

**EU's Environmental Policy with
focus on funding of endangered
species protection and their
return to the nature in the
Strategy 2014-2020**

Diploma Thesis

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Abstract

HUDÁKOVÁ V. *EU's Environmental Policy with focus on funding of endangered species protection and their return to the nature in the Strategy 2014-2020. Diploma Thesis.* Brno, 2014.

This diploma thesis deals with the evaluation of financing of EU's environmental policy with focus on the field of endangered species protection. The evaluation of the present state of financing the environmental policy within EU is elaborated with the emphasis on the oncoming Strategy 2014-2020 and current expenses for environmental issues within EU financed from the EU's budget. Based on the analysis of the current situation of funding of endangered species protection in EU, the proposal for funding on supranational level within EU was elaborated with further recommendation for management of policy of endangered species protection by common policy of EU member states in future.

Keywords

Strategy 2014-2020, EU budget, environmental policy, Europe 2020 Strategy, endangered species, environmental economics

Abstrakt

HUDÁKOVÁ V. *Politika EU pro životní prostředí se zaměřením na financování ochrany ohrožených druhů a jejich návratu do volné přírody v rámci Strategie 2014-2020. Diplomová práce.* Brno, 2014.

Tato diplomová práce se zabývá hodnocením financování politiky životního prostředí EU se zaměřením na oblast ochrany ohrožených druhů. Zhodnocení současného stavu financování politiky životního prostředí v rámci EU je zpracováno s důrazem na připravovanou Strategii 2014-2020 a alokaci výdajů na oblast životního prostředí v rámci EU, která je financována z rozpočtu EU. Na základě analýzy současného stavu financování ochrany ohrožených druhů v EU byl vypracován návrh na financování na nadnárodní úrovni v rámci EU s dalším doporučením pro řízení politiky ochrany ohrožených druhů v rámci společné politiky členských států EU v dalších letech.

Klíčová slova

Strategie 2014-2020, rozpočet EU, politika životního prostředí, Strategie Evropa 2020, ohrožené druhy, ekonomie životního prostředí

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List of abbreviations

EAFRD	The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
ECJ	European Court of Justice
EDF	European Development Fund
EEA	European Environment Agency
EEAS	The European External Action Service
EEC	European Economic Community
EFF	The European Fisheries Fund
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESF	European Social Fund
ESF	European Structural Fund
EU	European Union
FP7	The 7th Research Framework Programme
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MEPs	Members of the European Parliament
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OEEC	Organisation for European Economic Cooperation
OLAF	The European Anti-Fraud Office
SEA	Single European Act
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SF	Structural Funds
TEU	The Treaty on European Union
TFEU	The Treaty on the Functioning of the EU
WAZA	World association of Zoo`s and Aquariums

1 Introduction

In the past decades, the process of European integration has been significant. The convergence of policies and especially the monetary integration of the old continent have reached a great progress, all due to the establishment of the European Union.

Even so, the European monetary zone is not a perfect monetary union, the common policies of the EU member states are still not fully managed on the supranational level. Therefore, there exists need for deeper convergence of EU policies for better economical stability of EU. There exist several theories for solving this issue. To mention the most extreme ones, on one hand there exists the theory that the further deepening of European integration will lead to the end of the European Union and deeper integration process is not possible and does not guarantee the success for European issue. On the other hand, the opposite theory says that the further deepening of European Union's integration must be managed more in detail and that the shifting of national states' sovereignty is needed to be done fully and to reach the complete monetary union is the only solution for successful future of European countries.

As the globalisation all over the world is proceeding, there emerged the need to solve the issues more globally. Whether the global solution is the correct one or not is not certain. In order to find the answer, several analysis and predictions based on the past experience are being done. But even if one solution fits one issue, it is not suitable for solving another issue. The head leaders of European Union are facing these challenges and they are the responsible managers for managing the big business called European Union. The solution differs as the EU's countries differ – from west to east, south to north, from core countries to peripheral countries.

However, still the convergence and successful management of globalisation is noticeable. What are the further steps of the management to become united in all EU member states is being discussed on the field of EU continually. It has to do with the need of financing all the operations of the European Union as well as with the sovereignty of all the member states. The financing is a sensitive issue since it is sometimes hard to convince the states to cut parts of their national budgets in order to become the part of the budget of EU. Simultaneously, it was proved equally difficult to convince the member states to shift part of their national sovereignty to supranational level to become part of European Union and to give up part of their national identity.

In some fields, for example issue of common currency, the process of integration has been successful (despite the fact that there are states being members of European Union but still not accepting the common currency, euro. And vice versa.). The progress of accepting the common policies among the member states is not so easily assessed. For significant evaluation, this diploma thesis will focus on one policy that is the second largest policy financing from the EU's budget which is the environmental policy. As the environment is a scarce resource, its protection is the main target of European Union's Cohesion Policy and the Europe 2020 Strategy. There emerges the issue how to converge more of the national policies in the field of environmental policy to the supranational level

and how to finance this process. The need to cut and restrict the EU budget is essential especially in these times greatly influenced by the economic crises.

Regarding the issue of financing the solutions of each of the specific parts of environment protection, the diploma thesis will focus on the issue of protection of endangered species. It is proved by scientific research¹ that the impact of the environment on the economy is negligible. By solving of this problematics there emerged science - environmental economics. The scientists call for the need of solving the problem of protecting the environment as well as the protection of the endangered species. The endangered species as well as other species of world's fauna have significant impact on human being that, in fact, carries an impact on the agriculture, industry and, finally, on the economy. All these areas are interconnected. And because other areas like renewable sources' protection is being solved on the EU's level, there had raised a request to solve the problem of endangered species protection on the European level as well. This problematics can be solved successfully by solely the cooperation of the states, since it extends beyond the borders of merely one country. To mention one example for all – the impending bees extinction. This issue touches variety of industries and in case the bees extinct, the impact would be huge.

Or the example of lynxes living on the Czech – German borders in the National Park Sumava on the Czech side and the Bavarian Forest on the German side. The lynxes are nowadays facing the threat of extinction. The Czech and German scientists and volunteers do their maximum to protect the lynxes' population. But because the lynxes do not respect the borders of the countries - in contrast with deer which remember the border given by the so called "iron Curtain" that intersected the forest in the past – there is need for cooperation between these two countries. In the 90s of the 19th century the lynxes had extincted but due to the effort of volunteers were artificially returned to its natural environment again. Nowadays, the volunteers are facing the same problem as in the past and call for remedies to prevent the lynxes extinction on both the sides of the Czech – German borders. Therefore the better cooperation between the countries is necessary in order to prevent the impending lynxes extinction.

