macedonia.

Results

1. Reduced Egyptian Vulture mortality in Europe to levels that will allow population growth.
2. Improved food availability and habitat quality for the species in its European range.
3. Up to date and precise knowledge about the population numbers and trends are available from all countries with breeding populations in Europe.

Main actions

- 1.1 Improve enforcement of the ban on using poisoned baits for predator control
- 1.2 Reduce the risk of poisoning at garbage dumps
- 1.3 Reduce the risk of lead poisoning caused by consumption of contaminated carcasses
- 1.4 Reduce mortality caused by wind farms
- 1.5 Reduce mortality by electrocution

- 2.1 Reform the EU regulations on animal by products disposal
- 2.2 Promote extensive livestock farming practices
- 2.3 Reduce disturbance at breeding sites
- 2.4 Reduce disturbance through better planning of economic activities near breeding areas

- 3.1 Establish a European wide monitoring scheme for the species
- 3.2 Identify migratory strategy and paths
- 3.3 Fully understand the importance and mechanism of mortality factors

1 - BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Taxonomy and Biogeographic populations

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Aves

Order: Accipitriformes

Family: Accipitridae

Genus: *Neophron*

Species: *Neophron percnopterus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Monotypic genus, with three recognized subspecies: *N. p. percnopterus* (Linnaeus 1758), *N. p. ginginianus* (Latham 1970) and *N. p. majorensis* (Donazar *et al.* 2002).

The nominal subspecies *N.p. percnopterus* is distributed in southern Europe, Cape Verde Islands, north Africa, Arabia and Sahel zone to north Tanzania, south-west Angola, north-west Namibia (the equatorial zone being avoided), and south-west and central Asia east to Tien Shan and Pakistan. The subspecies *N.p. majorensis* is an endemic to the Canary Islands limited to the eastern islands, Lanzarote, Fuerteventura and Alegranza. *N.p. ginginianus* is distributed to Nepal and India (except NW).

Distribution throughout the annual cycle

The biogeographical population of migratory *Neophron percnopterus percnopterus* subject of this action plan breeds across the Mediterranean region, Iberia, Balkans, Anatolia and the Middle East, from the Caucasus east to Central Asia and south to Pakistan. It migrates to wintering grounds that largely overlap with the range of the resident population of the same species in West Africa, Sahel, East Africa and Arabia (Cramp & Simmons 1980). Most of the EU population winters in the Sahel. The most important breeding populations in the European Union are found in Spain with estimated 1,270-1,300 breeding pairs and a less studied population in Turkey with suspected 1,500-3,000 breeding pairs. In the Canary Islands a small (42 pairs) resident population exist.

Resident Egyptian Vultures occupy a large range with isolated populations in the Cape Verde and in the west through Morocco and parts of West Africa. A small resident population persists in Angola and Namibia. The bulk of the resident population occurs in Ethiopia and East Africa, Arabia and the Indian Subcontinent.

Birds migrate alone or in small groups and follow the main raptor routes at Straits of Gibraltar and Bosphorus-Levant. Autumn migration occurs between July and October with numbers peaking in September. Migration movements (pre- and post-nuptial) start earlier in the Iberian peninsula than in the eastern populations. Spring migration protracted with first arrivals from February to May, with adults being the first to arrive (Forsman 1999).

Habitats requirements

Occurs in flat or mountainous regions, normally at low or medium altitudes, but occasionally on higher altitudes, e.g. seen at 4,500 m in Ethiopia; nest from cliffs at sea level to 1,800 m in Western Europe but up to 3,000 m in the Caucasus (Hagemeyer & Blair 1997). Nests in cliffs, ranging from 1.5 m to over 100 m in height, occupying caves or ledges protected by overhang, the outgoing of a cliff, a gap between rocks and very occasionally nests in trees or on the ground.

At present, the species range is greatly affected by its dependence for food on livestock and human waste. For foraging, the species requires extensive open areas mainly in dry or arid regions, although sometimes around fringe areas of wet or cold climates, steppe, desert, scrub, mid-mountain and alpine pastures and farmland. Food is searched in open areas, sandy river banks and even in wetlands or near to human settlements.

Survival and productivity

Generally breeds between April and May throughout Mediterranean region, therefore later in the year than other Palearctic vultures, and resident populations may breed from January or even earlier. Solitary, in Europe pairs nest normally at least 1-5 km apart. Normally 2 eggs incubated during 6 weeks. Both adults incubate eggs and feed chicks. Often one of the chicks dies shortly after hatching, and only one survives. Chicks remain in the nest around 75 days and become independent shortly after the fledging and migrate independently from their parents.

Like other large raptors, the survival strategy favours the adult longevity instead of fertility. The generation length of this species is estimated to be 17.8 years (BirdLife International 2004a). In the Spanish population the generation length is now estimated at ca. 10 years and life expectancy at 5 years (Donazar *pers. com.*). First breeding occurs at an age of 5 to 7 years. Estimated annual survival rates of adults in Spain have been reported by Grande *et al.* 2008, and depend on age and breeding status of the individual. Survival increases with age (0.73 ± 0.02 in the first 2 years to 0.78 ± 0.03 in year 3 and 4) to later decrease when birds are five years old (0.60 ± 0.05), the age at which they acquire the adult plumage, abandon the communal lifestyle of juveniles, and look for a breeding territory. Finally, survival is higher for non-breeding (0.75 ± 0.02) and breeding adults (0.83 ± 0.02). Survival prospects of adult birds strongly depend on the quality of the breeding territory selected.

The breeding output is variable in different regions, and is dependent on natural causes such as climate and predators and on food availability and especially human disturbance. Information on productivity has been presented at the experts' workshop for this action plan, as follows: Bulgaria (0.76 juveniles /pair), FYR of Macedonia (0.83), France (0.6), Italy (0.99) and Spain (0.91). The mean productivity of Egyptian Vulture in Europe is estimated at around 0.89 juveniles/pair.

Population size and trend

Global population estimates for the species are crude, but combining figures of pairs

in Europe, <2,000 pairs in central Asia, just a few thousand pairs now in the Indian Subcontinent, perhaps 1,000 pairs in the Middle East, and perhaps <7,500 pairs in Africa (BirdLife International 2008) gives a total of 30,000 to 42,000 mature individuals.

The European population of Egyptian Vulture is estimated 3,300–5,050 breeding pairs, which is somehow smaller than the latest published data (BirdLife International 2004a). Most of the European breeding pairs are concentrated in the Iberian peninsula (36%) and Anatolia (54%); 235 pairs nest in the Caucasus and 127 pairs in the Balkans; Italy and France host two apparently separate populations for a total of 97 pairs (see Table 2).

The species has suffered a large decline across most of its range. In India the decline, (presumably resulting from poisoning by the veterinary drug Diclofenac) has been catastrophic: >35% per year since 1999 and 68% between 2000 and 2003 (Culthber *et al.* 2006). The resident populations within Africa also appear to have declined, including those in Ethiopia, Djibouti, Angola and Namibia (where just 10 pairs remain). Across much of Africa residents are now outnumbered by migrant European breeders. Similar declines are reported from the Middle East, e.g. 50-75% in Israel, although in Oman the population is apparently stable and 1,000 birds are resident in a stable population on the island of Socotra (BirdLife International 2008).

In Europe the population has declined by 50% in the last three generations (50 years). It has disappeared from Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and probably Moldova, and recently has declined, with an even faster pace, in all other countries and in particular in the Balkans. The only European populations currently increasing are in France and Canary Islands.

The species is therefore classified as Endangered at global level (BirdLife International 2008), at European level and at EU level (BirdLife International 2004a, b).

Table 2 Population size and trend by country

Country	Breeding pairs	Quality	Year(s) of the estimate	Breeding Population trend in the last 10 years	Quality
<i>Albania</i>	14	M	2007	Large decline	M
<i>Armenia</i>	30-40	M	2002-2007	Large decline	M
<i>Austria</i>	0		2007	Extinct	
<i>Azerbaijan</i>	50-100	M	2006-2008	Large decline	M
<i>Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>	0		2007	Extinct	
<i>Bulgaria</i>	40-45	G	2007	Large decline	G
<i>Croatia</i>	0			Extinct	
<i>France</i>	87	G	2007	Large increase	M
<i>Georgia</i>	30-50	M	2006	Unknown	
<i>Greece</i>	30-50	M	2008	Large decline	G
<i>Italy</i>	8-10	G	2006-2007	Large decline	M
<i>Macedonia, FYR</i>	30-35	G	2008	Large decline	M
<i>Moldova</i>	0-2	P	2004	Possibly extinct	P
<i>Montenegro</i>	0	M	2007	Extinct	
<i>Portugal</i>	90	G	1995-2008	Stable	M
<i>Romania</i>	0	M	2007	Extinct	
<i>Russia (European)</i>	70-120	M	2004	Unknown	
<i>Serbia</i>	0	M	2007	Extinct	M
<i>Spain</i>	1,270-1,350	G	2008	Stable	G
<i>Canary Islands</i>	42	G	2008	Increasing	G
<i>Turkey</i>	1,500-3,000	P	1995-2005	Large decline	M
<i>Ukraine</i>	20	M	2008	Unknown	M
Total	3,300-5,050	M		Decreasing	

Notes: G - Good; M - Medium; P -Poor

2 - THREATS

General overview of threats

The most important cause of the observed population decline is the reduced survival, in particular of adult birds. The most widespread cause of mortality is poisoning. The second factor of critical importance is the reduced availability of suitable food resources and their poor quality in the foraging habitats. In its European range the species has suffered significantly from the changes in land use and in particular related to agricultural intensification, decline of grazing livestock and increased sanitation of rural areas. The recent expansion of wind farms and of electric grid has increased the number of cases of death by collision with turbines and power lines. As a result of high adult and young mortality and slow reproductive rates the population decrease across the entire range has been large and so far irreversible.

