



## THE VOICE OF EUROPEAN HUNTERS

FACE

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### Re: Upcoming vote on night vision scopes in the Lithuanian Parliament

Dear President Nausėda,  
Dear Prime Minister Šimonytė,  
Dear Members of the Lithuanian Parliament (Seimas),  
Dear Environment Minister Gentvilas,  
Dear Agriculture Minister Navickas,

Cc: Lithuanian hunters and fishermen association (LMŽD)

FACE, the European Federation for Hunting and Conservation, representing 7 million hunters in Europe has been informed that the Lithuanian Parliament will shortly vote for the limited use of night vision scopes for hunting wild boars.

FACE wishes to express its full support for the use of night vision scopes for hunting wild boars as this would allow Lithuanian hunters to use modern equipment for wild boar population management.

The use of night vision scopes for hunting wild boars is in line with the best and most recent European practices. Poland, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Latvia, Estonia, Croatia, Check Republic, Spain, and Italy, amongst others, agreed to permit the use of night vision scopes for wild boar hunting.

The data FACE collected amongst the national hunting associations of those Member States where night vision scopes are legalised clearly show the benefits linked to such equipment, including reducing the numbers of wild boar thereby increasing hunters' bag limit. This further contributes to achieving high animal welfare outcomes as the night vision resulted in lower number of cases of wounded game animals that had to be tracked, reducing the damage done to crops. Further, the use of night vision scopes is also growing to assist the management small predators and invasive alien species.

In the case of Lithuania, the availability of night vision scopes will help the country to cope with the management of African Swine Fever outbreaks and would facilitate the implementation of the [Commission Implementing Regulation 2023/594](#).

Furthermore, the legislation proposed in Lithuania would be in line with existing EU and international obligations as it would exclusively concern the use of night vision scopes for hunting wild boars, foxes and racoon dogs (i.e., non-Bern Convention and non-EU Habitats Directive species of community concern).

**FACE, in conjunction with its member, the Lithuanian hunters and fishermen association (LMŽD), stresses its full support for the legalisation of night vision scopes for the above-mentioned species, soon to be voted in the Lithuanian Parliament, as a key element in implementing an efficient strategy for the eradication of ASF and the management of small predators and invasive alien species.**

We remain at your disposal should you require any further information.

Kind regards,



**Torbjörn Larsson**

President

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*FACE represents the national hunting associations from 37 countries in Europe and the collective interest of Europe's seven million hunters. Since 1977, FACE has been a highly respected international non-governmental organisation recognised by the European institutions in all matters related to hunting, wildlife management, animal welfare, and the representation of hunters' legitimate interests. We are long-standing members of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and actively participate as observers to all major nature conservation conventions/agreements including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Agreement on the Conservation of African- Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, the Ramsar Convention and the Bern Convention. FACE is also an advisor organisation to UNESCO and a long-term beneficiary of the European Commission's LIFE NGO Operating Grant.*