Another crucial threat of extinction of rare species was successfully prevented by prompt reaction of volunteers. It is the issue of return of the Przewalski's horse to its nature in Mongolia which was organized by the Prague Zoo and was financially very troublesome. The Przewalski's horse is wild horse with its natural habitats in Mongolia and nowadays is endangered species. Its conservation was ensured by the project named "Saving endangered species of Mongolian fauna (Przewalski's horse) in protected areas of western Mongolia in the context of socio-economic development". The budget of the project was 7.000.000 CZK and was successfully managed due to the sponsoring of donors by the contributions and by the contributions of several organizations, such as Czech national institutions (e.g. Czech army which financed the transportation of the horses from Czech to Mongolia), Czech Development Agency etc. The disturbing fact is that such project was financed by individual contributions rather than by

¹ Brochure Fact and Figures: links between EU's economy and environment issued by the European Commission.

the donations of such institutions as European Union. But also the budget of the EU is limited.

Given the limited budget of European Union, the possibility of financing of this issue by other sources must be considered. For instance, the possibility of financing by private sector has emerged, and the potential interest for businesses is also being discussed at the moment.

As the oncoming programming process 2014–2020, which contains the Europe 2020 Strategy, is being prepared, the thesis will mainly examine the possibilities of financing the issue of endangered species protection and its implementation to the environmental policy and its impact on the EU's economy as a whole.

The convergence process throughout various fields of EU politics is significant. And the convergence of environmental policy is crucial. Therefore, the convergence of policy of protection of endangered species must be managed on the supranational level and the cooperation among the states (as proved by mentioning the issue of lynxes stated above) must be anchored in the common aims of EU member states.

2 Objectives and methodology

2.1 The objectives of the Thesis

The main objective of the thesis is to propose the basic frame for amendment of the budget of European Union focused on the EU's policy of environment protection. The issue examined in the thesis will be specialised in the field of protection of endangered species and their return to the nature. This problematics will be examined within the selected member states of European Union, mainly the Czech Republic compared with other selected member states. The states were chosen given the way of financing their politics because the financing differs across the EU member states. Despite there is trend to unite the policies of EU as well as their financing, the differences still exist. It is given by different level of development of each of the country. Thus the countries can be divided into two groups: the more developed ones and less developed ones. The criterion that divides the countries to the less developed ones is the Gross National Income (GNI) per inhabitant. When the GNI per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the EU average then this country is listed by the EU as the less developed country. Among the more developed ones belong Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lichtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Scandinavian countries (Denmark, Finland, Sweden), Spain, United Kingdom and the less developed countries are: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. This distribution is the official distribution done by European Commission for the 2014-2020 period and by this distribution are the less developed countries included in the financing from the Cohesion Fund. The Cohesion Fund is aimed at Member States whose Gross National Income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the EU average. It aims to reduce economic and social disparities and to promote sustainable development. It is now subject to the same rules of programming, management and monitoring as the ERDF and ESF though the Common Provisions Regulation. The Cohesion Fund allocates a total of € 63.4 billion.

Besides the Cohesion Fund (that is not available for all the EU countries) there exist many more funds that are available for all the EU member states:

- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Social Fund (ESF)
- Cohesion Fund (CF)
- The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)
- The Financial Instrument for the Environment (LIFE+)
- The 7th Research Framework Programme (FP7)

Despite the dispersion for financing from the Cohesion Fund it is given that every EU region may benefit from the ERDF and ESF (however, only the less developed regions may receive support from the Cohesion Fund, as already mention above).

Through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF), otherwise known as the Structural Funds, as well as the Cohesion Fund, it is invested in thousands of projects across all of Europe's regions to achieve the primary task: to promote economic and social cohesion by reducing these disparities between Member States and regions. With a budget of €347billion for 2007–13, Cohesion Policy represents the single largest source of financial support at EU level for investment in growth and jobs, designed to enable all regions to compete effectively in the internal market. However, for the purpose of this diploma thesis focused on the financing of the environmental economics, the European Social Fund will not be examined into details because it aims to focus on the labour productivity and education support mainly (despite in all off the projects financed by ESF one of the main criterion was the environment protection and had to be stated the attitude of the project toward the environmental protection). But it was rather done by the support of education in the issue of environment protection. The education in the field of environment protection is also very important but for the purposes of this diploma thesis it will not be elaborated too thoroughly in the ESF.

This diploma thesis aims to compare the financing of the policies of the less developed countries which is done mainly by the regional operational programmes and the financing of policies of the more developed countries which financing of the single regions is minimal and is rather focused on the whole territories done by european territorial co-operation (cross-border cooperation, transnational co-operation, interregional co-operation), macro-regional strategies and international cooperation that are included in the programmes for the given period (for this diploma thesis the programmes of the 2014-2020 multiannual financial framework will be taken into account).

Generally it is assumed that the states that spends for the environmental politics most will also spend most for the financing of the endangered species protection. Another way how to compare the expenses for the endangered species protection of the member states is the comparizon of the GDP. It can be assumed that as the GDP per inhabitant of the country exceeds the level of 90 % of the EU average then has more the tendency to give higher ammount for the financing of endangered species protection from their budget.

The thesis will propose what financial instruments are the most effective ones for finacing the reintroduction issues within 2014-2020 period.

Emphasis will be put on the frequently discussed issue of use economics in environment policy. It will be proved that the economic and environmental objectives are not being contradictory and both can be achieved concurrently.

The objective of the thesis reflects the appeal across all EU member states for managing the programs for return of endangered species to the nature on supra-national level in order to become part of EU common environmental policy to achieve better and sustainable cooperation among all EU member states. Until nowadays, this issue has been managed on national level or has been directed by non-EU organizations. Also, the need for financial regulation and better cooperation in economical management of this issue within EU is increasing.

In order to achieve higher economical effectiveness and better management of the process, this policy must be shifted to the supranational level and proceeded to be solved globally. Therefore, the fact of shifting a part of national sovereignty of the EU member states in the researched area to the EU level must be taken into account. It will be in accordance with EU cohesion policy and strengthening of European Union.