List of critical and important threats

Critical Threats

1. Poisoning

A large number of Egyptian vulture deaths are attributed to poisoning. In the majority of the cases, this is caused by the use of poison baits targeted at terrestrial predators to protect livestock and game. Often the pesticides and herbicides used in agriculture are the substance used in the baits. This makes the fight against poison baits very difficult since these substances are very easy to obtain. Although the use of poison baits is prohibited in Europe by the Bern Convention and in the EU by both the Birds and the Habitat Directives, it is still used illegally in many countries. Other sources of *secondary* poisoning include the consumption of inappropriately disposed poisoned animals (e.g. rodents) at rubbish dumps, consumption of dead livestock treated with veterinary medicines.

Recent analyses from many countries such as Spain (Lemus *et al.* 2008) and Bulgaria (Angelov *in litt.*) have highlighted high levels of contamination of Egyptian Vultures. Contaminants include antibiotics and other veterinary drugs, lead and other heavy metals. The actual impact of these substances on the species is not clear and specific research is urgently needed. Diclofenac caused the collapse of the vulture populations (incl. Egyptian Vulture) in the Indian subcontinent and other veterinary drugs may have a role in the species' decline.

Lead from gunshots and other heavy metals are known causes of mortality and declined productivity in many carrion-eating raptors.

2. Decline of extensively bred livestock

Agricultural intensification and 'rationalization', often driven by EU and national subsidies, result in the decline in the numbers of extensively farmed livestock. This traditional farming practice, maintains high biological diversity with scattered trees, hedgerows, small water bodies that host rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), land tortoises

(*Testudo* sp.) and susliks (*Spermophilus citellus*) and insects that play an important role in the Egyptian Vulture diet. Furthermore, free ranging livestock that die are often left in the fields for carrion-eating birds and mammals to dispose of them; those carcasses represent an important food source for all vultures including the Egyptian Vulture. Furthermore, this farming practice is becoming less attractive than alternative economic activities (other industries, tourism).

3. Stricter sanitary and veterinary regulation

Stricter sanitary and veterinary regulations are reducing the mortality rate of free ranging livestock and imposing the practice of removing the carcasses from nature and the burial/treatment of offal from slaughterhouses.

Because of a lack of food, Egyptian Vultures (and other scavenger birds) are using more and more rubbish dumps where they are often victims of poison baits used to control rats and canids.

High Threats

3. Collisions with wind turbines

The extremely rapid development of wind farms in Europe puts all soaring birds such as vultures at risk. For example, every year in Spain during the pre- and post-nuptial migration important numbers of birds die colliding with the wind turbines in the Gibraltar Straits area. At least five Egyptian Vultures have been found dead in Tarifa (Andalusia, South of Spain) in 2007-2008, and four in North of Spain (Navarra and Soria) during 2008.

4. Disturbance from human activities

Egyptian vultures are very sensitive to disturbance during the breeding season (April – August). The main threats come from forestry works, deliberate burning of pastures, helicopters and recreational human activities (delta/para gliders, rock climbing, hiking, motocross, birdwatchers and photographers). For example, in Biscay (North of Spain), human disturbance affected 42% of the breeding attempts (Zuberogoitia *et al.* 2008). A respect distance of 600 meters has been indicated as adequate to reduce nest abandonment. (Zuberogoitia *et al.* 2008).

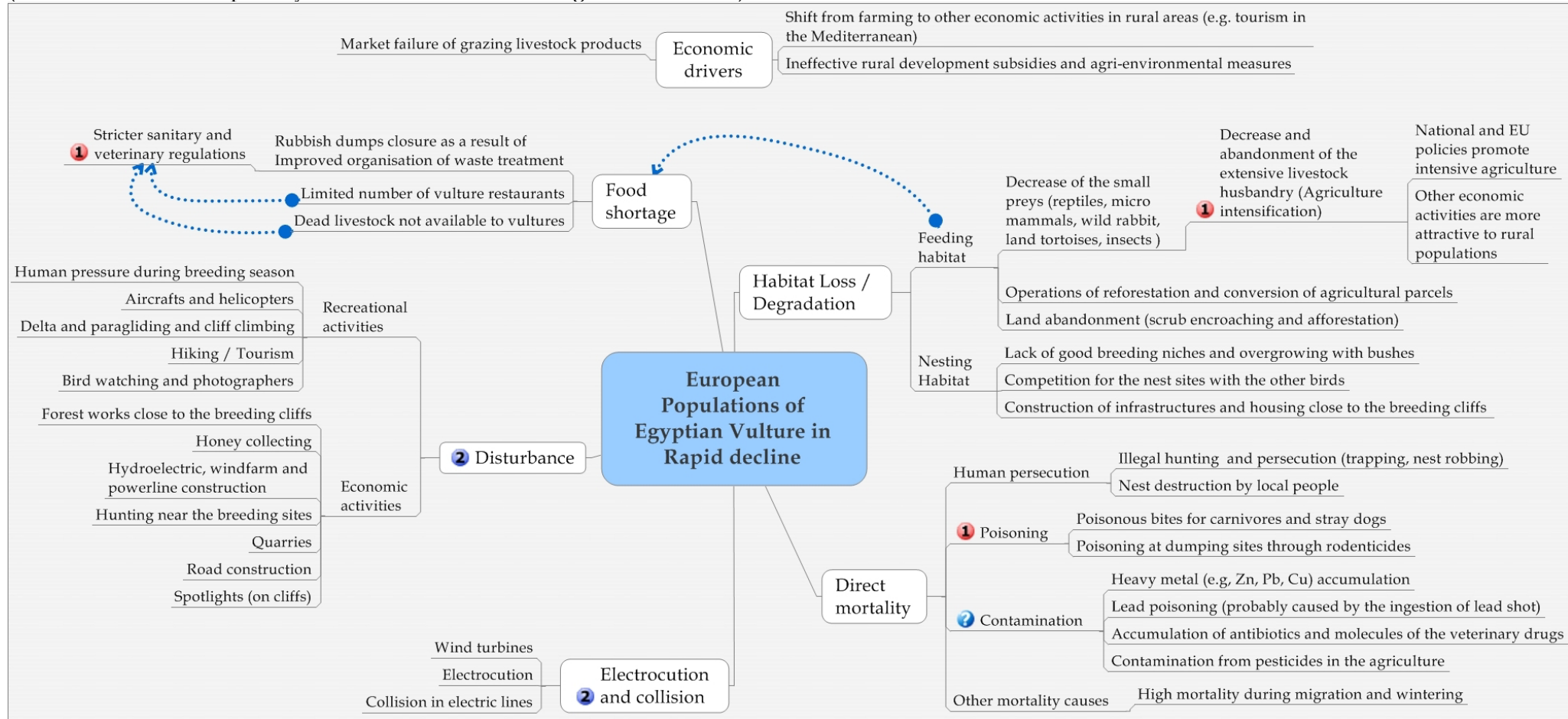
A general overview of all identified threats and their distribution and relevance on country level is presented in Annex 1.

Population Viability Analysis

A Populations Viability Analysis has been undertaken for Andalusia and the Canary Islands. In both cases, the results indicate that the main cause of population decline is the poor survival of adult birds. Therefore, the most effective conservation activities will be those aimed at improving adult survival by reducing mortality causes (Donazar *pers. com.*).

Problem tree

(numbers indicate the priority of threats: 1- critical, 2 - high, ? - unknown)



3 - POLICIES AND LEGISLATION RELEVANT FOR MANAGEMENT

International conservation and legal status of the species

EU Birds Directive - Council Directive on the conservation of wild birds (79/409/EEC)

Category: Annex I
Aim: to protect wild birds and their habitats, e.g. through the designation of Special Protection Areas (SPA). The directive states that species listed in Annex I 'shall be subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution' and that 'Member States shall classify in particular the most suitable territories in number and size as special protection areas for the conservation of these species, taking into account their protection requirements in the geographical sea and land area where this Directive applies'.

Bern Convention - Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Category: Appendix II
Aim: to maintain populations of wild flora and fauna with particular emphasis on endangered and vulnerable species, including migratory species. Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate and necessary legislative and administrative measures to ensure the special protection of the wild fauna species specified in Appendix II.

Bonn Convention - Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Category: Appendix II
Aim: to conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range. Appendix II refers to migratory species that have an unfavourable conservation status or would benefit significantly from international co-operation organised by tailored agreements. The Convention encourages the Range States to conclude global or regional Agreements for the conservation and management of individual species or, more often, of a group of species listed in Appendix II.

CITES - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

Category: Appendix II
Aim: To ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Appendix II shall include all species that although not necessarily now threatened with extinction may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival.

Global status ¹	European status ²	SPEC category ²	EU status ³	EU Bird Directive Annex ⁴	Bern Convention Annex ⁵	Bonn Convention Annex ⁶	CITES
EN	EN	SPEC 3	EN	Annex I	Annex II	Annex II	Annex II

¹ IUCN 2008. 2008 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. .Categories: EX = Extinct; EW = Extinct in the Wild; CR = Critically endangered; EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; LR = Lower Risk; CD = conservation dependent; NT = Near Threatened; LC = Least Concern; DD = Data Deficient; NE = Not Evaluated.

