

MEPs Thomas Waitz and Benedek Jávor invite you to this conference on:

## 08 November 2018 15:00 - 17:00 European Parliament, Brussels Room number: ASP5E1

Please confirm participation by 2nd November at: thomas.waitz-office@ep.europa.eu









Less than one per cent of Europe's forests are still in a primeval status and give home to the full scale of natural processes, different forest habitat types and their residential species. Natural forests are key to preserve biodiversity, provide important ecosystem services, and to foster recreation and tourism.

The ongoing decline of Europe's natural forest landscapes has been addressed by scientists and NGOs since several years. The increasing demand of wood for bioenergy could increase the logging stress for the natural forest remains within the EU and beyond.

Most of the extremely valuable natural forest heritage of the European Union is located in Carpathians, predominantly in Slovakia and Romania. Unfortunately, these forests are under severe pressure from legal and illegal logging. Experts and NGOs have been raising strong concerns about ongoing logging activities in Romania's Natura 2000 sites and national parks.

The event aims to draw a picture of the current situation and discuss the future of Europe's virgin forests. A special focus will be given to the conflicts about the virgin forests in Romania, which will hold the EU-Presidency in the first half of 2019.

## Agenda:

## Welcome and introduction

Host Thomas Waitz (MEP Austria), Co-host Benedek Jávor (MEP Hungary)

Europe and it's forests – an irreversible loss of heritage and climate regulators Gabriel Schwaderer (Executive Director EuroNatur Foundation, Germany)

Virgin forests in Romania – a paradise under threat Gabriel Paun (President Agent Green, Romania)

Film screening about logging in national parks in Romania (shortcut of the "Out of Control" series)

Statement of the European Commission
Humberto Delgado Rosa (Director Natural Capital, DG Environment)

**Question and Answer** 