As partial objectives, the thesis will mainly examine the oncoming programming process 2014–2020 concerning the Europe 2020 Strategy, its implementation to the environmental policy and its impact on the study area of the thesis as the EU recognizes the environment as a scarce resource, and its protection is the main target of European Union's Cohesion Policy and the Europe 2020 Strategy. The strategy will be applied in accordance with the needs of society for the environment and for harmonizing the social and economical aspects to maintain the economic stability and sustainability.

The thesis will also assess the source of financing and effective distribution of resources. Whether it will be done via the EU budget in the chapter of European Commission concerning the Preservation and management of natural resources which is the second largest category financed from the budget of the EU or whether the financing will be done by other tools of EU, such as instruments of Cohesion Policy, European Structural Fund or via Operating grants of European environmental NGOs.

The proposal's elaboration and the policy implementation of the study area of the work done in the thesis will be in every aspect in accordance with the EU's cohesion policy and will focus on deepening of European Union's integration.

2.2 Methodology

In order to reach the goal of the thesis, there will be applied the following methodology. At the beginning, the current situation in the researched field of the thesis and examination of the European Union's policy of environment protection will be realised (in detail, e.g., EU's environment policy implementation etc.).

The next methodology used will be the comparison of effective financing of protection of endangered species by other organizations and the ways of funding done by the European Union until nowadays with further comparison of the European union's Strategies planned for the following years. The fact that the current regional funding programmes will run until 2013 will be taken into account. Therefore there will be broadly elaborated the prepared measures and remedies for the following year 2014 and further being a part of structural reforms of the EU policies.

In detail will be elaborated the implementation of Strategy 2014–2020 in the researched field. Also, the analysis of successfully financed projects and programmes realised by the selected organisation of the EU's member states will be done and this will be compared with the analysis of the successfully financed projects adopting the grants and donations of the European Union.

Because nowadays the tendency of the European Union is to support the less developed countries and by this start to suffer a bit the more developed countries. And for the policy of endangered species protection is important to focus on solving the problems globally. For example the issue of lynxes protection.

Because the lynxes are living on both sites of the Czech-German borders it is meaningless to support financially the Czech Republic only and not to give subsidy to German activists for solving the issues together with the Czech part. Moreover if the legal rules and restrictions issued by EU are obligatory for the German state as well as for the Czech Republic. It must be taken into account that if there is regulation issued by the EU it should be also taken into consideration whether all the states are able to fulfil the regulation. Because it is important to set the legal rules but more important is to ensure that these rules can be abided and realized.

From a certain point of view is seen as more logical to solve the issue of endangered species protection on the basis as the Trans-European networks are operated. The Trans-European networks offer solutions for such projects that have importance for all the EU states the same and it is in the interest of all to achieve the common goal and to support common idea. The Trans-European networks are mainly such projects as development of the infrastructure across Europe or telecommunication networks construction. But the importance of conservation of the natural habitats and the preservation of the endangered species has also importance for all the countries and it is in the aim of all to preserve the nature. Therefore it is seen as meaningless to support one country more and to let another country with no interest. For example, if in one country will be spent a lot of financial funds to preserve a certain species e.g. by building barriers for the lynxes not to cross the highways but few meters next after the borders of the second country will be no barriers then the lynxes are going to be endangered by the car accident still and the effort of the first country will go in vein as well as the financial support. Therefore the need of equal dispersion of subsidy is obvious.

As mentioned above, the support to the less developed countries by the EU exceeds the support for the more developed countries. On the other hand, it must be considered that the more developed countries have more abilities to help themselves (there might be more institutions and companies that are able to promote sponsorships) due to their more developed and progressive economy, higher education standards and so on. Furthermore, the capacities to achieve the grants and donations are higher compare to the possibilities of the less developed countries because given the better education system there are more educated experts, researches and scientists that are more capable to obtain financial supports from European Union funds.

Whether these disparities makes balanced the funds distribution and how effective it is – this is the objective of this diploma thesis.

In addition, in the thesis there will be elaborated proposal for establishment of new policy field as an enlargement of the EU's policy of environment protection as well as elaboration of an adequate budget for financing the new fields of the European Union's policy of environment. This will be implemented into the oncoming Programming process 2014–2020 Strategy and the budget prepared for 2014 with focus on the category of Preservation and management of natural resources (including the Common Agricultural Policy and environmental measures) that is involved in the chapter of European Commission.

If needed, there will be also formed a requisite implementation of the new incurred body that will be a part of the European Union's appropriate institution such as European Commission and will be responsible for proper implementation

of the interests of the policy and for the economical implementation of the policy as well.

Furthermore the legal rules and aspects set by the European Court of Justice will be analyzed as well as the proposal for adopting the adequate law in the researched policy. The conflict of interest with other organizations such as United Nation will be taken into account.

At the end there will be also included research if there exist any pressure why the European Union policy have not been developed in this fields until nowadays (lobby or multinational corporations` interests) concerning the benefits and costs for the economy of the member states with further effect on private owned enterprises and businesses. At the end as the output will set there will be proposed next possible enlargement of the EU policy of environment that will be focused on the development of rescue programs for temporarily disabled wild animals that is part of the discussion occurred as the future Cohesion Policy of the EU is being prepared and also of the European Development Fund (EDF) which is not funded from the EU's general budget, but rather from direct contributions from EU countries. The potential of financing from the EDF is given by the fact that is generally renewed every 6 years and the next renewal was in 2013, with a new EDF financial regulation.

Further every step of the thesis objective`s done as the result of the methodology used will be interconnected and implemented in the European Union`s policy of environment as a key prerequisite for successful proposal`s realization to be anchored as an objective of European Union`s policy.

3 Literature Review

3.1 History of the integration in Europe

Despite the high degree of integration in Europe and the fact that European union states the highest form of economical integration in the world's economy still the economy of European Union stays quite heterogeneous. It is given by the historical process of formation of European Union.

The thought of European unification can reach deeply to the beginning of ancient empires.² For all the past centuries there was alive the thought of making the European continent united, to unite the empires and states. The successful process of Europe's uniting can be dating from the year 1923 when the project called Paneuropa was written by Coudenhove-Kalergi. Despite the successful elaboration of the project it was seen as utopia given the political circumstances (depression in the 30th of the 20th century) and especially due to the second world war (WWII). However, after the WWII as the industry and infrastructure was ruined, the idea of making Europe united had risen again. Europe was politically unstable. Cooperation and integration of European nations seemed to be as a possible solution of the situation and therefore started emerging movements aiming unification of the continent (Tomšík, 2013).