² BirdLife International (2004a) *Birds in Europe: population estimates, trends and conservation status*. Second edition. Wageningen, The Netherlands: BirdLife International. (BirdLife Conservation Series No. 12). Same categories as above.

³ BirdLife International (2004b) *Birds in the European Union: a status assessment*. Wageningen, The Netherlands: BirdLife International. Same categories as above.

⁴The species shall be subjected to special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.

⁵ Give special attention to the protection of areas that are of importance (Article 4) and ensure the special protection of the species (Article 6).

⁶ Animals for which agreements need to be made for the conservation and management of these species.

National policies, legislation

The Egyptian Vulture benefits from complete legal protection across its entire breeding range.

The species is affected by the European policies on agriculture, particularly livestock sector and veterinary regulations. The CAP Pillar II measures related to sustainable land management (LFA payments, agro-environmental measures and support for diversification of economic activities in rural areas) could play a key role in addressing the threats affecting the species.

Recently significant increase in wind farms triggered by the EU renewable energy policies has lead to the increase in numbers of collisions. Infrastructure development planning and impact assessment is another policy area affecting the species and its habitats.

The species is affected, but to a lesser extent, by forestry policies, in particular reforestation schemes reducing the foraging habitats; disturbance caused by forestry operations in proximity to nest sites can cause nest abandonment and breeding failure.

Recent conservation activities

Conservation measures are ongoing in different countries in Europe.

Seven LIFE projects, which involve the species, have been developed, two in each Spain and France and three in Italy. The LIFE project "Recovery plan for the Egyptian

Vulture in South-Eastern France” (completed in May 2008), has improved conservation efforts, developed an effective network of food distribution sites, improved the knowledge about the species in France and developed a National Species Action Plan. A LIFE project is ongoing in Canary Island for the conservation of the local endemic subspecies (*N. p. majorensis*) in the SPAs of Fuerteventura Island. In Italy, important efforts are being taken to release captive-bred individuals in Southern Italy and in Southern Tuscany; in Spain, birds have been fitted with satellite-tags to study juvenile dispersion, migratory movements and wintering areas. In all the countries programs for regular monitoring of population size, survival and productivity have been developed but are not implemented every year.

The species is included in the Balkan Vulture Action Plan (BVAP), a long-term strategy, which defines conservation actions for the Balkan region and tries to assure their implementation by making available expertise from earlier vulture recovery projects to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, FYR of Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine. A special Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the governments of Albania, FYR of Macedonia and Bulgaria and the NGO consortium of these countries, giving the BVAP long-term stability and recognition.

4 - FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

Goal

The goal of the European Species Action Plan is to improve the conservation status of the Egyptian Vulture globally and in Europe, leading to its down listing to Least Concern and eventually achieving a favourable conservation status of the species across its range.

Objective

European population of *N. p. percnopterus* classified as Vulnerable by 2018 following steady increase after 2015.

Indicators for the objective:

- The trend of the breeding population size stabilizes or becomes positive by 2015 as evidenced by national and regional monitoring programmes.
- Population growth rates of key national populations, as evidenced by local and national monitoring programmes, are positive and above the mean annual rate of 3% at least in the following countries: Portugal, Spain, France, Bulgaria, Greece and FYR of Macedonia.

Results

1. Reduced Egyptian Vulture mortality in Europe to levels that will allow population growth.
2. Improved food availability and habitat quality for the species in its European range.
3. Up to date and precise knowledge about the population numbers and trends are available from all countries with breeding populations in Europe.

Main actions

- 1.1 Improve enforcement of the ban on using poisoned baits for predator control
- 1.2 Reduce risk of poisoning at garbage dumps
- 1.3 Reduce risk of lead poisoning caused by consumption of contaminated carcasses
- 1.4 Reduce mortality caused by wind farms
- 1.5 Reduce mortality by electrocution

- 2.1 Reform the EU regulations on animal by products disposal
- 2.2 Promote extensive livestock farming practices
- 2.3 Reduce disturbance at breeding sites
- 2.4 Reduce disturbance through better planning of economic activities near breeding areas

- 3.1 Establish a European wide monitoring scheme for the species
- 3.2 Identify migratory strategy and paths
- 3.3 Fully understand the importance and mechanisms of mortality factors

Actions

<i>Main Actions</i>	<i>Detailed action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time scale</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
Result: 1. Egyptian Vulture mortality reduced to levels that will allow population growth				
1.1 Improved enforcement of the ban on using poisoned baits	1.1.1. Develop legal mechanism for stricter control on the marketing of poisonous substances in agricultural pharmacies 1.1.2. Promote effective man-predator conflict reduction projects in sensitive areas 1.1.3. Increase capacity of enforcement authorities (training, toxicology analysis) 1.1.4. Improve the efficient police and judicial actions about the use of illicit products 1.1.5. Ensure control on management of hunting grounds 1.1.6. Continue to raise awareness and educate the relevant authorities and stakeholders (farmers/livestock breeders) about the problem 1.1.7. Promote alternative predator control methods and prevention and compensation measures Applicable to: BG, FR, GR, IT, MK, PT, SP	High	Immediate	Ministry of agriculture and environment
1.2 Reduced risk of poisoning at garbage dumps	1.2.1. Identify and remove any legislation gaps that allow uncontrolled use of poisons on garbage pits 1.2.2. Improve enforcement of legislation and control of use 1.2.3. Promote alternative methods for rodent's	Medium	short	Ministry of Environment, Veterinary services

<i>Main Actions</i>	<i>Detailed action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time scale</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
	control Applicable to: BG, FR, GR, IT, MK, PT, SP			
1.3 Reduced risk of lead poisoning caused by consumption of contaminated carcasses	1.3.1. Promote EU ban on use of lead for hunting ammunition (very important for Canary Islands) 1.3.2. Support AEWA related efforts to phase out lead shot in wetlands by 2009 Applicable to: BG, FR, GR, IT, MK, PT, SP	Low	Medium	Ministry responsible for hunting (Environment/ Agriculture), NGOs
1.4 Reduce mortality caused by wind farms	1.4.1. Develop risk assessment guidelines for planners, based on latest Egyptian Vulture research data. 1.4.2. Improve EIA and pre-construction monitoring for proposed wind farms. 1.4.3. Block planned and remove existing wind turbines from sensitive areas (ca. 5-8 km radius near active nest) Applicable to: GR, IT, FR, PT, SP	High	Medium	Protected area managers, NGOs and research institutes
1.5 Reduce risk of mortality from electric lines	1.5.1. Identify dangerous power lines Applicable to: GR, FR (to continue the actions in progress), PT, SP (Canary Island), TR	High	Short	NGOs, research institutes and protected area managers
	1.5.2. Improve design of lines related to spacing between cables, structures and visibility Applicable to: GR, FR (to continue the actions in progress), PT, SP (Canary Island), TR	High	Short	Research institutes and electric enterprises
	1.5.3. Ensure maps of breeding locations are available	Medium	Medium	Ministry of agriculture and environment

<i>Main Actions</i>	<i>Detailed action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time scale</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
	to electric companies and planners/EIA experts Applicable to: GR, PT, SP (Canary Island), TR			
	1.5.4. Retrofit poles with dangerous design in sensitive areas Applicable to: BG, FR (To continue the actions in progress), GR, IT, PT, SP (Canary Island), TR	Low	Medium	Research institutes, NGOs and electric enterprises
Result 2: Improved food availability and habitat quality for the species in its European range				
2.1 Reform the EU regulations on animal by products disposal	2.1.1. Define Special Activity Zones for carrion-feeding birds for which the conditions below apply as exceptional measures. 2.1.2. Allow exceptions to the compulsory removal of livestock carcasses in areas under extensive management which do not involve Specified Risk Material (SRM) 2.1.3. Allow exceptions to the compulsory removal of sheep and goat carcasses so that they can be disposed of naturally 2.1.4. Allow exceptions to compulsory carcase removal for extensively-reared cattle younger than 24 months old (free from SRM) 2.1.5. Maintenance of the traditional “muladares” which have been used until now in areas with high densities of carrion-feeding birds 2.1.6. Approve the designation of new “farm unit” Feeding Stations. To recognize the Feeding Stations like an unit of the agricultural farm	High	Immediate	European Commission

<i>Main Actions</i>	<i>Detailed action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time scale</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
	<p>and to recognize the role of public services assured by the vultures and therefore of general interest</p> <p>Applicable to: BG, FR, GR, IT, PT, SP, CY</p>			
2.2 Promote extensive livestock farming practices	<p>2.2.1. Use CAP mechanisms to provide targeted support to live-stock breeders in areas important for vultures and other birds of prey</p> <p>2.2.2. Ensure that eligibility criteria for LFA payments in mountainous regions (mainly in Spain) do not exclude High Nature Value farmers from support</p> <p>2.2.3. Promote Egyptian Vulture conservation in rural tourism projects</p> <p>2.2.4. Support establishment of advisory services to increase uptake of rural development measures in important regions for the vultures</p> <p>2.2.5. Ensure that Regional Rural Development Plans prioritize the channelling of Axis I funding to support livestock grazing and supporting measures for their product marketing</p> <p>Applicable to: BG, FR, GR, IT, PT, SP, TR</p>	High	Short	Ministry of agriculture and environment
2.3 Reduce disturbance at breeding sites	<p>2.3.1. Ensure maps of sensitive areas are available to planners and local tourist agencies</p> <p>2.3.2. Enforce stricter regulations on species protection and nest gardening</p>	Low	Medium	Ministry of agriculture and environment and protected area manager - Ministry "de la jeunesse et des sports"

