



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

---

---

**Interinstitutional files:  
2025/0058 (COD)**

---

---

**Brussels, 19 March 2025**

**WK 3688/2025 INIT**

**LIMITE**

**ENV  
CODEC**

*This is a paper intended for a specific community of recipients. Handling and further distribution are under the sole responsibility of community members.*

## **INFORMATION**

---

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on the Environment
Subject:	Targeted amendment to the Habitats Directive (Wolf): WPE on 24 March (16:00) – Presidency steering note

---

With a view to the WPE on 24 March 2025 (at 16:00), delegations will find attached a Presidency Steering Note on the proposal for a targeted amendment to the Habitats Directive as regards the protection status of the wolf.

# PRESIDENCY STEERING NOTE

WORKING PARTY ON THE ENVIRONMENT (WPE)

**TARGETED AMENDMENT TO THE HABITATS DIRECTIVE (Wolf)**

**24 MARCH 2025**

On 6 December 2024, the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (the Bern Convention) adopted the European Union's proposal<sup>1</sup> to change the protection status of the wolf (*Canis lupus*) by moving the species from Appendix II (strictly protected fauna species) to Appendix III (protected fauna species).

Following its entry into force three months later, in line with the procedure set out in Article 17 of the Bern Convention, and in order to transpose this change under the Bern Convention, the Commission put forward a proposal for a targeted amendment to the annexes of the Habitats Directive (*Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora*) by moving the reference to the wolf from Annex IV of the Directive to Annex V (*COM(2025) 106 final*).

At the meeting of the Working Party on the Environment **on 24 March 2025 at 16h00**, the Commission will present its **proposal amending Council Directive 92/43/EEC as regards the protection status of the wolf (*Canis lupus*)**. **Delegations will be invited to present their views and positions on the Commission's proposal during the meeting.**

The meeting will be held in an attaché-only format (without interpretation).

---

<sup>1</sup> Council Decision (EU) 2024/2669 of 26 September 2024 on the submission, on behalf of the European Union, of a proposal for the amendment of Appendices II and III to the Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats and on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the Union, at the 44th meeting of the Standing Committee to that Convention <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/2669/oj/eng>