As the idea of united Europe was being more specified and discussed throughout the European main political leaders the process of European integration had started.

3.2 Institutions of EU

Given the fact that European Union consists of 28 member states and next states are getting prepared to enter the European Union, the attention must be paid on the legal framework as well as on the institution that are responsible for the law's establishment and fulfillment and also for management of the whole EU.

The main institutions are:

- European Council
- Council of European Union (Council of Ministers)
- European Commission
- European Parliament
- Court of Justice
- Court of Auditors

² Ancient Greece, the Roman Empire in order to protect leading european cultures against external influences, mainly Asian influence.

3.2.1 European Council

European Council is supreme political authority of European Union. It is responsible for fundamental political decisions and serious political problems solution (Tomšík, 2013).

The main tasks of the European Council are:

- represent national interests of the member states of the European Union and aim to find common opinions. Form the general conception of the development.
- generally formulate paths of development supports the functioning of other institutions of the European Union. It is the base for the initiatives of the Commission.
- solve the political crises.

3.2.2 Council of European Union (Council of Ministers)

Council is the main decision-making institution of the European Union with legislative and executive power. Together with Commission and Parliament creates the so called institutional triangular. It represents the national interest of the member states of the European Union. The basic framework for discussions and forming of the basic goals is prepared by the European Council and these are transferred into concrete measures by Council of European Union (George, Bache, 2001).

The member states proceed via the Council of European Union:

- passing of EU laws,
- coordination the broad economic policies of EU member countries,
- signing agreements between the EU and other countries,
- aprovement of the annual EU budget,
- development of the EU's foreign and defence policies,
- coordination of cooperation between courts and police forces of member countries.

3.2.3 European Commission

The European Commission is the key institution in the European Union. It is independent institution dealing on the supra-national level and represents the interests of the European Union as the whole. European Commission seat in Brussels, has its offices in Luxembourg, representatives in each member state of EU, over 130 delegate all over the world and prepares the proposals of European legal rules (Staab, 2011).

The structure of the European Commission consists of 28 Commissioners

(one for each member state) with the President in the front³, Directorates-General and services. Also the EU's High Representative for foreign and security policy belongs to the members of the European Commission – this position is declared by the Treaty of Lisbon and since the year 2009 the EU's High Representative for foreign and security policy was Catherine Ashton until the year 2014. Since the year 2014 until 2019 the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy as well as Vice-President of the Commission is Federica Mogherini.

The European Commission protects the interests of the European Union as a whole against the particular interests of the single member states of the European Union. Therefore it aims the middle and long-term goals. European Commission initiates the secondary law that is accepted by the decision made by the Council of European Union and European Parliament (George, Bache, 2001).

The decisions are taken by the collegium of European Commission that meets usually ones per week in a given day and the commissars decide by the simple majority (Cihelková, 2011).

The main task of the European Commission is to oversee and implement EU policies by:

- proposing new laws to Parliament and the Council,
- managing the EU's budget and allocating funding,
- enforcing EU law (together with the Court of Justice),
- representing the EU internationally, for example, by negotiating agreements between the EU and other countries.

3.2.3.1 Proposing new laws to Parliament and the Council

The Commission has the 'right of initiative' – it can propose new laws to protect the interests of the EU and its citizens. The Commission follows the three main goals:

- European interest – the proposal of the new law reflects the opinion of the Commission about the best for the European Union (and its inhabitants) as a whole and not the interests of the single member states or specific sectors,
- consultation – state the basic for preparation of all the proposals and represents the discussion with public administration, industry representatives, trade unions and various expert groups,
- subsidiarity principle – is given by the Treaty on European Union and means that the European Union deals only with issues that cannot be dealt effectively at national, regional or local level.

³ Until the year 2014 the President of the European Commission was José Manuel Barroso. Since November 2014 until October 2019 is the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker.

3.2.3.2 Managing the EU's budget and allocating funding

The European Commission manage the EU's budget⁴ and together with the Council and Parliament sets broad long-term spending priorities for the EU in the EU 'financial framework'. It also draws up an annual budget for approval by Parliament and the Council.

The European Commission has also the right of establishment of its own funds and their management. It supervises how EU funds are spent.

The European Commission also manages politics that are under of its competencies.

3.2.3.3 Enforcing EU law (together with the Court of Justice)

The European Commission is the 'guardian of the Treaties', it checks that each member country is applying EU law properly – both the primary and the secondary law. If any of the member states fail in applying the EU law, the Commission gives the official warnings and asks for repair. In a case that the country doesn't react the European Commission refers the issue to the Court of Justice. The Court can impose penalties. The European Commission can sanction also individuals, firms or organizations (George, Bache, 2001).

Comitology – means the consultations between representatives of the member states and the European Commission. It was named since the 60th of the 20th century. The steps of consultations were specified in the Treaty of Lisbon and since then the European Parliament can interfere (Cipriani, 2007).

3.2.4 European Parliament

It has most competences of all of the three most important institutions of European Union during the past decades. Together with the European Commission represents the supra-national interests within the institutional structure.

The European Parliament has three main roles:

- debating and passing European laws, with the Council,
- scrutinising other EU institutions, particularly the Commission, to make sure they are working democratically,
- debating and adopting the EU's budget, with the Council.

3.2.4.1 Legislative power

The fact that the European Parliament is elected directly by the citizens helps to guarantee the democratic legitimacy of the European law. Parliament works together with the Council (representing national governments) in many areas, such as the environment, to decide on the content of EU laws and officially adopt

⁴ In the period of 2007 – 2013 is the average annual budget in amount about 120 mld. eur (Tomšík, 2013).

them.⁵ Under the Lisbon Treaty the Parliament was given more power to influence the content of laws in areas including i.a. EU funds.

3.2.4.2 Budget power

Parliament adopts the EU's annual budget with the Council of the European Union. Parliament can suggest amendments and changes for the initial proposal of the Commission or of the standpoint of the member states, represented by the Council of European Union. Parliament has a committee that monitors how the budget is spent, and every year passes judgement on the Commission's handling of the previous year's budget.

As well as in the case of legislative power also in the case of some expenses, i.g. environmental project, the Parliament decides together with the Council. The European Parliament can reject the proposal of the budget while voting. The proposal of the budget becomes law of the Union while the signature of the President of the European Parliament is put (Yordanova, 2013).

