

29<sup>th</sup> October 2008

EU to fund Campaign against Trapping...

Not only is the European Commission going back on its commitment but it is also ridiculing the Maltese Government and continuing to show ALL Maltese citizens that the pre-accession negotiations as well as the Treaty were just a charade so as to trick that gullible sector of the Maltese public into voting YES for EU membership.

Recent statements by Birdlife (Malta) confirm its success in achieving no less than another € 175,000 from the Life+ EU programme for a project aimed to "educate" Maltese and Gozitan trappers on the importance of stopping trapping!

The Public Relations & Education Commission (KRPE) within the Federation for Hunting & Conservation - Malta (FKNK) is no longer surprised by the fraternity that exists between the Commission and BirdLife (Malta). The same Commission that has refused other hunting and trapping related projects that had been applied for under the same EU programme, amongst which by the FKNK, the Malta Falconry Centre and the University of Malta, besides others. What therefore surprises the KRPE is the length to which the European institutions will go to discard their own commitment on issues that have never been scientifically or legally proven to be correct to the complete nonchalance of the lives of thousands of "European" Citizens.

The KRPE hereby states that it will no longer accept the continuous series of issues that are seeing BLM thrive on the segregation of a noticeable sector of the Maltese Society. The KRPE will also ensure that its members will never succumb to any request by BirdLife (Malta) to be in any manner a part of the trappers own demise.

Finally the FKNK will, before the end of the current year publish its own document proposing the continuation of trapping beyond the end of 2008. It is not only hoped but assumed that the Maltese Government, that so vehemently assured all hunters and trappers that their sustainable ancient tradition will continue even with EU membership, will be on the forefront in assisting the implementation of FKNK's proposals.

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