<i>Main Actions</i>	<i>Detailed action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time scale</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
	2.3.3. Work with sports clubs to raise awareness about the sensitivity of Egyptian Vulture to disturbance 2.3.4. Develop and promote a code of conduct as part of any research project involving nests and live birds 2.3.5. Signpost breeding locations with information about species sensitive to disturbance Applicable to: BG, FR (To continue the actions in progress), GR, IT, MK, PT, SP (only Balearic Islands)			
2.4 Reduce disturbance through better planning of economic activities near breeding areas	2.4.1. Ensure maps of sensitive areas are available and use by planners and EIA consultants when screening projects in sensitive areas. 2.4.2. Limit forestry operations during the breeding season within 600 m of nest sites, through management plans and/or EIA 2.4.3. Raise awareness by targeted actions among local authorities, mayors and public 2.4.4. Signpost breeding locations with information about species sensitive to disturbance Applicable to: BG, GR, MK, PT, SP (also Balearic Islands)	Low	Medium	Ministry of agriculture and environment, Planning authorities
Result 3: Up to date and precise knowledge about the population numbers and trends are available from all countries with breeding populations in Europe.				
3.1 Establish an European wide monitoring scheme for the species	3.1.1. Define Europe-wide monitoring and data flow protocol 3.1.2. Ensure that SPAs/protected areas monitoring	High	Medium	

<i>Main Actions</i>	<i>Detailed action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Time scale</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
	include Egyptian Vulture 3.1.3. Publish monitoring data at national and European level regularly			
3.2 Identify migratory strategy and path	3.2.1. Define and agree trapping and tagging methods 3.2.2. Satellite-tag birds from the main populations/geographical areas: Iberia, France, Italy, Balkans, Anatolia and Caucasus 3.2.3. Colour ring/wing tag birds from the main populations/geographical areas: Iberia, France, Italy, Balkans, Anatolia and Caucasus	High	Medium	
3.3 Fully understand the importance and mechanisms of mortality factors	3.3.1. Assess the importance of the following factors suspected of causing mortality / limited productivity in Europe: Diclofenac, antibiotics, Lead and other heavy metals, pesticides, Avian pox.	Low	Medium	

5 - REFERENCES AND THE MOST RELEVANT LITERATURE

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ANNEX 1

Threats' importance by country

		Armenia	Bulgaria	France	Greece	FYR of Macedonia	Portugal	Spain	Turkey
1. Habitat Loss / Degradation (human induced)									
Feeding habitat	Destruction/ degradation of feeding habitats		M	H					C
	Decrease and abandonment of the extensive livestock husbandry (Agriculture intensification)		H	H	M	H	M	M	H
	Traditional livestock farming system decline	M		H	H	H?	C	C	H
	Operations of reforestation and reconversion of agricultural parcels			Lc					
	Land abandonment (scrub encroaching and reforestation)				H		H	H	
Nesting habitat	Lack of good breeding niches and overgrowing with bushes and disintegration of the existing ones		L	Lc					
	Competition for the nest sites with the other birds (<i>Gyps fulvus</i> , <i>Corvus corax</i> , <i>Hieraetus fasciatus</i> ...)		M	Lc					
	Regional development, construction and working of linear infrastructures, zones of economic and urban activities close to the breeding cliffs (Building, house, road, extraction activities)		Lc	H	H	C	M	M	
2. Direct mortality									
Human persecution	Illegal hunting and persecution (trapping, nest robbing)	H	H	M	H	M	L		
	Nest destruction by local people	H							
Natural causes	Predations of eggs and juveniles by Corvidae, Eagle Owl or Mammals	M	L	L		C	M	L	
	Cannibalism	M							
Poisoning	Poisoning with poisonous bites for carnivores and stray dogs		H	L	C	H	H	H	C

	Poisoning on risky dumping sites		H			C			
	Poisoning from pesticides in the agriculture	M	H	H			?	?	
Contamination	Heavy metal (e.g., Zn, Pb, Cu) accumulation			?	?	?	?		
	Lead poisoning (probably caused by the ingestion of lead shot)		?						M
	Accumulation of antibiotics and molecules of the veterinary drugs			?	?	?	?	?	
Other mortality causes	High mortality during migration and wintering		H	?					
	Avian pox		?	?					
	Collisions with vehicles			L					
3. Disturbance									
Recreational activities	Human pressure during breeding season		H	H				M	M
	Hiking / Ecotourism					H?			
	Aircrafts and helicopters						H	?	
	Delta and paragliding and cliff climbing		M	Lc			L		
	Bird watching and photographers			Lc			L	L	
	Cliff climbing						M?	L	
Economic activities	Forest works close to the breeding cliffs			L					
	Honey collecting						H?		
	Hydroelectric, wind farm and power line construction					H			
	Proximity of the hunt activities			H					
	Quarries							M	
	Road construction						M		
	Spotlights (on cliffs)						M	L	
4. Electrocutation and collision									
	Wind turbines		L	L			H	?	H
	Electrocutation		H	H	?	?	M	M	
	Collision in electric lines		M	M	?		?	M	
5. Food shortage									
	Rubbish dumps closure as a result of improved organisation of waste treatment					C	H	C	M

	Wildlife decrease				H	H?	H	H	M
	Decrease of the land tortoises (<i>Testudo sp.</i>) as a food source		M		C				
	Decrease of the small preys (reptiles, micro mammals, wild rabbit, insects)			H					
	Stricter sanitary and veterinary control				C		H		
	Limited number of vulture restaurants				C				H

ANNEX 2

2a. Most important sites for the Egyptian Vulture in the EU and their SPA status.

Country	IBA Code	IBA site name	Area (km ²)	SPA Code (from Natura 2000 Geo-database)	SPA site name	Area (km ²)
Bulgaria	BG012	Krumovitsa	111.93	BG0002012	Krumovitsa	111.90
	BG013	Studen kladenets	159.92	BG0002013	Studen Kladenets	159.90
	BG019	Byala reka	446.07	BG0002019	Byala Reka	446.10
	BG025	Lomovete	278.71	BG0002025	Lomovete	43.10
	BG040	Strandzha	1,154.10	BG0002040	Strandzha	1,154.10
	BG071	Most Arda	150.19	BG0002071	Arda Bridge	150.20
France	FR185	Hautes Vallées d'Aspe et d'Ossau	379.38	ES0000137	Los Valles	319.80
				FR7210087	Hautes vallées d'Aspe et d'Ossau	490.10
	FR187	Pènes du Moulle de Jaut	43.22	FR7210089	Pènes du Moulle de Jaout	43.90
				FR7212009	Pics de l'Estibet et de Mondragon	46.40
	FR188	Haute Soule : massif de la Pierre-St-Martin.	185.70	ES0000123	Larra-Aztaparreta	39.50
				FR7210087	Hautes vallées d'Aspe et d'Ossau	490.10
				FR7212007	Eth Thuron des Aureys	21.80
				FR7212008	Haute Soule : Massif de la Pierre St Martin	182.80
	FR200	Haute Cize : Pic d'Errozate et Forêt d'Orion	62.65	ES0000126	Roncesvalles-Selva de Irati	170.40
				FR7212005	Haute Soule : Forêt d'Iraty, Orgambidexka et Pic des Escaliers.	55.60

				FR7212015	Haute Cize : Pic d'Herrozate et forêt d'Orion	63.60
	FR224	Gorges du Gardon	195.84	FR9110081	Gorges du Gardon	70.10
				FR9112031	Camp des Garigues	20.90
	FR241	Chaîne des Alpilles	217.83	FR9310064	Crau	392.30
				FR9312013	Les Alpilles	269.30
	FR246	Massif du Petit Lubéron	141.49	FR9310075	Massif du Petit Luberon	170.00
Greece	GR003	Dasos Dadias-Dereiou-Aisimis	509.31	BG0002019	Byala Reka	446.10
				GR1110002	Dasos Dadias-Soufli	410.10
				GR1130011	Koilada Filiouri	375.10
	GR004	Prostatevomeni periochi Dasous Dadias-Leukimis-Soufliou	410.16	GR1110002	Dasos Dadias-Soufli	410.10
	GR005	Notio Dasiko Symplegma Nomou Evrou	680.85	GR1110002	Dasos Dadias-Soufli	410.10
				GR1110009	Notio Dasiko Symplegma Evrou	292.80
	GR008	Kilada Filiouri kai Anatoliki Rodopi	825.64	BG0002019	Byala Reka	446.10
				GR1130011	Koilada Filiouri	375.10
	GR053	Antikhassia Ori and Meteora	662.78	GR1440005	Potamos Pinios - Antichasia Ori	552.20
				GR1440006	Koryfes Orous Koziaka	197.10
	GR066	Oros Tymfi (Gamila) and Oros Smolikas	539.80	GR2130002	Koryfes Orous Smolika	199.60
				GR2130009	Oros Tymfi (Gamila)	273.90
	GR067	Kentriko Zagori kai Anatoliko Oros Mitsikeli	466.80	GR2130002	Koryfes Orous Smolika	199.60
				GR2130008	Oros Mitsikeli	84.30
				GR2130009	Oros Tymfi (Gamila)	273.90