3.2.5 Court of Justice

The Court of Justice interprets EU law to make sure it is applied in the same way in all EU countries. It also settles legal disputes between EU governments and EU institutions. Individuals, companies or organizations can also bring cases before the Court if they feel their rights have been infringed by an EU institution. The place of the Court of Justice is in Luxembourg (Goňcová, 2012).

3.2.6 Court of Auditors

The European Court of Auditors audits EU finances. Its role is to improve EU financial management and report on the use of public funds. It is auditing the revenue and expenditure of the Union. To ensure that EU taxpayers get maximum value for their money, the Court of Auditors has the right to check any person or organisation handling EU funds. The Court of Auditors has no legal powers of its own. If auditors discover some irregularities or fraud then they inform the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF). Its findings are written up in reports submitted to the Commission and EU national governments.

The Court presents to the European Parliament and the Council with an annual report. Even if the Court mainly concerns money for which the Commission is responsible, in practice 80% of the income and expenditure is managed by national authorities. (Tomšík, 2013).

⁵ This process is called "Ordinary legislative procedure" (ex "co-decision").

Next important institutions of the European Union are:

- the European Central Bank that is responsible for European monetary policy
- the European Investment Bank -finances EU investment projects and helps small businesses through the European Investment Fund

For the purpose of solving the tasks of the diploma thesis then in the practical part of the thesis will be examined just those institutions which deal about problematics of environmental issues and endangered species protection.

3.3 Budget of the European Union and its structure

In the previous subchapter were described the institutions which are responsible for the budget as well as their influence on the budget creation and their competencies for the management of the budget. As was mentioned “who” is responsible for the budget in the European Union, it must be also mentioned “how” is the budget managed.

The budget is divided into revenues and expenditures. The vast majority, 95% of the EU budget, goes to fund concrete activities on the ground in the many areas of EU policy. These expenditures are paid out by the Section III, Commission.

The structural funds are the second largest item of the budget. Together with the common agricultural policy represents over of the 70 % of the expenses of the EU's budget.

The budget consists of:

- General revenue
- Revenue and expenditure by section:
 - Section I – Parliament
 - Section II – European Council and Council
 - Section III – Commission
 - Section IV – Court of Justice
 - Section V – Court of Auditors
 - Section VI – Economic and Social Committee
 - Section VII – Committee of the Regions
 - Section VIII – European Ombudsman
 - Section IX – European Data Protection Supervisor
 - Section X – European External Action Service

The Section III, Commission, covers the expenses for the chapter Preservation and management of natural resources, which might be interesting from the point of view of finding a way of financing the endangered species protection. It includes the common agricultural policy, common fisheries policy, rural development and environmental measures, which are contained in the Chapter 2 (Patterson, 2011).

The structure of the Chapter 2 is described in the following table:

Table 1: EU budget, Expenditures of Chapter 2, year 2012 (Total, EUR million)

2	PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	59,096.2
2.0.1	Market related expenditure and direct aids	44,859.1
2.0.11	Agriculture markets	44,554.2
	<i>Direct Aid</i>	40,206.9
	<i>Export refunds</i>	146.6
	<i>Storage</i>	32.3
	<i>Other</i>	3,208.1
2.0.12	Fisheries market	38.1
2.0.13	Animal and plant health	266.8
2.0.2	Rural development	13,261.0
2.0.3	European fisheries fund	480.7
2.0.4	Fisheries governance and international agreements	173.7
2.0.5	Life+	244.5
2.0.DAG	Decentralised agencies	56.1
2.0.OTH	Other actions and programmes	21.0

Source: European Commission, adapted by author.

The second chapter was developing given the historical circumstances (König, Lacina a kol., 2004):

- 1975 – 1988: Economical crises and period of first coordination of regional politics
- 1989 – 1993: Delors I, the period after the reform of structural funds (SF) 1988
- 1994 – 1999: Delors II, the period after the Maastricht and continues strengthen of regional and structural politics
- 2000 – 2006: Agenda 2000, financial perspective 2000 – 2006

The following development of the structural funds is described in great detail in the following subchapters.

The structure of the budget is divided in Sections that is called the horizontal division. Then the vertical division means the division of the budget in Titles, Chapters, Articles and Items (König, Lacina a kol., 2004).

The need of centralized budget of European Union is explained by the fact that in the absence of budget centralization national budgets allow for automatic

transfers between generations within the same countries. They create problems of debt accumulation and sustainability (Grauwe, 2009).

The tools of control of the expenses of the budget were adapted by the reform. The reform was issued by Ecofin (The Economic and Financial Affairs Council, responsible for EU policy in 3 main areas: economic policy, taxation issues and the regulation of financial services) and was accepted in the year 2010. It adopts so called "European semester". This means that every year there are analyzed the budgetary and structural politics of the member states in order to reveal the discrepancies and imbalances (Tomšík, 2013).

3.4 Financial frameworks

As was mentioned in the previous subchapter the financing of the issues of the European Union is divided into periods. For better understanding of distribution of the financial resources, the most important periods will be suitably described.

As stated König, Lacina, a kol. (2004) the programme periods were as followed:

- programme period 1989-1993
- programme period 1994-1999
- programme period 2000-2006
- programme period 2007-2013

On the summit of European Council was approved the amount of 862.4 billion euros, that represents 1.045 % of GNP of European Union. The biggest contribution to the budget was received from Germany, then France, Italy and United Kingdom. The smallest contributions were received from Malta, Cyprus and Baltic states (Tomšík, 2013).

- programme period 2014-2020

The Council of European Union had accepted the budget in the amount of 959.988 billion euros (Cahlík, 2008).

3.5 Policies of the European Union

The policies of the European Union are the following:

- Agriculture, fisheries and foods
- Business
- Climate action
- Cross-cutting policies
- Culture, education and youth
- Economy, finance and tax
- Employment and social rights

- Energy and natural resources
- Environment, consumers and health
- External relations and foreign affairs
- Justice and citizens' rights
- Regions and local development
- Science and technology
- EU explained
- Transport and travel

While mentioning the division of the policies of the EU it has to be stated the change in division given by the Treaty of Lisbon. By the Treaty of Lisbon was abolished the three-pillar structure of the EU and was clarified the division of competences between the European Union (EU) and Member States. There were set the three main types of competence. The Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) distinguishes between three types of competence that are stated in the Figure 1 below. For the purpose of this diploma thesis the focus is put on the shared competences where the environment belongs. Furthermore, the exercise of Union competences is subject to three fundamental principles: the principle of conferral, the principle of proportionality, the principle of subsidiarity. For the environment the principle of proportionality and the principle of subsidiarity will be taken into account.



