



Petition against bird slaughter in Egypt

Stop the trapping and shooting of European migratory birds in Egypt!



Directed to:

the government of the Arabic Republic of Egypt, President Mohammed Mursi and Prime Minister Hischam Kandil

and

to the government of the Federal Republic of Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel

In spring 2013, the German public has learned about the shocking extent of bird trapping in Egypt. During autumn migration of birds a continuous line of bird trapping nets extends over more than 700 kilometres along the Egyptian coast of the Mediterranean. Every autumn more than ten million migratory birds are being caught there. Birds arriving after their exhausting non-stop journey across the Mediterranean Sea therefore have hardly a chance to reach their wintering quarters in Sub-Saharan Africa and to return back to Europe next spring to breed. Additionally, waterbirds are trapped and shot at many inland lakes and large birds are being shot with rifles at will.

This situation destroys nature conservation efforts undertaken in Germany and other European countries and infringes international conventions about the conservation of migratory species of birds and animals signed also by Egypt. Even bird trappers in Egypt already complain about reductions in numbers of birds caught despite ever increasing trapping effort.

Bird trapping and hunting cannot carry on in Egypt at the current extent. It must become effectively regulated and must be reduced to a sustainable level.

The signatories of this petition therefore ask the government of the Arabic Republic of Egypt to:

- recognize and tackle the problem of uncontrolled trapping and hunting of birds in Egypt, and to fulfill their obligations resulting from international nature conservation conventions signed by Egypt.
- ensure through effective regulation of hunting that the populations of any bird species cannot become threatened as a result of hunting in Egypt. To this end, adequate regulations about huntable species, hunting methods, hunting periods and bag limits must be set up as well as a clear attribution of responsibilities for the issuing of hunting licenses.
- consistently investigate and penalise violations against present and future improved hunting regulations. To this end, a functioning monitoring system of hunting activities must be put in place, and capacities for the enforcement of hunting regulations must be set aside.
- support and consistently implement the Action Plan for the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds (AEMLAP), which is currently being developed within the Bonn Convention for Migratory Species of Animals (CMS).

The signatories of this petition at the same time address the government of the Federal Republic of Germany with the ask to:

- influence and encourage the government of Egypt, to effectively combat illegal hunting and trapping and to limit legal hunting to a sustainable level, and to offer technical and financial support required for this undertaking.
- set up funding priorities for German institutions and programmes active in Egypt under which projects directed at combating bird trapping and hunting could be supported, e.g. programmes regarding environmental education or the development of alternative streams of income.
- support on an international level the development of the new Action Plan for the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds (AEMLAP) under the Bonn Convention for Migratory Species of Animals (CMS), and to influence Egypt to sign and implement this plan.

Stop the bird slaughter in Egypt now – and sign our petition:

<https://www.nabu.de/tiereundpflanzen/voegel/zugvoegel/jagd/aegypten/15711.html>