

STATEMENT

The Council of European Foresters (CEF) was officially established in 2011 and has more than 58,400 forestry members from 13 European countries: Bosnia Herzegovina, Coatia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Moldova, Russia, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine.

The C.E.F. considers that the second meeting of the Working Group on the future direction of Forest Europe from June 2017 Bratislava is an important event for the forestry sector in Europe for setting the major and priority objectives of forest strategy and policy in Forest Europe, as well as the means can be used to realize these targets.

The civil society in the forestry field, represented by international N.G.Os. such as the Council of European Foresters - an international organization of forestry specialists from universities and forestry faculties, forestry research institutes, national and forestry academies, forestry production sector, have a sense of duty to participate actively in the development Forest Europe process. In this respect, it is necessary to remove any initiative to obstruct the participation of civil society representaives that have observer status in the Forest Europe process. This request also results from the CEF responses to the Questionnaire on the future direction of Forest Europe, completed and submitted to the Liaison Unit Bratislava in February 2017.

CEF also considers that one of the most important objectives for achieving consensus among European countries is to strengthen the implementation of sustainable forest management in all forests of Europe, which would lead to the recognition and strenthening of the economic, social and ecological functions of forests in a equal way.

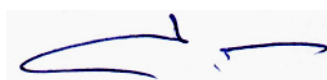
Yuriy Tunytsya

C.E.F. President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yuriy Tunytsya".

Marian Stoicescu

C.E.F. Vice-President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marian Stoicescu".