Figure 1: The EU competences

Source: Chalmers, European Union Law: Text and Materials, 2006.

The statement mentioned above is based on the Article 4 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union 2012/C 326/01 which declares that: „The Union shall share competence with the Member States where the Treaties confer on it a competence which does not relate to the areas referred to in Articles 3 and 6. Shared competence between the Union and the Member States applies in the following principal areas: (a) internal market; (b) social policy, for the aspects defined in this Treaty; (c) economic, social and territorial cohesion; (d) agriculture and fisheries, excluding the conservation of marine biological resources; (e) environment; (f) consumer protection; (g) transport; (h) trans-European networks; (i) energy; (j) area of freedom, security and justice; (k) common safety

concerns in public health matters, for the aspects defined in this Treaty. In the areas of research, technological development and space, the Union shall have competence to carry out activities, in particular to define and implement programmes; however, the exercise of that competence shall not result in Member States being prevented from exercising theirs. In the areas of development cooperation and humanitarian aid, the Union shall have competence to carry out activities and conduct a common policy; however, the exercise of that competence shall not result in Member States being prevented from exercising theirs.” (Article 4, The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union 2012/C 326/01).

For the need of understanding the area that may cover the issue of endangered species protection, selected policies will be described.

The policy of Agriculture, fisheries and foods describes the issue of animal welfare but food-producing animals only.

The European Commission declares while fulfilling the policy of Energy and natural resources, that: “Sustainable development has economic, environmental and social dimensions, and is an overarching goal of the European Union. Environmental issues should be managed along all stages of the product life-cycle.” It means that The European Union does care for the environment protection and has the best premise to fulfill the idea to protect the endangered species systematically.

The policy of Environment, consumers and health covers the issue of Nature and biodiversity and will be described in single subchapter.

3.5.1 The policy of Environment, consumers and health

As states Tomšík (2013) the policy of environment is one of the youngest policies of European Union.⁶ The EU environmental policy was developed in three phases.

In the first phase (1972-87), the European environmental measures were legally justified primarily by trade policy motives. The main focus was initially the goal of harmonizing different national environmental regulations, which might stand in the way of the completion of the Common Market. As a consequence of increasing cross-border environmental problems and the pioneering role of individual member states, a respectable programme of often very ambitious measures and activities emerged despite a weak legal and institutional basis. This was accompanied by the gradual emancipation of environmental policy as an independent policy domain detached from the area of economic integration, even though the corresponding legal foundations did not yet exist.

The second phase (1987-92) is primarily characterized by the legal and institutional consolidation and further development of the common environmental policy. Environmental policy was subsequently anchored in the treaty as an official field of activity of the Community. A new treaty title also served to lay down the aims, principles and decision-making procedures for environmental policy. This resulted in a considerable expansion of the EU’s environmental policy authority. On the one hand, environmental measures no longer necessarily had to be substantiated by trade policy goals. On the other hand, a new decision-making

⁶ The EU member states began to deal more intensively with the environmental issue in the 70th of the 20th century (Tomšík, 2013).

procedure was introduced for environmental measures relevant to the Common Market, which allowed for qualified majority decisions in the Council of Ministers. Thus, it was generally expected (although only partly confirmed in practice) that stricter environmental standards would be passed that went beyond the lowest common denominator of the member states.

The third phase (post 1992) has been characterized by two opposing trends. From an institutional and legal standpoint, the developments triggered by the SEA (Single European Act) were gradually revised and updated, in particular, in the Treaties of Maastricht and Amsterdam and through the creation of EEA. European Environment Agency is the essential institution dealing with the issue of environmental policy except of the main institutions of the EU. Contrary to this trend, however, we have witnessed how environmental policy dynamic has weakened to a certain extent. EU environmental policy lost momentum on the European agenda as opposed to the other policy areas. This was associated with at least a partial decline of the EU's environmental policy as a motor for stricter and more far-reaching environmental regulations in the Community. It remains to be seen how this development will proceed in the future.

This policy of environment is the typically common policy. The need of cooperation among all the member states is important for several reasons. The most important one is the fact that the pollution does not have borders. Good example is the situation of river flowing through several member states – if one state does not invest resources for wastewater treatment it influence the other states that might invest resources to maintain their waters clean. This is economically ineffective (König, Lacina, 2004).

The fact that the EU environmental policy is a common policy supports the idea of common interest in forcing the issue of endangered species protection to become interest of EU common policy as well.

The legal rules are anchored in the EU's legislation in the area of Nature and Biodiversity. The European Commission refers to the two main Directives:

- Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (this is the codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended) which is the EU's oldest piece of nature legislation and one of the most important, creating a comprehensive scheme of protection for all wild bird species naturally occurring in the Union.
- The Habitats Directive – it forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy (together with the Birds Directive). It is built around two pillars: the Natura 2000 network of protected sites and the strict system of species protection. All in all the directive protects over 1.000 animals and plant species and over 200 so called "habitat types" (e.g. special types of forests, meadows, wetlands, etc.), which are of European importance.

Natura 2000 is not finished yet (Tomšík, 2013).

The summit of The Council in Lisbon in March 2000 had extended the strategy into 3 areas:

- economical pillar

- social pillar
- ecological (environmental) pillar

As it is believed that the economical, social and ecological impacts of all policies are interconnected.

The impacts influencing the environment are divided into two processes:

- EIA Environmental Impact Assessment – eliminates the possible negative impacts of the investment plans
- SEA Strategic Environmental Assessment – assesses the impact of concepts and planning documentations on the environment

3.6 Environmental economics

The environmental economics is the label generally applied to the neoclassical economics approach to addressing issues of pollution control, standard setting, waste management and recycling, externalities of private enterprise action, conservation, use of common property resources, etc., in order to provide guidance for efficient allocation and sound environmental policy. The emphasis remains on mobilizing the market mechanism through adjustment of price signals to influence behavior of households and enterprises and so achieve environmental objectives in tandem with social and economic ones (Mirovitskaya, Ascher, 2001).

Environmental economics deals with the interrelationships between economical system and environment and tries to lead to the economical development while having less negative impacts on the environment. It represents the economically effective protection of the environment and takes into account the amount of externalities (Tomšík, 2013).

