Basics of EU Environmental Law

BIODIVERSITY/CITES



29 November 2023 JUDr. Vojtěch Vomáčka, Ph.D., LL.M

Biodiversity in the EU

Birds Directive

EU measures to protect Europe's wild bird species

Habitats Directive

EU measures to conserve Europe's wild flora and fauna

Natura 2000 network

The largest coordinated network of protected areas in the world.

Nature restoration

The Commission's proposal for a new law to restore ecosystems, habitats and species.

Invasive alien species

Preventing and minimising the effects on invasive alien species on Europe's biodiversity.

Pollinators

Contributing to global conservation efforts and addressing the decline of wild pollinators.

Urban greening

Supporting towns and cities in restoring nature and biodiversity.

Animals in zoos

Promoting the protection and conservation of wild animals outside their natural habitat.

Green infrastructure

Promoting the use and integration of green infrastructure in all EU policies.



International Law:

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES - 1975)

- Difficult nature binding international convention, but instruments contained therein are not binding until they become part of national law
- Large number of Parties lack regulations prohibiting illegal trade or imposing sanctions or allowing seizure of specimens or defining professional conservation authorities
- Possibility of bilateral "sanctions" (e.g. certification)
- Does not protect habitats, does not address causes of illegal trade
- Within biodiversity conservation, the focus of CITES is paradoxically narrow

EU Law:

- Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 of 9 December 1996 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein + amendments and implementing regulations
- Regulation (EC) No 1007/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on trade in seal products

'Specimen'



shall mean any animal or plant, whether alive or dead, of the species listed in Annexes A to D, any part or derivative thereor, whether or not contained in other goods, as well as any other goods which appear from an accompanying document, the packaging or a mark or label, or from any other circumstances, to be or to contain parts or derivatives of animals or plants of those species, unless such parts or derivatives are specifically exempted from the provisions of this Regulation or from the provisions relating to the Annex in which the species concerned is listed by means of an indication to that effect in the Annexes concerned.



ANNEXES

Regulation (EC) No 338/97 has four Annexes (A-D) which contain non-CITES species.

Annex	Includes
Annex A	 All CITES Appendix I species Some CITES Appendix II and III species, for which the EU has adopted stricter domestic measures. Some non-CITES species
Annex B	 All other CITES Appendix II species Some CITES Appendix III species Some non-CITES species
Annex C	All other CITES Appendix III species
Annex D	 Some CITES Appendix III species for which the EU holds a reservation Some non-CITES species

ART. 8 OF REGULATION 338/97



(1) The purchase, offer to purchase, acquisition for commercial purposes, display to the public for commercial purposes, use for commercial gain and sale, keeping for sale, offering for sale or transporting for sale of specimens of the species listed in Annex A shall be prohibited.

(2) This prohibition shall also apply to specimens of species listed in Annex B except where it can be proved that such specimens were acquired in accordance with the legislation in force.

ART. 8 OF REGULATION 338/97



(3) Exemption from the prohibitions referred to in paragraph 1 may be granted by issuance of a certificate to that effect by a management authority of the Member State in which the specimens are located, on a case-by-case basis where the specimens:

(a) were acquired in, or were introduced into, the Community before the provisions relating to species listed in Appendix I to the Convention or in Annex C1 to Regulation (EEC) No 3626/82 or in Annex A became applicable to the specimens; or

(b) are worked specimens that were acquired more than 50 years previously; or

(c) were introduced into the Community in compliance with the provisions of this Regulation and are to be used for purposes which are not detrimental to the survival of the species concerned; or

(d) are captive-born and bred specimens of an animal species or artificially propagated specimens of a plant species or are parts or derivatives of such specimens; or

IMPORT PERMITS / NOTIFICATIONS

- An **import permit** is required for **Annex A and Annex B** species, to be applied for at the competent authorities in the Member State.
- An **import notification** is required for **Annex C and D** species. An import notification is a declaration filled in by the importer and to be submitted, where appropriate together with CITES Appendix III documents from the (re-)exporting country, to the customs office of introduction into the Community. It is contained in Annex 2 to Commission Regulation (EC) 865/96 and is available from the competent authorities in each Member State.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

One of the conditions for issuing a permit for import of specimens of Annex A **and** Annex B species is that "the intended accommodation for a live specimen at the place of destination is adequately equipped to conserve and care for it properly".



