



## Wildlife Crime Newsletter

**October - November 2021**

BirdLife's bi-monthly newsletter: keeping you up to date with what's happening in the fight against the illegal killing of wild birds and other forms of bird persecutions in the African-Eurasian Flyway. Please, send us your feedback to

[wildlifecrime@birdlife.org](mailto:wildlifecrime@birdlife.org).

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## Featured news

### A Road Map to tackle IKB in the Middle East

The Royal Society for Conservation of Nature (RSCN) in cooperation with BirdLife International organized a regional workshop in Amman, Jordan between October 25-29 to tackle IKB. Representatives from Lebanon, Syria, Oman, Bahrain, Iraq, the UAE, Yemen, Egypt, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Jordan, along with representatives from media outlets and other organisations attended the workshop. Read [more](#).



## Events and campaigns

### Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Birds (IKB) in sub-Saharan Africa

A webinar to share preliminary results of a literature review on illegal killing, taking and trade of birds in sub-Saharan Africa

### Abattage, prélèvement et commerce illégal d'oiseaux en Afrique sub-saharienne

Un webinaire pour partager les résultats préliminaires d'une revue de la littérature sur l'abattage, la prise et le commerce illégal des oiseaux en Afrique sub-saharienne



September 29<sup>th</sup> 2021  
2pm - 4pm EAT | 11am - 1pm UTC

### IKB literature review in sub-Saharan Africa

BirdLife has embarked on a study to compile all existing information about illegal bird killing, trapping and trade in sub-Saharan Africa. Read more about the work [here](#). The BirdLife Africa secretariat also launched a very successful webinar on 29 September 2021 to share the preliminary results. Watch the recorded event [here](#).

## Flyway Initiative

In celebration of the World Migratory Bird Day, the BirdLife partnership held a webinar on 7 October 2021 featuring the work to save migratory birds along the East Atlantic Flyway, from Iceland to South Africa. If you missed it, the recording is available [here](#).

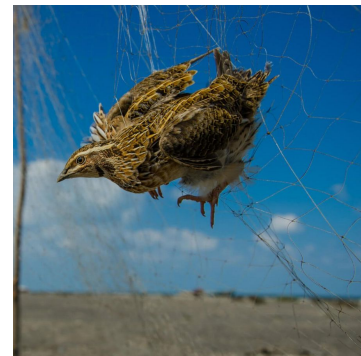


## LIFE EUOKITE Workshop “Overview of wildlife poisoning in whole Europe”

The international workshop “Overview of wildlife poisoning in whole Europe” took place on November 11th within the framework of the LIFE EUOKITE project. The workshop gave an overview of illegal poisoning activities in Europe. You can find all presentations and information about the workshop [here](#).

## Donors help us to stop IKB around the world

It has been six months since BirdLife International launched a new appeal to stop the illegal killing of birds. From landmark hunting bans to vulture rehabilitation, here's the [update](#) on what those donations have helped us to achieve so far around the world.



## More news

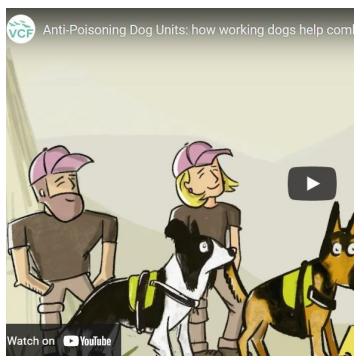
### Bulgaria's anti-poison Action Plan approved

Bulgaria's Ministry of Environment and Water recently approved the country's National Action Plan to combat the illicit use of poisons in the wild. The Action Plan was developed by the Bulgarian BirdLife partner (BSPB) in close collaboration with the LIFE RE-Vultures and Egyptian Vulture New LIFE projects. Read more [here](#).



### Protection for endangered quarry species in Serbia

Temporary hunting moratorium in Serbia for the Turtle Dove and Grey Partridge has been introduced, the quail hunting season was shortened. Read more at this [link](#) (in Serbian).



### WATCH: Anti-Poisoning Dog Units: how working dogs help combat illegal wildlife poisoning?

The illegal use of poison baits to target animals is the most significant threat to vultures worldwide. It also puts other animals, nature and people in danger. Today, several conservation actions exist to mitigate this threat, and one of these is anti-poisoning dog units! Learn [more](#) and watch the [animation](#) produced by the Vulture Conservation Foundation (VCF).

### RSPB launched the 2020 BirdCrime report

The RSPB Birdcrime report reveals 137 confirmed incidents of raptor persecution in 2020, including the shooting, trapping & poisoning of birds of prey. This is the highest figure ever recorded. The report is available online [here](#).





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### Malta: finch trapping must STOP

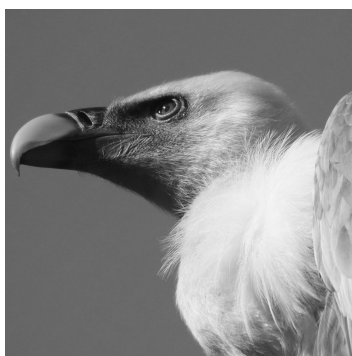
BirdLife Malta has filed a judicial protest against the Minister for Gozo, the Minister for the Environment, the Wild Birds Regulation Unit (WBRU) and the Environment and Resources Authority (ERA), demanding that Malta's law courts revoke the new framework law "allowing over 2,500 trappers to practise illegal finch trapping under the guise of a scientific 'research' project." Read [more](#).

The European Commission also acted quickly and [decided](#) to refer Malta to the European Court of Justice for issuing this new framework law to allow for the smokescreen finch-trapping 'research' derogation, supposedly replacing the previous legislation, which was the subject of infringement proceedings. Read BirdLife Malta's article [here](#).

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### 2027 frozen thrushes seized in Norway

Three Italian hunters have been caught with over 2000 dead and frozen thrushes near the southern Norwegian city of Kristianand, amongst them there were 31 Blackbirds and 10 Song Thrushes illegally shot. Triggered by this incident, BirdLife Norway has also highlighted the problem that most foreign hunters fail to report what they have shot. Read [more](#).



### Mass mortality event of Griffon Vultures in Israel causes significant blow to vulnerable population

Late October a poisoning incident resulted in a loss of minimum 12 Griffon Vultures in Israel. Considering that around 200 Griffon Vultures remain in Israel today, this single poisoning incident took the lives of 5% of the entire population! Read [more](#).

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Please, help our new Wildlife Crime e-newsletter to reach its audience by sharing it with colleagues and stakeholders, who may be interested in this topic.



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This newsletter is a joint initiative of BirdLife International's African Eurasian flyway team: Stichting BirdLife Europe - BirdLife Middle East - BirdLife Africa. Stichting BirdLife Europe and BirdLife International gratefully acknowledge financial support from the MAVA Foundation and from the European Commission's LIFE programme through the LIFE against Bird Crime project (LIFE 17 GIE/NL/000599).



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