The environmental economics uses the same macroeconomic and microeconomic tools as other branches of applied economics (Lesser, Dodds, Zerbe, 1997).

The environmental economics deals with the condition of sustainable development. The sustainable development can be economically expressed by the following equation:

$$\sum_t PV(B_t - C_t - EC_t) > 0 \quad (1)$$

t = lifetime

PV = present value

B = income from the activity

C = costs of the activity

EC = environmental costs (negative externality)

The sustainable development is one of the main objectives of the EU as well as of the Strategy 2020. Although it will not be calculated in the thesis directly it will be mentioned while examining the EU's financial instruments because it is implemented in all the programmes and strategies of EU policies for the programming period 2014-2020. The European Commission denotes in its published studies on environmental economics that the market-based instruments

(MBI), such as environmental taxes, tradable permit systems or targeted subsidies, are a cost-effective way to protect and improve the environment. They provide incentives to firms and consumers to opt for greener production or products. Governments can also opt for an Environmental Tax or Fiscal Reform or the reform of Environmentally Harmful Subsidies.

In the thesis will be used the macro-economic tool that is the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) indicator. GDP is the best known measure of macro-economic activity (Blažek, Heissler, Kubíček, Viktorová, Wawrosz, 2012). It has also come to be regarded as a proxy indicator for overall societal development and progress in general. However, GDP does not measure environmental sustainability or social inclusion and these limitations need to be taken into account when using it in policy analysis and debates. This awareness is also denoted in the EU's published studies, e.g. Progress on 'GDP and beyond' actions.

3.7 Species reintroduction

Olney (1994) defines reintroduction as an attempt to establish species (or subspecies) in an area which was once part of its historical range, but from which it has disappeared. A translocation involves movement of wild-born individuals or populations from one part of their range to another. When the translocation is to an area where species has become extinct, it constitutes a reintroduction. A conservation introduction or benign introduction is an attempt to establish a species, for the purpose of conservation, outside its recorded range but within an appropriate habitat and eco-geographical area. Where the conservation introduction is to an island or otherwise isolated habitat, it is sometimes referred to as marooning.

A reintroduction may stand a higher chance of success if made into a country which has a relatively high standard of living (and its frequent corollary, political stability). For sound reasons, few reintroductions have been attempted where habitat destruction has been major cause of a species decline, although habitat loss has played a role in almost all species declines.

Reintroduction programs, by which animals raised or rehabilitated are released into their natural habitats, are powerful tools used for stabilizing, re-establishing, or increasing in situ animal populations that have suffered significant declines. Reintroductions may include animals that have spent some of their early life-stages being cared for in a "head-start" program that gives them a greater chance of survival than those born in the wild or those brought in for rehabilitations from illness or injury.

Reintroduction can be also defined as the process of reestablishing a population of animals within the area of its natural habitat. Reintroduction involves careful consideration of many factors such as carrying capacity in the species' natural habitat, characteristics or captive-bred stock to be reintroduced (e.g., subspeciation and genetic suitability, physiological and behavioral suitability), and the process of reintroduction. In addition, many mammals are locked into specialized dietary, spatial, habitat, or other ecological needs which may fluctuate or reach critical thresholds in the wild. Either these species will have

to be taught behavioral flexibility, or reintroduction programs should emphasize intrinsically adaptable species. For example, although many large carnivores and ungulates require extensive home range areas, they show considerable behavioral and ecological flexibility in movement, activity, and feeding patterns which indicate the adaptive capability of reintroduction. Nevertheless, for larger carnivores reared strictly in captivity some training is probably required at least for acquiring prey.

4 Research and analysis of the EU's Environmental Policy with focus on funding of endangered species protection and their return to the nature in the Strategy 2014-2020

“In formulating and implementing the Union's agriculture, fisheries, transport, internal market, research and technological development and space policies, the Union and the Member States shall, since animals are sentient beings, pay full regard to the welfare requirements of animals, while respecting the legislative or administrative provisions and customs of the Member States relating in particular to religious rites, cultural traditions and regional heritage.” (Article 13, The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union 2012/C 326/01).

The Article 13 of the TFEU 2012/C 326/01 closely declares about the issue of animals protection which is a positive sign while elaborating the issue of endangered species protection. However, the article as well as the whole Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) has not been introduced without any deeper previous background. The legal background must be firstly described because all the action done in the way to solve the issue of endangered species must be in accordance with the EU legislation as well as with the legislation of any single member state of the EU. The TFEU is based on the other legal regulations and must be in accordance together with the EU legislative rules. First, it must accompany the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union which is the very important legal regulation of the EU. Second, it must be in accordance together with the international commitments such as the Kyoto Protocol, for instance. And it must be also respected the principles that are declared in the constitutions and charters of human rights and freedoms of the EU member states.

Nevertheless, the aim of this thesis is not to elaborate in details all the legislation rules but only the legislation that is closely connected with the protection of the endangered species and their return to the nature. Specially those parts that are connected with the financing of the endangered species and of their return to their natural habitats. Therefore the legal regulation that contains the environmental issue and rather is focused on the issue of endangered species will be mentioned in the next rows.

4.1 Environment legal framework

As was already pointed out, the first and very important document that refers to the protection of the environment is the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union (TFEU) and also the Treaty on European Union (TEU). These two important treaties are dealing with the protection of the environment and with sustainable development. Further, the history of European environmental law provisions in the European treaties will be also mentioned. Then, the different treaties (SEA,

Maastricht, Amsterdam, Nice and Lisbon) that altered the original European Economic Community (EEC) Treaty into the two present Treaties will be discussed. Also, the Constitution that did not materialise is touched upon. The changes in provisions dealing with the environment and sustainable development are focused on. After looking at the subsequent changes to the EU treaties, a number of issues will be highlighted. Free movement of goods and protection of environment is first turned to. The internal market provisions on the one hand and those governing environmental protection on the other hand are also scrutinised, as are the instruments of directives and regulations. At the end of this part of the thesis will be mentioned the environmental case law.