Introduction into the EU of specimens of species listed in Annex A:

Import permit must be presented; this permit can be granted when the following conditions have been met :

- Export permit or re-export certificate
- Introduction would not have harmful effect on the conservation status of species
- Accommodation for a live specimen is adequately equipped
- The specimen is not used for primarily commercial purposes
- The risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment will be minimized

Introduction into the EU of specimens of species listed in Annex B:

- Import permit must be presented; this permit can be granted when the following conditions have been met :
- Export permit or re-export certificate
- Introduction would not have harmful effect on the conservation status of species
- Accommodation for a live specimen is adequately equipped
- The risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment will be minimized
- The specimen may be used for commercial purposes.

A bred in captivity = B

Introduction into the EU of specimens of species listed in Annex C: At the border customs office at the point of introduction the importer must present

- □ Import notification
- Export permit / re-export certificate / certificate of
- Origin

species listed in Annex C: notification

Export or re-export from the EU

• Export permit/re-export certificate

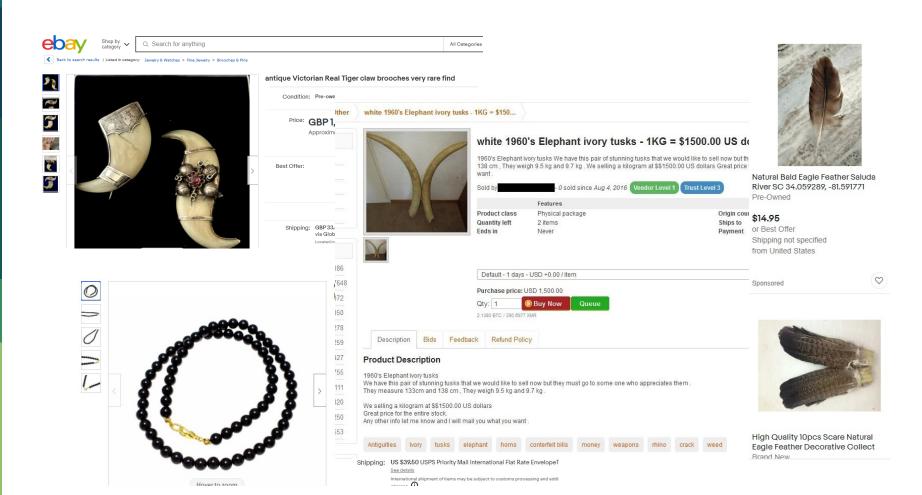
Conditions:

- No harmful effect on the conservation status
- · Specimens were legally obtained
- Risks of injury during the shipment are minimized

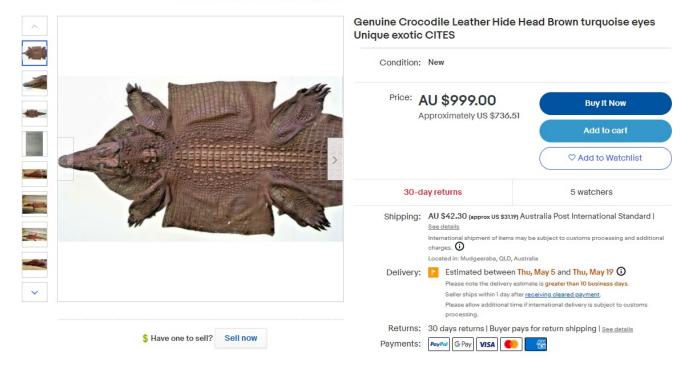
• Other requirements are met Derogations from conditions (Art. 5(6))

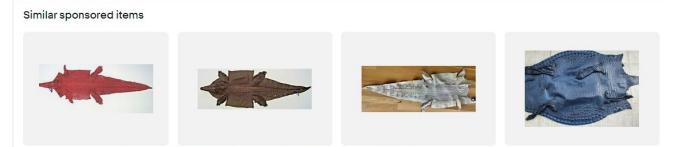
Intra EU trade: notifications, documents...

