

AN ANALYSIS OF THE COMMITTEE AGAINST BIRD SLAUGHTER (C.A.B.S.) CAMP MALTA – SEPTEMBER 2008.

*A Report prepared by
the Federation for Hunting and Conservation – Malta (F.K.N.K.) and
the St. Hubert Hunters – Malta (K.S.U.)*



This Report has been prepared by the Federation for Hunting & Conservation – Malta (FKNK) and the St. Hubert Hunters Malta (KSU) following the Committee Against Bird Slaughter (C.A.B.S.) personnel last visit to Malta between the 13th and the 28th of September 2008,

In the wake of an intense and highly publicized local and foreign media campaign surrounding this year's CABS visit, this Report has been drawn up with a view to giving a proper analysis of the visit and addressing certain facts which, although extremely pertinent for the proper understating of what led to such a public campaign, are still largely unknown.

At the outset, both FKNK and KSU confirm that consistent with their policies and public pronouncements, whilst working for the promotion and safeguarding of the rights of hunters and trappers in Malta and for the preservation of these sporting traditions which have existed in these island since time immemorial, they are firmly against any illegal hunting or trapping and continue to work incessantly to eradicate such illegal practices where they still exist. The past years have clearly and effectively shown a marked improvement in this area, and this as a result of the tandem affect of the oft-unsung and unpublicized work of both organizations on one side and of the law enforcement authorities on the other. Added to this is the increasing awareness among hunters and trappers that observation of the Law is of the essence, irrespective of the manner in which hunting and trapping have been negatively affected in the recent past.

Equally however, FKNK and KSU cannot stand in the sidelines when instances of illegal hunting and trapping are blown beyond any sensible or reasonable proportion and are used as an excuse to justify one's own existence and to shroud the expenditure of considerable sums of money with a justification of absolute necessity whilst at the same time, causing not only harm to Maltese hunters and trappers but to the overall image of Malta abroad.

A proper analysis of the highly-publicized report of the CABS visit exposes a list of substantial misrepresentation and gross fallacies.

This in itself has already triggered off two criminal investigations by the Malta Police. The first request for such investigation was made by the Hon. Prime Minister, whilst the second was made by the FKNK.

This Report gives the proper background of CABS and of the September 2008 Camp organized by this Committee and by its coordinator, Welshman Mr. David Conlin with the primary assistance of Gozitan Mr. David Camilleri.

The Report is also being formally forwarded to the Hon. Prime Minister who is currently responsible for that section of the Environment portfolio which covers hunting and trapping in Malta, and to the Commissioner of Police, by way of additional information being submitted further to the criminal complaint lodged by the FKNK..

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Lino Farrugia
Secretary – FKNK

Mark Mifsud Bonnici
Secretary - KSU