



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 14.08.2020  
C(2020) 5710 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Nationalrat for its Opinion on the Communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 – Bringing nature back into our lives {COM(2020) 380 final}.*

*The Commission appreciates the support of the Nationalrat on the ambition of the strategy. Indeed, the loss of biodiversity is one of the major global environmental threats, along with climate change, and urgently requires attention.*

*The Commission will carry out a full impact assessment of the legally binding EU nature restoration targets to restore degraded ecosystems, according to the principles of better regulation.*

*The Commission also aims to exploit various forms of financing and investment to support the implementation of the strategy. This will provide added value for both nature and the economy.*

*We must aim at an ambitious new global framework for post-2020 at next year's 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Commission will work closely with the European Parliament and Member States to ensure a high level of EU ambition and mobilise all efforts for the good of the world's biodiversity.*

*The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Nationalrat and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Nicolas Schmit  
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Wolfgang SOBOTKA  
President of the Nationalrat  
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