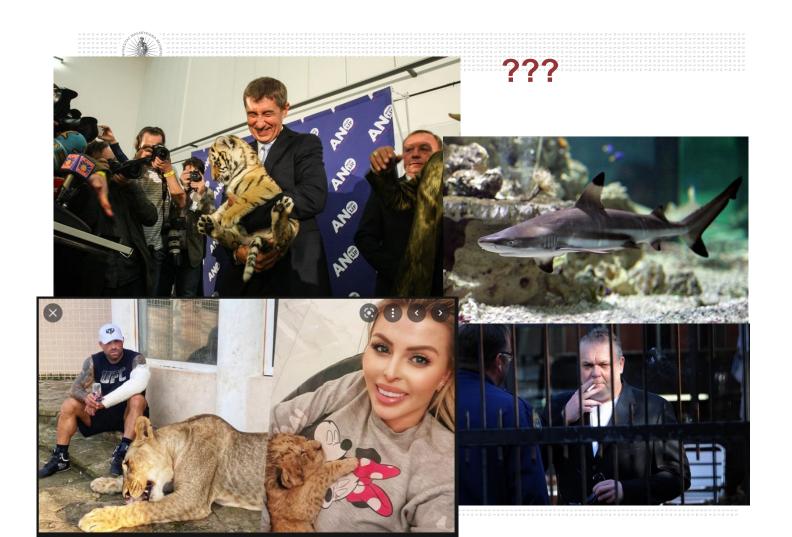




Home & Garden > Home Décor > Sculptures & Figurines











Ohledání zabavené kůže na pitevně. Vpravo Pavla Říhová. Foto | Zdeněk Novák







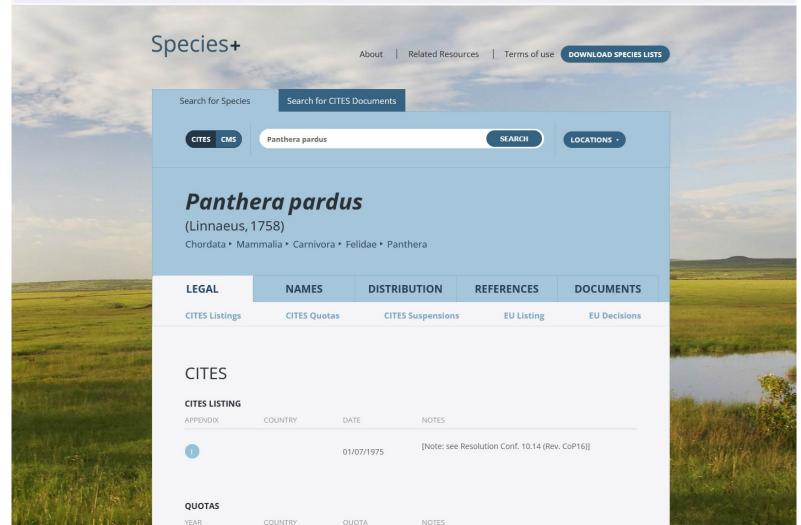
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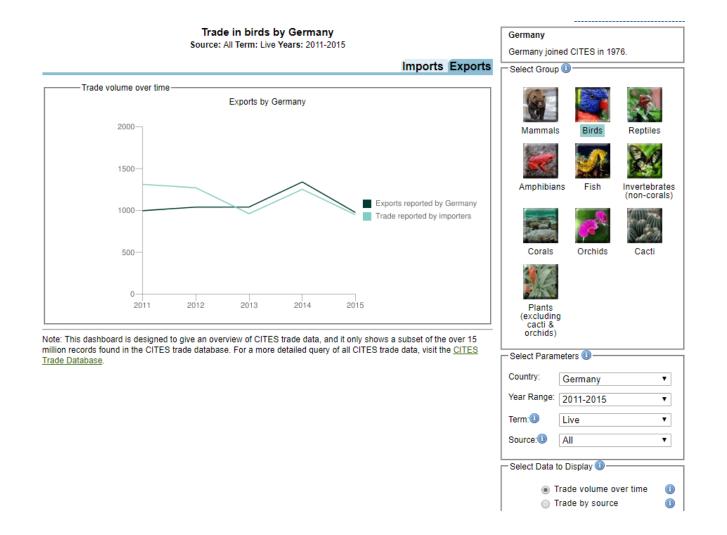
Inspektoři se podíleli například na odhalení nelegální výroby tygřího vývaru. Zdroj | Policie ČR

