

Ursula von der Leyen  
President of the European Commission  
European Commission

*By electronic mail*

Brussels, 11. April 2024

## **Re: Implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation**

Dear President,

We are writing to you to reiterate our **full support** for the [EU Deforestation Regulation \(EUDR\)](#). In response to the global biodiversity and climate crises, you and your Commission introduced this landmark legislation in November 2021 to combat and accelerate the end of global deforestation. This legislation, the first of its kind in the world, is intended to guarantee that EU citizens' consumption of key forest-risk commodities does not contribute to the destruction of irreplaceable forests, from the tropics to Europe and beyond.

The EUDR entered into force in June 2023 after having been adopted with broad support from the Council and Parliament. **EU Member States and the Commission must now swiftly implement this law and ensure it is complied with by all relevant actors.** This legislation was introduced to create a level playing field in the market after the failure of many years of voluntary pledges by the private sector to address deforestation in their supply chains. It is a crucial part of ensuring that the EU meets the commitments made by parties to the UN Climate Convention at [COP28](#) in December 2023: '[...] conserving, protecting and restoring nature and ecosystems towards achieving the Paris agreement temperature goal' and 'halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030', but also to the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#) adopted at the UN Biodiversity Conference at COP15 in December 2022. In light of these international commitments, the decision by the Commission last year to award a tender for the targeted reviews foreseen under Article 34 (para. 1-4) of the EUDR is a welcome, necessary step forward.

Given the worsening climate and biodiversity crises, it is crucial for this generation and future generations that the actions required of the Commission and Member States under the EUDR are carried out on time. The destruction of forests and ecosystems [continues](#) unabated with considerable impact on the rights and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples and of communities who rely on forests and other ecosystems, and with consequences already being felt [within the EU](#) through worsening droughts and forest fires. **The EU urgently needs to break away from a production and consumption model that fuels nature destruction and threatens human rights and farming livelihoods.**

We are aware that certain industry associations, third countries and even agriculture ministers from EU Member States are criticising the EUDR or certain aspects of it, risking undermining it, despite years of research, consultation, and an open, and transparent legislative process.

**We urge you to protect the integrity of the EU democratic decision-making process and to ensure that the EU stands firm in pursuing the objectives set out in the EUDR.** Political leadership, as reflected with the development of the Green Deal, shows long-term vision, which is needed for this global crisis. We trust that you will stand by the [commitment](#) you made to EU citizens and uphold the law that you and your Commission proposed - and that the Council and Parliament overwhelmingly approved - by ensuring its proper and swift implementation.

We would be grateful for the opportunity to discuss the details of this important matter further with you, and look forward to hearing from you regarding a suitable date and time for a meeting.

## **SIGNATORIES**

**11.11.11, Belgium**

**Acréscimo, Associação de Promoção ao Investimento Florestal**

**Adiconsum APS - Italian Association for Consumer Protection**

**AidEnvironment**

**A ROCHA - Associação Cristã de Estudos e Defesa do Ambiente**

**Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB)**

**Association Biom, BirdLife Croatia**

**Associação Alternativa Terrazul**

**Auriga Nusantara, Indonesia**

**Australian Conservation Foundation**

**A Vida no Cerrado (AVINC)**

**BALKANI Wildlife Society**

**BIAZA**

**Biodiversity Conservation Center**

**BirdLife Europe**

**BirdLife Sweden**

**Bond Beter Leefmilieu**

**BOS+**

**Both ENDS**

**Bruno Manser Fonds**

**Calla - Sdružení pro záchranu prostředí, z.s.**

**Canopée**

**Canopy**

**Center for Environment / FoE Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**Český svaz ochránců přírody Morava**