	GR072	Oriokastro, Limni Delvinakiou, Dasos Meropis, Kilada Gormou kai Oros Kasidiaris	352.06	GR2130010	Oros Douskon, Oraiokastro, Dasos Meropis, Koilada Gormou, Limni Delvinakiou	173.60
	GR073	Ori Tsamanta, Ori Filiaton, Pharmakovouni, Megali Rahi	197.88	GR2120009	Ori Tsamanta, Filiatron, Farmakovouni, Megali Rachi	198.70
	GR076	Ori Paramithias	170.84	GR2120008	Ori Paramythias, Stena Kalama Êáé Stena Acheronta	116.80
Italy	IT137	Dolomiti di Pietrapertosa	396.66	IT9210020	Bosco Cupolicchio (Tricarico)	17.30
				IT9210105	Dolomiti di Pietrapertosa	13.10
				IT9220130	Foresta Gallipoli - Cognato	42.50
				IT9220260	Valle Basento Grassano Scalo - Grottole	7.80
	IT143	Pollino	1,831.62	IT9210271	Appennino Lucano, Valle Agri, Monte Sirino, Monte Raparo	365.70
				IT9210275	Massiccio del Monte Pollino e Monte Alpi	881.00
				IT9310303	Pollino e Orsomarso	942.00
				IT9310304	Alto Ionio Cosentino	286.30
	IT149	Marchesato e Fiume Neto	702.06	IT9320302	Marchesato e Fiume Neto	702.10
	IT160	Monti Sicani	884.76	ITA020048	Monti Sicani, Rocca Busambra e Bosco della Ficuzza	585.20
	IT164	Madonie	392.74	ITA020050	Parco delle Madonie	408.90
	IT203	Gargano Promontory and Capitanata Wetlands	312.73	IT9110037	Laghi di Lesina e Varano	152.10
				IT9110038	Paludi presso il Golfo di Manfredonia	144.40
				IT9110039	Promontorio del Gargano	700.60

			2,059.08	IT9110037	Laghi di Lesina e Varano	152.10
				IT9110038	Paludi presso il Golfo di Manfredonia	144.40
				IT9110039	Promontorio del Gargano	700.60
Portugal	PT004	Sabôr e Maçãs	506.53	PTZPE0037	Rios Sabor e Maçãs	506.60
	PT005	Douro Internacional e Vale do Águeda	507.22	ES0000118	Arribes del Duero	1,068.90
				PTZPE0038	Douro Internacional e Vale do Águeda	507.20
	PT006	Vale do Côa	206.23	PTZPE0039	Vale do Côa	206.20
	PT012	Serra de Penha Garcia e Campina de Toulões	156.79	ES0000434	Canchos de Ramiro y Ladronera	230.80
				ES4320001	Canchos de Ramiro	69.20
	PT013	Tejo Internacional	244.00	ES0000368	Rio Tajo Internacional y riberos	202.20
				PTZPE0042	Tejo Internacional, Erges e Pônsul	244.00
	PT031	Costa Sudoeste	745.50	PTZPE0015	Costa Sudoeste	745.50
Spain	ES014	Babia-Somiedo	1,631.92	ES0000054	Somiedo	291.20
				ES0000055	Fuentes del Narcea y del Ibias	509.00
				ES0000210	Alto Sil	437.40
				ES0000315	Ubiña-La Mesa	394.00
				ES0000364	Omañas	241.10
				ES4130035	Valle De San Emiliano	556.80
	ES016	Sierras Centrales de la Cordillera Cantábrica	1,045.92	ES0000003	Picos de Europa	236.60
				ES0000316	Ponga- Amieva	282.00
				ES1200008	Redes	378.00
				ES1200009	Ponga-Amieva	281.00
				ES4130003	Picos de Europa en Castilla y León	1,013.20
	ES029	Hoces del Alto Ebro y	748.19	ES0000193	Sierra de da Tesla-Valdivielso	212.50

		Rudrón				
				ES0000253	Hoces del Ebro	40.90
				ES4120036	Hoces del Alto Ebro y Rudrón	515.90
ES030	Sierras de Oña y de la Tesla	401.94	ES0000193	Sierra de la Tesla-Valdivielso		212.50
			ES4120030	Montes Obarenes		430.90
			ES4120036	Hoces del Alto Ebro y Rudrón		515.90
ES031	Montes Obarenes	365.31	ES0000062	Obarenes-Sierra de Cantabria		51.10
			ES0000187	Montes de Miranda de Ebro y Ameyugo		66.60
			ES0000245	Valderejo-Arcena Mendilerroa / Valderejo-Sierra de Arcena		66.80
			ES4120030	MONTES OBARENES		430.90
ES032	Valdegovía-Sierra de Arcena	196.16	ES0000245	Valderejo-Arcena Mendilerroa / Valderejo-Sierra de Arcena		66.80
			ES4120030	Montes Obarenes		430.90
ES033	La Losa-Orduña (Sierra Salvada)	221.88	ES0000244	Salvada Mendilerroa / Sierra Salvada		38.10
			ES4120028	Monte Santiago		25.30
ES036	Montes de Izki	90.88	ES2110019	Izki		90.10
ES049	Sierra de Alcarama y Río Alhama	104.52	ES0000063	Sierra de Alcarama y Valle del Alhama		102.40
ES051	Valle del Arlanza-Peñas de Cervera	564.26	ES4120031	Sabinares Del Arlanza		374.30
ES052	Montejo de la Vega-Hoces del Riaza					
ES063	Arribes del Duero-Fermoselle	489.35	ES0000118	Arribes del Duero		1,068.90
			ES0000206	Cañones del Duero		173.60
			PTZPE0038	Douro Internacional e Vale do		507.20

					Águeda	
	ES064	Río Huebra-Arribes del Duero	1,605.02	ES0000118	Arribes Del Duero	1,068.90
				ES0000247	Riberas de los ríos Huebray Y Yeltes	21.80
				PTZPE0038	Douro Internacional e Vale do Águeda	507.20
	ES079	Tiermes-Caracena	480.39	ES0000203	Altos De Barahona	429.30
	ES086	Montes de Areta, Archuba y Zariquieta	203.63	ES0000129	Sierra de Artxuga, Zariquieta y Montes de Areta	175.20
				ES0000132	Arabarko	15.00
	ES087	Sierras de Leyre, Illón y San Miguel	189.41	ES0000124	Sierra de Illón y Foz de Burgui	43.10
				ES0000125	Sierra de Leire, Foz de Arbaiun	83.80
				ES0000128	Sierra de San Miguel	28.30
				ES0000282	Salvatierra - Fozes de Fago y Biniés	25.90
				ES0000283	Sierras de Leyre y Orba	57.90
	ES090	Bardenas Reales	538.00	ES0000171	El Plano - Blanca Alta	88.60
				ES0000172	Rincon del Bg. - La Nasa - Tripazul	36.50
				ES0000289	Lagunas y Carrizales de Cinco Villas	4.10
				ES0000292	Loma la Negra - Bardenas	64.50
	ES100	Cañones del Río Martín y Sierra de Arcos	393.91	ES0000303	Desfiladeros del río Martín	447.80
	ES107	Sierras de Valdurrios-Serreta Negra y Los Rincones	509.85	ES0000181	La Retuerta y saladas de Sástago	359.80
				ES0000182	Valcuerna, Serreta Negra y Liberola	353.00
				ES0000298	Matarraña - Aiguabarreix	366.90

				ES5130013	Aiguabarreig Segre-Cinca	7.60
	ES118	Sierra de Guara	1,000.37	ES0000015	Sierra y Cañones De Guara	813.60
				ES0000286	Sierra de Canciás - Silves	78.10
	ES122	Sierras de los Dos Ríos y de Orba	340.14	ES0000124	Sierra de Illón y Foz de Burgui	43.10
				ES0000125	Sierra de Leire, Foz de Arbaiun	83.80
				ES0000128	Sierra de San Miguel	28.30
				ES0000282	Salvatierra - Fozes de Fago y Biniés	25.90
				ES0000283	Sierras De Leyre y Orba	57.90
				ES0000284	Sotos Y Carrizales del río Aragón	19.40
	ES123	Belagua-Ansó-Hecho	483.72	ES0000123	Larra-Aztaparreta	39.50
				ES0000130	Sierra de Arrigorrieta y Peña Ezkaurre	51.80
				ES0000137	Los Valles	319.80
				FR7210087	Hautes vallées d'Aspe et d'Ossau	490.10
				FR7212008	Haute Soule : Massif de la Pierre St Martin	182.80
	ES131	Sierra de Sant Gervàs	247.66	ES0000281	El Turbón y Sierra de Sís	243.60
				ES5130012	Vall Alta de Serradell-Serra de Sant Gervàs	129.20
				ES5130024	La Faiada de Malpàs i Combatiri	12.80
	ES132	Sierra del Boumort	562.57	ES5130003	Alt Pallars	771.20
				ES5130008	Serra d'Aubenç i Roc de Cogul	67.80
				ES5130010	Serra de Boumort-Collegats	186.40
				ES5130015	Serres del Montsec, Sant Mamet i Mitjana	324.20
				ES5130026	Serra de Prada-Castellàs	37.40
	ES143	Sierras del Montsech y Montgai	535.71	ES5130014	Aiguabarreig Segre-Noguera Pallaresa	101.10