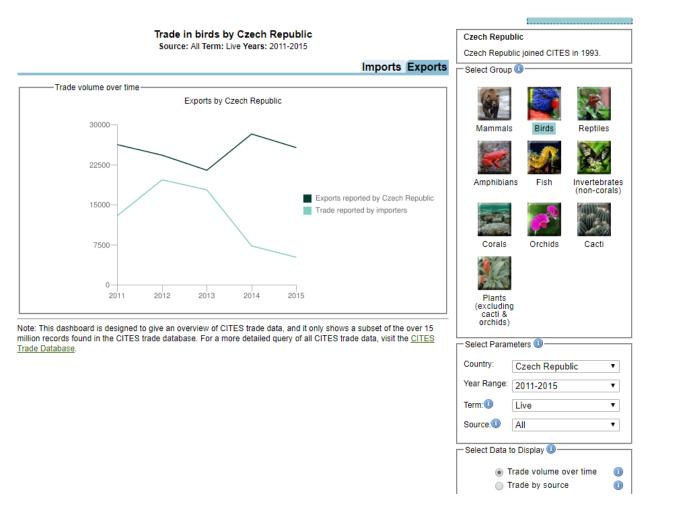


CITES Timber identification kit











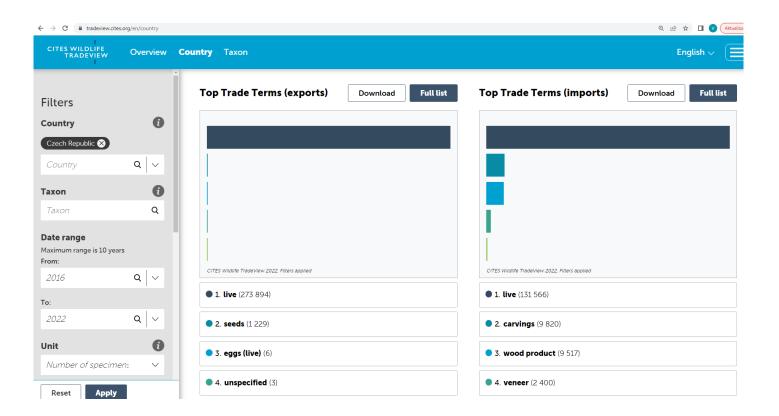


p Taxa (exports))	Download	Full list	Top Taxa (imports)		Do	
Kingdom	Phylum	Clas	is »	< Kingdom	Phylum		
TES Wildlife TradeView 2022. Filte	ers applied			CITES Wildlife TradeView 2022	Filters applied		
1. Chamaeleo calypi	tratus (54 557)			• 1. Graptemys pseu	udogeographica (50 17	'5)	
2. Psephotus haema	tonotus (37 457)		• 2. Graptemys ouachitensis (25 675)				
3. Platycercus eximi	ius (30 277)		3 . Dalbergia sissoo (14 665)				
4. Cyanoramphus auriceps (13 594)				• 4. Graptemys hybrid (8 825)			
5. Furcifer pardalis (12 583)				5 . Dalbergia latifolia (7 072)			
				·			

Download

Class

Full list



https://tradeview.cites.org/

Practical task

- 1. Which species are most frequently imported to your country?
- 2. Which species are most frequently exported from your country?
- 3. In which quantity)condition are these species transported?

Thank you for your attention!