



16<sup>th</sup> June 2008

### **“RID MALTA’S COUNTRYSIDE FROM MALTESE HUNTERS & TRAPPERS” BIRDLIFE (MALTA)**

Believing that they have achieved the impossible, BirdLife (Malta) have turned their attention to a new goal. They now want to “rid the Maltese country-side from the Maltese hunters and trappers”.

They want to do this for the benefit of a few other foreigners, not for the enjoyment of Maltese citizens. And yet the Maltese government seems all set to accommodate them.

The writing is on the wall, literally.

The Victoria Lines are among the most impressive fortifications of the British era in the Maltese islands. On the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008, part of the Victoria Lines was reported vandalized. Painted on the walls was a foul-worded message clearly directed at hunters, telling them to get out of the Maltese country-side as this now did not belong to them any longer! The vandalism echoed precisely what BirdLife (Malta) were demanding in their vile attempt to undermine Maltese culture, in particular legal and traditional hunting and trapping in Malta and Gozo.

#### **Maltese bio-diversity**

This latest BirdLife (Malta) campaign is in direct contrast to the EU’s mission to “halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010”.

Hunters and trappers have always been the forerunners in natural habitat management and conservation and the best contributors towards a flourishing biodiversity.

We say: No hunters and trappers = No biodiversity.

One particular site where the absence of hunters and trappers this spring resulted in a deterioration of the environment was the hunting reserve of Mizieb. Instead of the organized hunters and trappers, in Spring 2008 the place was taken over by BirdLife Malta's foreign guests and the Maltese public. It was left in shambles.

Any extra script would have been superfluous in the booklet which the Federation for Hunting & Conservation – Malta (FKNK) has just published.

FKNK Council