				ES5130015	Serres del Montsec, Sant Mamet i Mitjana	324.20
				ES5130016	Valls del Sió-Llobregós	266.30
				ES5130032	Vessants de la Noguera Ribagorçana	65.20
	ES149	Puertos de Morella	455.56	ES5233001	Tinença de Benifassà, Turmell i Vallivana	496.40
	ES187	Serranía de Cuenca	994.02	ES0000162	Serrania de Cuenca	1,925.50
	ES188	Alto Tajo y Tajuña	1,625.39	ES0000092	Alto Tajo	1,913.60
				ES0000094	Parameras de Maranchon, Hoz del Mesa y Aragoncillo	463.20
				ES0000162	Serrania de Cuenca	1,925.50
				ES0000309	Montes Universales - Sierra del Tremedal	320.40
				ES0000392	Valle del Tajuña en Torrecuadrada	28.30
	ES210	Sierras de Cazorla y Segura	2,743.08	ES0000035	Sierras de Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas	2,102.60
				ES0000388	Sierra de Alcaraz y Segura y Cañones del Segura y del Mundo	1,747.10
				ES6140002	Sierra de Castril	126.70
	ES243	Sierras de Ubrique y Grazalema	1,026.56	ES0000031	Sierra de Grazalema	533.60
				ES0000049	Los Alcornocales	1,679.10
	ES244	Sierras de las Cabras, del Aljibe y de Montecoche	1,421.74	ES0000031	Sierra de Grazalema	533.60
				ES0000049	Los Alcornocales	1,679.10
	ES245	Sierras del Bujeo, Ojén, del Niño y Blanquilla	458.09	ES0000049	Los Alcornocales	1,679.10
				ES0000337	Estrecho	191.60

	ES246	Tarifa	52.84	ES0000049	Los Alcornocales	1,679.10
				ES0000337	Estrecho	191.60
	ES247	Ceuta	14.66	ES0000197	Acantilados del Monte Hacho	0.30
				ES6310001	Calamocarro-Benzú	6.00
	ES291	Sierra de San Pedro	3,070.94	ES0000069	Embalse de Cornalvo y Sierra Bermeja	131.30
				ES0000070	Sierra de San Pedro	1,148.20
				ES0000071	Llanos de Cáceres y Sierra de Fuentes	695.80
				ES0000368	Rio Tajo Internacional y Riberos	202.20
				ES0000396	Embalse de Horno-Tejero	2.60
				ES0000407	Nacimiento del Rio Gevora	199.70
				ES0000424	Colonias de Cernicalo Primilla de San Vicente de Alcantara	0.00
				ES0000430	Colonias de Cernicalo Primilla de San Vicente de Alcantara	0.40
	ES296	Trujillo-Torrecillas de la Tiesa	1,064.43	ES0000014	Monfragüe y Las Dehesas del Entorno	1,160.50
				ES0000332	Llanos de Trujillo	77.50
				ES0000356	Riberos del Almonte	82.70
				ES0000402	Colonias de Cernicalo Primilla de Trujillo	0.00
				ES0000412	Charca La Torre	0.00
				ES0000425	Magasca	108.40
	ES297	Sierras de las Villuercas	2,158.62	ES0000014	Monfragüe y Las Dehesas del Entorno	1,160.50
				ES0000329	Embalse de Valdecañas	74.50
				ES0000356	Riberos del Almonte	82.70
				ES0000394	Colonias de Cernicalo Primilla de	0.00

					Saucedilla	
				ES0000433	Colonias de Cernicalo Primilla de Belvis de Monroy	0.00
				ES4310009	Puerto Peña - Los Golondrinos	330.30
				ES4320039	Sierra de Las Villuercas y Valle del Guadarranque	762.20
	ES298	Monfragüe	1,542.62	ES0000014	Monfragüe y las Dehesas del entorno	1,160.50
				ES0000324	Embalse de Arrocampo	6.90
				ES0000356	Riberos del Almonte	82.70
	ES299	Embalse de Alcántara-Cuatro Lugares	1,220.12	ES0000014	Monfragüe y las Dehesas del entorno	1,160.50
				ES0000356	Riberos del Almonte	82.70
				ES0000415	Embalse de Alcantara	76.40
				ES0000418	Embalse de Talavan	72.90
				ES0000423	Colonias de Cernicalo Primilla de Garrovillas	0.40
				ES0000426	Pinares de Garrovillas	25.70
				ES0000434	Canchos de Ramiro y Ladronera	230.80
				ES4320001	Canchos de Ramiro	69.20
				PTZPE0042	Tejo Internacional, Erges e Pònsul	244.00
	ES325	Costa Norte y Este de Menorca e Isla del Aire	107.32	ES0000229	Costa Nord de Ciutadella	6.80
				ES0000230	La Vall	31.20
				ES0000231	Dels Alocs a Fornells	26.80
				ES0000232	La Mola i s'Albufera de Fornells	15.20
				ES0000233	D'Addaia a s'Albufera	28.10
				ES0000234	S'Albufera des Grau	25.40

				ES0000235	De s'Albufera a la Mola	19.90
				ES0000236	Illa de l'Aire	0.30
	ES326	Barrancos y pinares centrales de Menorca	355.78	ES0000230	La Vall	31.20
				ES0000231	Dels Alocs a Fornells	26.80
				ES0000232	La Mola i s'Albufera de Fornells	15.20
				ES0000233	D'Addaia a s'Albufera	28.10
				ES0000234	S'Albufera des Grau	25.40
				ES0000235	De s'Albufera a la Mola	19.90
				ES0000237	Des Canutells a Llucalari	18.10
				ES0000238	Son Bou i barranc de sa Vall	11.70
				ES0000239	De Binigaus a cala Mitjana	18.40
				ES0000240	Costa Sud de Ciutadella	11.30
				ES0000384	Barranc de Santa Anna	0.80
				ES0000385	Barbatx	0.60
				ES0000386	Capell de Ferro	1.10
	WW327	Los islotes de Lanzarote	328.48	ES0000040	Islotes del norte de Lanzarote y Famara	178.60
	WW328	Riscos de Famara	13.93	ES0000040	Islotes del norte de Lanzarote y Famara	178.60
	WW340	Cuchillete de Buenavista- Barranco de La Torre-Los Alares	76.70	ES0000310	Llanos y cuchillos de Antigua	99.20
	WW341	Macizo de Pozo Negro- Vigán	93.18	ES0000310	Llanos y cuchillos de Antigua	99.20
	WW346	Barranco de Ajuí-Betancuria	7.51	ES0000097	Betancuria	166.70
	WW348	Costa de Esquinzo-Puertito de Los Molinos	2.10	ES0000097	Betancuria	166.70
				ES0000101	Lajares, Esquinzo y costa del	72.90

					Jarubio	
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2b. Most important sites for Egyptian Vulture in non-EU countries and their protection status.

Country	International and national name	Area (ha)	Location		Population		Year	Season	Accuracy	Protected areas name	Type of protected area
			Lat	Long	Min	Max					
Armenia	Meghri IBA		38.58	46.23	2	3	2007	Breeding	Med. (Est)	Shikaohk (partially)	Reserve
Armenia	Goris		39.27	46.22	6	8	2007	Breeding	Med. (Est)	Goris (partially)	Game reserve
Armenia	Jermuk IBA		39.47	45.37	2	3	2007	Breeding	Med. (Est)	Jermuk	Game reserve
Armenia	Noravank IBA		39.39	45.13	2	3	2007	Breeding	Med. (Est)	Arpi	Sanctuary
Armenia	Khosrov IBA	29,196.00	40.02	44.56	3	4	2007	Breeding	Med. (Est)	Khosrov	Reserve
Armenia	Sevan IBA	150,000.00	40.2	45.2	1	2	2007	Breeding	Med. (Est)	Sevan	National Park, Ramsar site
Armenia	Dsegh IBA		40.52	44.41	2	3	2007	Breeding	Med. (Est)		Not protected
Armenia	Haghartsin IBA		40.48	44.56	2	3	2007	Breeding	Med. (Est)	Dilijan (partially)	National Park

FYR of Macedonia	Demir Kapija gorge	10512,9			2	2	2008	Breeding	good	Monument of Nature "Demir Kapija"	Monument of Nature 50% protected
FYR of Macedonia	Tikves Lake	25506,7			3	3	2008	Breeding	good	Strict Nature Reserve "Tikves"	Strict Nature Reserve 70% protected
FYR of Macedonia	Mariovo	65529,5			4	4	2008	Breeding	good		not protected
FYR of Macedonia	river Raec	9542,8			4	4	2008	Breeding	good		not protected
FYR of Macedonia	Babuna - Bregalnica	29762,4			4	4	2008	Breeding	good		not protected
FYR of Macedonia	Pcinja- Petrosnica- Kriva Reka	69822,9			3	3	2008	Breeding	good		not protected
FYR of Macedonia	Boshava	10308,4			2	3	2008	Breeding	good		not protected
FYR of Macedonia	Taor gorge	2537,8			1	2	2008	Breeding	good		not protected

Turkey	Doğu Karadeniz Dağları IBA	1,728,316.00	40,81N	40,43E	25	25	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	National Park, Archeological and natural sit, Wildlife Protection Area, Nature Protection Site, Nature Park, Nature Monument, Specially Protected Area	Category II: National Park, Category III: Natural Monument and Category Ib: Wilderness Area, Category IV: Habitat / Species Management Area
Turkey	Göreme Tepeleri IBA	6,871.00	38,65 N	34,86E	10	15	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	National Park	Category II: National Park
Turkey	Kirmir Vadisi IBA	37,142.00	40,16 N	32,00E	15	25	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	Archeological and natural sit	Category III: Natural Monument and Category Ib: Wilderness Area

Turkey	Kızılcahamam Ormanları IBA	14,689.00	40,47N	32,57E	15	15	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	National Park	Category II: National Park
Turkey	Munzur Dağları IBA	585,044.00	39,38 N	39,26 E	10	15	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	National Park & Wildlife Protection Area	Category II: National Park & Category IV: Habitat / Species Management Area
Turkey	Sarıyar Barajı IBA	31,754.00	40,02N	31,38E	15	20	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	Wildlife Protection Area	Category IV: Habitat / Species Management Area
Turkey	Tortum Havzası IBA	189,855.00	40,39N	41,43E	5	10	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	Wildlife Protection Area	Category IV: Habitat / Species Management Area
Turkey	Yalnızçam Dağları IBA	196,504.00	41,14N	42,35E	3	3	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	National Park	Category II: National Park

Turkey	Sertavul Pass		36,97N	33,27E	5	10	2007	Breeding	Good (Obs.)		Not protected
Turkey	Allahuekber Dağları IBA	295,968.00	40,64N	42,51E	5	10	1995 - 2005	Breeding	Good (Obs.)	National Park	Category II: National Park

****Additional information for Turkey:** There are 32 other IBAs where the species is known to breed; however the absence of monitoring at these sites prevented the inclusion of those sites in the table above.