**Chester Zoo**

**CIPRA Deutschland e.V.**

**CIPRA France**

**CIPRA Slovenija, društvo za varstvo Alp**

**Čisté nebe o.p.s.**

**ClientEarth**

**Climate Rights International**

**CNCD-11.11.11, Belgium**

**Comité Schone Lucht**

**Commerce Equitable France**

**Compassion in World Farming EU**

**ČSOP Arion**  
**ČSOP Hradec Králové**  
**Czech Society for Ornithology**  
**Dachverband für Natur- und Umweltschutz (CIPRA Südtirol)**  
**Dauerwaldstiftung in Pommern**  
**Destilator klub**  
**Děti Země (Children of the Earth), Czech Republic**  
**Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR)**  
**Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. (Environmental Action Germany)**  
**Dogwood Alliance**  
**DOPPS - BirdLife Slovenia**  
**Earthsight**  
**ECODEV**  
**Ecologistas en Acción**  
**Ecosia**  
**Ekumenická akademie, Czech Republic**  
**Endangered Species Coalition**  
**Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)**  
**Environmental Justice Foundation**  
**Environment Centre NT**  
**Envol Vert**  
**Eurogroup for Animals**  
**European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA)**  
**European Environmental Bureau (EEB)**  
**European Vegetarian Union**  
**FDCL-Forschungs- und Dokumentationszentrum Chile-Lateinamerika e.V.**  
**Federazione Nazionale Pro Natura**  
**Fern**  
**Finnish Association for Nature Conservation**  
**Focus Association for Sustainable Development**  
**Fondazione Internazionale LUMEN**  
**Forest Peoples Programme**  
**Forests of the World (Verdens Skove)**  
**Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) International**  
**Forum Ökologie & Papier**  
**France Nature Environnement**  
**Friends of the Earth Europe**  
**Fundación Internacional para la Restauración de Ecosistemas**  
**GEOTA-Grupo de Estudos de Ordenamento do Território e Ambiente**  
**GLOBAL 2000 - Friends of the Earth Austria**  
**Global Canopy**  
**Global Forest Coalition (GFC)**  
**Global Justice Ecology Project**  
**Global Nature Fund (GNF)**  
**Global Witness**  
**Great Lakes and Wetlands Association, Hungary**  
**Green Development Advocates (GDA)**  
**Greenpeace**  
**Green Transition Denmark**  
**Hnutí DUHA - Friends of the Earth CR**

**Human Rights Watch**  
**HUTAN**  
**Iepé - Instituto de Pesquisa e Formação Indígena**  
**IFOAM Organics Europe**  
**INKOTA-netzwerk, Germany**  
**Instituto Centro de Vida**  
**Instituto Cerrados**  
**Instituto Jane Goodall España**  
**Instituto Pato-mergulhão**  
**Instituto Sociedade, População e Natureza (ISPN)**  
**International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)**  
**Jane Goodall Institute Belgium**  
**Jane Goodall Institute France**  
**JARO Jaroměř**  
**JARO Österreich**  
**Koalice pro řeky**  
**Landelijk Netwerk Bossen- en Bomenbescherming**  
**Leefmilieu**  
**Lipu-BirdLife Italia**  
**Luontoliitto (the Finnish Nature Association)**  
**Mighty Earth**  
**Milieudefensie - Friends of the Earth Netherlands**  
**Mouvement écologique**  
**NABU (The Nature And Biodiversity Conservation Union) Germany**  
**Natagora**  
**Natural Forest Academy, Germany**  
**Naturefriends Greece**  
**Nature Nova Scotia**  
**Natuurpunt**  
**Netzwerk gerechter Welthandel**  
**Notre Affaire à Tous**  
**NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council)**  
**Observatório do Clima (Brazilian Climate Observatory)**  
**Observatory for Socio-environmental Conflicts in Matopiba - Brazil**  
**OroVerde - Tropical Forest Foundation**  
**Palm Oil Watch International**  
**Partners of Community Organisations in Sabah (PACOS TRUST)**  
**Polish Ecological Club (Main Board)**  
**Polish Ecological Club Mazovian Branch**  
**Prague pasture (Pražská pastvina)**  
**Pro REGENWALD**  
**Public Eye**  
**Queensland Conservation Council**  
**Quercus**  
**Rainforest Action Network**  
**Rainforest Alliance**  
**Rainforest Foundation Norway**  
**RCA - Rede de Cooperação Amazônica**  
**Reformaten**  
**Re-set: platform for socio-ecological transformation**

