

PREAMBLE

THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE CONFERENCE OF NATURE PROTECTORS FOR THE BALKANS REGION “GREEN WAVE 2021” ADOPTED THIS CODE AS AN ETHICAL STANDARD OF NATURE CONSERVATIONISTS

The Code of Ethics of Nature Protectors represents a charter of principles of values and rules of conduct.

The Code is public, specific, and loyal to the principles and mission of nature conservationists.

The subject of this Code is the definition of ethical standards of conduct to which nature conservationists are committed.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

We believed that in the 21st century, the achievements of civilization cannot be lower than those already established. Numerous plant and animal species that are disappearing and the planet that is crunching under the burden of people and mindless exploitation deny that. We are aware that we are destroying the planet we live on.¹

We speak for ourselves, and on behalf of those who cannot defend themselves and speak on their own behalf: plant and animal species that are disappearing every day. We speak on behalf of our descendants from whom we borrowed this planet.

Everyone is responsible for the state of the planet, but the most responsible are those who have the most power, and those are the richest countries in the world.

In a sea of laws and directives that use the impersonal language of administration, one goes beyond the most important law that transcends all: the law of life.

¹ The Creation: An Appeal to Save Life on Earth, [Edward O. Wilson](#), Milton, ISBN: 978-0-393-33048-9; [Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis](#), Global [Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#)

CODE OF ETHICS

1. Nature conservationists are uncompromisingly committed to the protection, preservation and improvement of nature, natural and urban ecosystem - all their parts, and especially the values of biodiversity, geodiversity and preservation of cultural heritage.
2. Nature conservationists primarily act in the interest of nature protection as a basis for personal survival, the survival of society, and the planet.
3. Nature conservationists will never put the interest of nature conservation in the service of another interest.
4. Nature conservationists perform their tasks conscientiously, honestly, and impartially, with openness and responsibility for their decisions and actions, and by their behavior, they represent a good example to all citizens.
5. Nature conservationists will take the utmost account of the views of other members expressed in public debate or otherwise.
6. Nature conservationists will always bear in mind that belongs to only one of the many species on the planet and we are obliged to do everything to live in harmony with full respect for others in this unequal relationship.