The sites are: Akdağ - Amasya, Akdağ - Çivril, Aladağlar, Amanos Dağları, Ayaş Dağları, Bolkar Dağları, Çankırı Jipsli Tepeleri, Çatak Vadisi, Çoruh Vadisi, Dicle Vadisi, Erciyes Dağı, Göksu Vadisi, Güney Fırat Vadisi ve Birecik Bozkırları, Hafik Zara Tepeleri, Ilgaz Dağları, Kazankaya Vadisi, Kelkit Vadisi, Küpeli Dağı, Mukus Vadisi, Nemrut Dağı, Olur-Oltu Bozkırları, Acıkır Bozkırları, Refahiye Ormanları, Sündiken Dağları, Tanin Tanin Dağları, Tohma Vadisi, Türkmenbaba Dağı, Uludağ, Van Doğusu Dağları, Zap Suyu Vadisi, Erüh Dağları.

ANNEX 3

National legal status.

Country	Legal protection	For game species, give opening/closing dates
<i>Armenia</i>	General protection by the law of RA on fauna	N/A
<i>Bulgaria</i>	Protected	
<i>France</i>	Legally protected	Full protection
<i>Italy</i>	Legally protected	
<i>FYR of Macedonia</i>	Protected (Law on hunting)	Full protection
<i>Portugal</i>	Legally protected	
<i>Spain</i>	Legally protected (Law 42/2007)	Full protection
<i>Turkey</i>	Protected against hunting	
<i>Greece</i>	Legally protected	

National policies and legislation

Country	National Nature Conservation and related legislation	List sectorial programmes
<i>Albania</i>		
<i>Armenia</i>	Different national laws where the species protection is considered, as Environmental Impact Assessment, Specially Protected Natural Areas, Forest Code, Land Code, Environmental and Nature Use Charges and national law on Fauna. Egyptian Vulture is not included in the Red Data Book of Armenia published in 1987 during the USSR, but it will be included in the new edition which will be published in few years.	Not any known to us at this moment
<i>Austria</i>		
<i>Azerbaijan</i>		
<i>Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>		

<i>Bulgaria</i>	The species is protected in general regulation about Biodiversity, Protected Areas and Forests. Regulation on Elaboration of Protected Areas Management Plans. National Strategy and National Plan for the Environment. National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy. National Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan of the species.	National strategy for conservation of the biodiversity
<i>Croatia</i>		
<i>Cyprus</i>		
<i>France</i>	Law. 10/07/1976 art. L-211 Rural Code Ministerial decree. 17.04/1981 amended on 05/03/1999	Multiannual national action plan and Life project (Sept 2003 – Apr 2008). A second national actions plan of 5 years will be soon drafted
<i>Georgia</i>	None	None
<i>Greece</i>	Annex of the Ministerial Decision 414985/1985 of the ministry of Agriculture, Various decrees and joint ministerial decisions on protected area designations (SPAs, National Parks, Wildlife Refuges) Assessed as Critically Endangered in the national Red Data Book (in prep)	2007-2013 Rural Development Sectoral Programme “Alexandros Mpaltatzis” / Pillar II, Environment (under review).
<i>Italy</i>	The species is protected by the laws and decrees; Law 6 December 1991, no. 394, Law 11 February 1992, no. 157 (as integrated by Law 3 October 2002, no. 221), Decree of the President of the Republic (DPR) 8 September 1997, no. 357 and Decree 17 October 2007 .	-Rural Development Plans on regional scale -Management plans of national and regional protected areas
<i>FYR of Macedonia</i>	The species is considered in: Law on hunting (Official Gazette of RM, 20/1996 amendments 34/1997, 69/2004, 84/2007, 113/2007) - Egyptian Vulture included in the list of fully protected "game" species. Law on Veterinary Health (Official Gazette of RM, 113/2007) - dictates the conditions of carcass removal Law on Trade in Poisons (Official Gazette of SFRY, No. 43/82, amendments 65/82, 64/85, 13/91) - regulates procedures for buying of poisonous substances (incl. pesticides).	- Spatial plan of the Republic of FYR of Macedonia National Strategy with action plan for organic agriculture of the Republic of FYR of Macedonia, 2008-2011 -National strategy for environmental approximation. Biodiversity Strategy and Action

		Plan of the Republic of FYR of Macedonia (2003)
<i>Moldova</i>		
<i>Montenegro</i>		
<i>Portugal</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreto-Lei nº 140/99, 24 April (Bird Directive - 79/409/CEE) • Decreto-lei n,º 384-b-99 23 September (creation of SPAS) • Resolução do Conselho de Ministros n.º 152/2001 de 11 October (National strategy for environmental approximation Biodiversity Strategy) • Red List for the threatened Birds of Portugal (2005). • Decreto-Lei n.º 142/2008 21 July (Nature Conservation Regulation) 	Sectoral Program for Natura 2000 National Strategy for conservation of vultures (in preparation)
<i>Romania</i>		
<i>Russia (European)</i>		
<i>Spain</i>	Spanish threatened species catalogue. (Real Decreto 439/1990) Ley 42/2007 de Patrimonio Nacional y Biodiversidad. Regional threatened species Red List for the threatened Birds of Spain (2002).	-Recovery action plan for <i>N.p. majorensis</i> in Canary Island - Recovery action plan for Egyptian vulture in Asturias
<i>Turkey</i>	The species is protected from hunting through national legislations. Furthermore some of its breeding locations are situated in legally protected sites designated by the Turkish Ministry of Environment and Forestry.	There are no sectoral programs in Turkey relation with Egyptian vultures
<i>Ukraine</i>		

Current conservation actions for the species

ARMENIA

<i>Title of project/action : Framework of our regular IBA monitoring</i>				
<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Coverage</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
	Within the framework of our regular IBA monitoring some counts of species and identification of threats is carried out by IBA caretakers and ASPB staff	Local National	2005 -	ASPB, Mamikon Ghasabyan, armbirds@yahoo.com

BULGARIA

<i>Title of project/action 1: Urgent conservation measures for the Egyptian Vulture in Bulgaria</i>				
<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Coverage</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
To stop the decline of the Bulgarian breeding population of the Egyptian Vulture and to create a basis for long-term nation-wide conservation work for the species allowing for a successful population recovery.	Monitoring of the breeding population parameters: number of breeding pairs, breeding success	National	Started in 2003	BSPB, Ivaylo Angelov, ivailoangelov@abv.bg
	Development of National Species Action Plan	National	2005-2007	
	Designation of breeding areas as protected areas	Local	2007	
	Supplementary feeding of the pairs with low breeding success	Regional	2003-2007	
	Ringling of Egyptian Vultures with colour and aluminium rings	Local	2005-2007	
	Identifying of the diet of the Egyptian Vulture through collecting and analyzing the food remains and pellets in all the successful nests after the end of the breeding season	National	2006-2007	
	Organizing of education campaign in the villages where the Egyptian vultures breeds	National	2004-2007	

	Organizing of a workshop meeting with the organizations working in the conservation of the Egyptian vulture on the Balkans	National	2007	
<i>Title of project/action 2: Conduct Survey on the Population Number, Breeding Success and Threats for the Egyptian Vulture (Neophron percnopterus) in the Rhodope Region - 2007</i>				
Conduct field survey on the Egyptian vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>) in Rhodope Region and to plan respective species conservation measures	Determine the population numbers, density, breeding success (number of incubating pairs, hatching rate, nesting success, stages of breeding failures) and respective threats	Regional	2007	BSPB, Ivaylo Angelov
<i>Title of project/action 3: Conservation of large vultures in the Eastern Rhodopes</i>				
<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Coverage</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
To recover the populations of the Large Vultures to healthy levels and preserve the Eastern Rhodopes as a safe vulture habitat on the Balkans.	Versatile work with a specific target group: the big owners of livestock, as potential group, which can illegally use poisons	Regional	2004-2007	BSPB, Ivaylo Angelov
	Providing and improving of the supplementary feeding according to a coordinated scheme	Regional	2004-2007	BSPB, Ivaylo Angelov