Rettet den Regenwald e.V.  
 Rights and Resources Initiative  
**ROBIN WOOD**  
 Saami Council  
 Salva la Selva  
 Sangga Bumi Lestari  
 Satya Bumi  
 Save Estonia's Forests (Päästame Eesti Metsad)  
**SAVE Rivers**  
 Sawit Watch  
 Service d'Appui aux Initiatives Locales de Développement (SAILD)  
 Slovene Dragonfly Society  
 Socio-Ecological Union International  
 Solsoc  
 Südwind, Austria  
 Swedish Society for Nature Conservation  
 Teraju Indonesia  
 The Association of Naturalists OSTOJA, Poland  
 The Lifescape Project  
 The Wilderness Society, Australia  
 Transición Verde  
 TROCA - Plataforma por um Comércio Internacional Justo  
 Uma Gota no Oceano  
 Umanotera, The Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Development  
 Umweltinstitut München e.V.  
 Unión Vegetariana Española  
 Vegetarian Society of Denmark  
 Westpapua-Netzwerk  
 Wetlands International Europe  
 Wild Europe Foundation  
 Wild Heritage  
 World Animal Protection  
 World Forest ID  
 WWF European Policy Office  
**ZERO - Associação Sistema Terrestre Sustentável**

## LOGOS





**Both ENDS**  
Connecting people for change

**bruno manser fonds**  
for the peoples of the rainforest



**canopy**



**Centar za životnu sredinu**



ČSOP Morava



**CIPRA**  
LEBEN IN DEN ALPEN  
CIPRA Deutschland e.V.



**CIPRA**  
VIVRE DANS LES ALPES



**CIPRA**  
ŽIVETI V ALPAH



**ClientEarth**

**CLIMATE RIGHTS**  
INTERNATIONAL

**CNCD**  
11.11.11



**COMITÉ SCHÖNE LUCHT**



**Commerce Équitable France**

**COMPASSION**  
in world farming  
ciwf.org



dachverband für natur- und umweltschutz in südtirol  
CIPRA SÜDTIROL



AUERWALD-STIFTUNG IN POMMERN  
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**Děti Země**



**DNR**  
DEUTSCHER NATURSCHUTZRING



**Deutsche Umwelthilfe**



**EarthSight**



**EcoOdev**  
Écosystèmes et développement  
Pour un développement éco



**ECOSIA**



**Ekumenická akademie**



**environmental investigation agency**



Protecting People and Planet



**EUROGROUP FOR ANIMALS**



**EAZA**



**EEB**  
European Environmental Bureau



**European Vegetarian Union**



Forschungs- und Dokumentationszentrum Chile-Lateinamerika e.V.



MAKING EUROPE WORK FOR PEOPLE & FORESTS

**Suomen Luonnonsuojeluliitto**



**LUMEN**  
FONDAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE



**Forest Peoples Programme**

**FORESTS OF THE WORLD**



**Friends of the Earth Europe**



FUNDACIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA RESTAURACIÓN DE ECOSISTEMAS



grupo de estudos do ordenamento do território e ambiente



**FRIENDS OF THE EARTH AUSTRIA**



**Global Canopy**



**Global Forest Coalition**



Green Development Advocates  
For a Green Congo Basin



Hnutí DUHA  
Friends of the Earth Czech Republic



Instituto de Pesquisa e Formação Indígena



Instituto Jane Goodall España



Instituto Pato-Mergulhão  
"CHAPADA DOS VEADEIROS"



ISPN  
INSTITUTO SOCIEDADE, POPULAÇÃO E NATUREZA



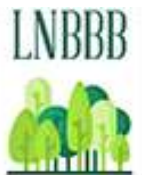
Jane Goodall Institute Belgium



Jane Goodall Institute France



KOALICE pro řeky



MIGHTY EARTH



FRIENDS OF THE EARTH NETHERLANDS



mouvement écologique



NABU



natagora



Natural Forest Academy



NATUREFRIENDS GREECE  
Ecology • Society • Culture • Sustainable tourism



Nature NOVA SCOTIA



natuurpunt



NETZWERK Gerechter Welthandel



Observatório do Clima 20 anos



ORO VERDE  
Together for tropical forests



PALM OIL WATCH INTERNATIONAL



PACOS Trust



POLSKI KLUB EKOLOGICZNY



PRAŽSKÁ PASTVINA



Pro REGENWALD  
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Public Eye



