Press Release

ELO European Landowners' Organization

Wednesday February 19, 2025

ELO supports stronger cooperation among wildlife conservation foundations through new network

Brussels, 12 October 2026 – Representatives of foundations committed to wildlife and biodiversity conservation met in Brussels on 2 October to further develop the Network of Foundations for Wildlife Conservation (NFWC) and agree on a shared direction for future cooperation.

The initiative was made possible through the support and coordination of the European Landowners' Organization (ELO), which has helped bring the participating foundations together and provide a platform for developing the Network.

The Network brings together independent foundations engaged in biodiversity conservation, private conservation initiatives and responsible land stewardship. While each foundation retains its independence, the NFWC provides a platform to exchange experience, strengthen cooperation and increase the collective impact of their work.

The meeting confirmed three central priorities for the Network: strengthening global connections, demonstrating successful conservation approaches, and bringing practical experience into European policy discussions.

Through stronger links between foundations, land managers, scientists and policymakers, the Network aims to facilitate the exchange of practical conservation experience across borders and to connect philanthropic ambition with concrete conservation opportunities.

A particular focus will be placed on demonstrating successful conservation approaches and sharing evidence, results and lessons from the field. At European level, the Network aims to

bring this practical experience into discussions on biodiversity, restoration and conservation funding.

The Network works in close cooperation with ELO, Friends of the Countryside and the Wildlife Estates Label, bringing together complementary expertise in conservation, land stewardship and European policy.

Independent and non-political, the NFWC seeks to complement the work of existing organisations and public authorities and to help ensure that biodiversity conservation remains closely connected to practical experience on the ground.

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About the European Landowners' Organization (ELO)

The European Landowners' Organization (ELO) is a leading voice representing the interests of landowners, rural entrepreneurs, and rural land managers in Europe. ELO promotes sustainable land management practices, fosters innovation, and advocates for the recognition of landowners' crucial role in shaping Europe's landscapes and rural areas.