GREECE

<i>Title of project/action 1: Rapid Assesment of the Egyptian Vulture Population in Greece</i>				
<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Coverage</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Organisations responsible, Contact name, e-mail address</i>
Survey the main areas of the species breeding distribution, locate a. m. a. p. breeding territories and nests, set baseline management and conservation actions for the near future, and a benchmark for a more extensive monitoring and detailed inventory of breeding localities	<p>Survey breeding cliffs and local aggregations in rubbish tips</p> <p>Collect any available data on occurrence of the species, threats and limiting factors</p>	National	Started in 2008	<p>Hellenic Ornithological Society Lavrentis Sidiropoulos lavrentis.sidiropoulos@gmail.com Tsiakiris Rigas rigastsiakiris@gmail.com</p> <p>Data for Evros province kindly supplied by WWF-Greece ecodadia@otenet.gr</p>
Scientific monitoring plan of Dadia - Lefkimi - Soufli National Park	Monitoring of the breeding population in Dadia - Lefkimmi - Soufli National Park	Local	2000-2005	<p>WWF Greece Dadia project Dadia,68 400 Soufli Greece tel/fax: +302554032210 ecodadia@otenet.gr</p>
Feeding project in Dadia - Lefkimmi - Soufli National Park	Providing food at the feeding sites following the EU regulations and under the official permission from Veterinary Directorates.	Local	1987 to present	<p>Environmental Office of Evros Prefecture Dadia project Dadia,68 400 Soufli Greece tel/fax: +302554032210</p>

ITALY

<i>Title of project/action 1:</i>				
<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Coverage</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
Population decline halted.	Monitoring of the breeding population parameters: number of breeding pairs, breeding success	Local	Started but not constant	Puglia and Basilicata: Antonio Sigismondi sigismondi@tin.it Calabria: Giuseppe Cortone pinocortone@tin.it Sicily: Maurizio Sarà mausar@unipa.it
	Designation of breeding areas as protected areas	Local	Started in early '80s	Ministry of the Environment Regional Administration
	Creation of Vulture restaurants to prevent intoxication and increase pair productivity	Local	Not constant	Matera and Taranto Provinces, Pollino National Park
<i>Title of project/action 2:</i>				
<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Coverage</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
Restocking protocol set up	Creation of a captive breeding centre and definition of protocols for the reproduction in captivity	National	Since early '90s	Guido Ceccolini guido.ceccolini@biodiversita.eu
	Testing of release procedures	National	Since 2003	

FRANCE

<i>Title of project/action 1: " National actions plan for the Egyptian Vulture »</i>				
<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Coverage</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Organisations responsible, Contact name, e-mail address</i>
To increase the population of the Egyptian Vulture and its distribution area in France.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To encourage the installation of new breeding pairs of the Egyptian Vultures in the South-east of France by the construction of feeding places; 2. To assure a follow-up of the Pyrenean population to know better the evolution of its strengths 3. To identify the limiting factors that impact the dynamics of the populations of the Egyptian Vultures, 4. To develop a program of reproduction in captivity to reinforce the Mediterranean population of the Egyptian Vulture 	National Local Regional	2002 – 2007- But, the actions continue by waiting for the drafting of a new action plan	<p>LPO Mission Rapaces – Yvan Tariel - yvan.tariel@lpo.fr</p> <p>Pascal Orabi - pascal.orabi@lpo.fr</p> <p>Results : http://www.lpo-missionrapaces.fr/percnoptere_bilan2007/</p>
To develop the operations of conservatory management and restoration of the habitats (breeding sites and territories of food).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To encourage the development of the traditional and reasonable pastoral practices, 2. To encourage the realisation of conservation measures concerning the habitat of the Egyptian Vulture 			

<p>To develop the operations of information and sensitization of the partners, of the users of the space and more globally of the general public.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop communication and formation plans for the local actors and the general public, 2. To achieve documents of information and sensitization to the attention of the local actors and the general public 			
<p>To develop the axes of studies and research in order to improve the strategy of conservation of the species.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop the studies and research in order to improve the strategy of conservation of the species; 2. To reinforce and to develop the studies and research (studies about direct poisoning and toxic products). 3. To develop a new ringing program in Pyrenees 'population 			
<p>To encourage the international cooperation concerning studies and programs for the conservation of the species.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop the exchanges in order to improve the knowledge on the migratory way and the wintering areas of the Egyptian Vulture, 2. To develop a program of reproduction in captivity of the Egyptian Vulture, 3. To organize an international symposium 			

FYR OF MACEDONIA, FYR

Title of project/action 1: Vulture conservation Project - FYR of Macedonia (Action Plan for Recovery and conservation of vultures on the Balkan Peninsula and Adjacent Areas, 2003-ongoing)				
<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Coverage</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Organisations responsible</i>
Reversing the negative trend of vulture populations in FYR of Macedonia	Monitoring of the breeding population parameters: number of breeding pairs, breeding success	National	Started in 2003 - ONGOING	FYR of Macedonian Ecological Society, Metodija Veleviski, velevski@mes.org.mk
	Supplementary feeding	Local	Started in 2003	FYR of Macedonian Ecological Society, Metodija Veleviski, velevski@mes.org.mk Fund for Wild flora and Fauna, Kavadarci, Emanuel Lisicanec, fwffFYR of Macedonia@gmail.com
	Training of volunteers	National	Started in 2003	
	Education of target groups	Local	Started in 2006	FYR of Macedonian Ecological Society, Metodija Veleviski, velevski@mes.org.mk
	Antidote campaign	National	Started in 2006	FYR of Macedonian Ecological Society, Metodija Veleviski, velevski@mes.org.mk

PORTUGAL

Title of project/action 1: Population monitoring				
Field survey (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>) in Douro International Natural Park	Determine the population numbers, density, breeding success (number of incubating pairs, hatching rate, nesting success, stages of breeding failures) and respective threats	Regional	1998-2008	ICNB
Field survey (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>) in Côa SPA	Determine the population numbers, density, breeding success (number of incubating pairs, hatching rate, nesting success, stages of breeding failures) and respective threats	Regional	2003-2008	Associação Transumância e Natureza

Field survey (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>) in Tejo Basin	Determine the population numbers, density, breeding success (number of incubating pairs, hatching rate, nesting success, stages of breeding failures) and respective threats	Regional	1998 - 2008	ICNB / Carlos Pacheco
Title of project/action 2: Urgent conservation measures for the Egyptian Vulture				
Objective	Action	Coverage	Period	Organisations responsible
Increase of <i>Neophron percnopterus</i> productivity	Artificial feeding in Douro International Natural Park	National	2009-2010	ICNB
Title of project/action 3: National strategy for the conservation of vultures				
Objective	Action	Coverage	Period	Organisations responsible
Improve conservation situation of 3 species of vultures	Legal regulation for protection and management of vultures in Portugal	national	2008-2012	ICNB
	Management of a net of feeding places	national	2008-2012	ICNB

TURKEY

Title of project/action 1:				
Objective	Action	Coverage	Period	Organisations responsible, Contact name, e-mail address
To improve knowledge on the species' distribution and consistency	Carry out a local surveys to collect detailed data on the breeding sites	Local	Started in 2007	Doga Dernegi, Ozge Balkiz, ozge.balkiz@dogadernegi.org
To halt the decrease of available feeding areas	In one site, the information we have supplied to the local authorities prevented a change in the garbage area, the main feeding site for the species, which would have negative effects otherwise	Local	Started in 2007	

Ongoing monitoring schemes for the species.

Country	Is there a national survey / monitoring programme?	Is there a monitoring programme in protected areas?
<i>Armenia</i>	We have general monitoring scheme for IBAs, but not for the species.	Programme exists but there is a deficiency of appropriate specialists and staff who should implement the programme.
<i>Bulgaria</i>	Yes	No
<i>France</i>	After the first national action plan and the Life program in the Southeast of France we wish to organize the new studies and to pursue and to develop the actions of monitoring and the procedures of marking for individuals.	Yes
<i>Greece</i>	A national monitoring scheme is under development	Locally (e g Dadia forest, Tzena-Pinovo Mt, N Pindos National Park) and irregularly
<i>Italy</i>	No	Partially
<i>FYR of Macedonia</i>	Yes	not by PA managers, included in national monitoring
<i>Portugal</i>	No (but the majority of the population is being surveyed)	Yes
<i>Spain</i>	Yes, but not each year in all the country. In some areas of Spain there is a annual monitoring programme but not for all. Yes for Canary population	Covered by national census
<i>Turkey</i>	There is no national monitoring programme identified, individual counts are carried out in project sites where the species is present but not in the framework of a national monitoring programme.	Individual counts are carried out, an example to this is the counts made through the support of an ecotourism project carried out in Kirmir Vadisi IBA. The relationships established during this project permitted us to inform officers about the importance of the garbage area for the species.

Overview of the coverage of the species in networks of sites with legal protection status.

Country	Percentage of national population included in IBAs	Percentage of population included in SPAs¹	Percentage of population included in protected areas under national law
<i>Austria</i>	<i>n/a</i>		
<i>Armenia</i>	<i>50 %</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>65%</i>
<i>Bulgaria</i>	<i>82%</i>	<i>82%</i>	<i>41%</i>
<i>Cyprus</i>	<i>No data</i>		
<i>France</i>	<i>>75%</i>	<i>>75%</i>	
<i>Italy</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>70%</i>
<i>FYR of Macedonia</i>	<i>new proposal (Veleovski et al 2007) includes 95% of the population. Approval by BirdLife International still pending.</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Turkey</i>	<i>>70%</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i><30%</i>
<i>Greece</i>	<i>50-90%</i>	<i>50-90</i>	<i>50-90</i>
<i>Spain</i>	<i>50-90%</i>	<i>50-90%</i>	<i>50-90%</i>
<i>Portugal</i>	<i>96%</i>	<i>91,6%</i>	<i>96%</i>

¹ This is relevant only for European Union member states. Any other regional (legal) protection should be mentioned in next column.