Starting from the TEU and the TFEU, first should be mentioned the most important articles contained in both of these treaties. Already it was mentioned the article 13 of the TFEU that deals about the integration of animal welfare. The next also important articles about the environmental issues are then article 11 that deals about principle of integration and sustainable development, article 34 about prohibition of quantitative restrictions on imports, article 36 that declares the exception to the prohibition of article 34 in relation to the protection of health and life of humans, animals and plants, article 114 about internal market, article 191 about the protection of environment, article 192 about the legal basis for environmental action and article 193 that refers to more stringent national measures. These articles are important for the reintroduction of endangered species because deal about prevention of the possible threats that could cause difficulties for the reintroduction process, e.g. illegal trade of endangered species. In the TEU the important articles that should to be worth the attention are the article 3 and article 21. The article 3 talks about aims of the EU (including sustainable development, high level of protection and improvement of quality of environment) and the article 21 contains the regulation that says that in external policies the EU shall foster sustainable development and participate to the promotion of international measures aimed at preserving the quality of the environment.

Nonetheless, these articles have not appeared in these treaties without its base on the history. Therefore few words about the history of European environmental law provisions in the European treaties should be outlined.

“Despite the fact that the word environment was not mentioned in the treaties establishing the EEC, environmental protection has been one of its aims since 1972. Environmental Action plans were drafted, which further described the aims and principles as well as laying down high-priority subjects that demanded action. Predominantly through the use of internal market provisions of the EEC Treaty (at present article 114 TFEU), regulatory measures in fields such as pollution of water and air were established. Harmonisation of national environmental measures was deemed necessary so as not to disturb intra-community trade, to prevent unequal competition conditions, and to safeguard the protection of human health and the environment. At this point in time, hundreds of measures relating to the environment have been established, having an influence on almost all aspects of national environmental law. More than half of national environmental law of the Member States is at present influenced or prescribed by Brussels in this way.”(Douma, 2014)

In order to explore the history that had influenced the formation of the treaties as we know nowadays it must be introduced the treaties that went along the history.

The first treaty to mention was the EEC Treaty that was amended by the Single European Act on July 1st 1987 leading to the explicit mention of the environment in article 100A (internal market, now article 114 TFEU) and a separate title on environment, article 130R-T (now article 191-193 TFEU). Environmental protection was, however, not yet formally included in the aims of the EEC. Upon the coming into force of the Treaty of Maastricht on November 1st 1993, the protection of the environment finally received a formal place among the aims of the EC in article 2 EC Treaty (as the former EEC Treaty was thenceforth titled). From this moment on, the European Union existed alongside the EC. The next treaty that influenced the formation of the environmental law was the Treaty of Amsterdam. The Treaty of Amsterdam entered into force on May 1st 1999. The text of the EC Treaty was renumbered. The principle of integration, formerly laid down in article 130R, has been brought forward. Article 6 then demands that environmental protection requirements are integrated into the definition and implementation of the Community policies and activities referred to in article 3, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development. In article 95 (ex 100A, since Lisbon article 114 TFEU), governing the internal market, the possibilities are set out for more stringent national requirements to be implemented, despite the European harmonisation rules. Finally, attention needs to be drawn to the fact that the codecision procedure, under which the European Parliament in some instances has a right of veto, is now applicable to measures based on article 95 (now 114 TFEU) as well as 175 (now 192 TFEU).

Next treaty to mention is the Treaty of Nice. However, in the environmental protection did not bring any greater progress. Therefore the next treaty can be introduced and that is the European Constitution. The four parts of the proposed text contain several provisions touching upon environmental issues. In Part I, it is made clear that sustainable development based on 'inter alia' improvement of the quality of the environment is among the Union's objectives (Art I-3 paragraph 3), as is promoting sustainable development at a global level (Art I-3 paragraph 4). Environment stays to be an area of shared competence (Art I-13). In the preamble to Part II (The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the Union), the Union takes upon itself promotion of a balanced and sustainable development. The necessity to integrate environmental protection requirements into the Union policies is formulated in both Part II (Art II-37) and Part III on the Policies and Functioning of the Union (Art III-4) of the Constitution. The provision of Art II-37 formulates a duty to ensure a high level of environmental protection and to improve the quality of the environment "in accordance with the principle of sustainable development". Articles III-129 to III-131 are devoted to Environment. Unanimity stays required for fiscal measures, town and country planning, and specific water, land, and energy use issues. Art III-65 declares that the possibility of invoking environmental grounds for national legislation is still not stricter than European legislation. Finally, the text contains a new article on energy (III-157), in which the need to be preserve and improve the environment features prominently. All in all, if the national referenda would have allowed for the entry into force of this Treaty, environment and sustainable development would have gained from this, notably

through the provisions in the Charter. National referenda in the Netherlands and France said 'no' to the Constitution and instead, the Lisbon Treaty was created. The Treaty of Lisbon comprises of two Treaties: the Treaty on European Union (TEU) and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU). It came into force on the 1st December 2009. From that moment on, the pillar structure does not exist anymore. Codecision (Council and EP deciding jointly) becomes the ordinary legislative procedure. Article 194 TFEU introduces a competence in the field of energy, that has to be carried out taking into account environment, internal market and solidarity between Member State. The only change to the provisions dealing specifically with the protection of environment is a small addition to article 191 paragraph 1 TFEU. That provision already stated that the EU can promote measures at international level to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems, and the Treaty of Lisbon adds that such measures in particular can deal with combating climate change. In spite of claims that this addition would give new power to Brussels, in legal practice it does not change anything. The EU was already allowed to take measures to combat climate change before the Treaty of Lisbon. The addition (that was not foreseen in the proposed Constitution) is a mere explanation. Although the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU is only attached to the Treaty, it has a full and legally binding value by means of article 6 TEU. Moreover, the European Union shall join the system set by the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR). The EU Charter lays down a high level of environmental protection and improvement that should be achieved following the environmental policy integration principle and the principle of sustainable development (Article 37 EU Charter).

As the Charter and the TFEU were mentioned above it should to be outlined brief comparison of these two documents. However, for the purpose of this thesis the focus will be put on mainly on the parts of these two documents that are closely related to the issue of environment protection. The application of the law in connection together with the Charter is analyzed by scrutinizing the article 37 (Environmental Protection) of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights from the viewpoints of EU law and international environmental law. By this are explored the reasons for the lack of any individually justifiable environmental right of a substantive or procedural character under the Charter. Further in this part of the thesis will be investigated the potential of article 37 to influence the interpretation and application of EU law and of other Charter provisions in the light of the EU Treaty requirement of environmental integration. The article 37 about environmental protection is as followed: "A high level of environmental protection and the improvement of the quality of the environment must be integrated into the policies of the Union and assured in accordance with the principle of sustainable development." (Article 37, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union). As was commented by Marin-Duran, Morgera (2013) the article 37 can be explained as followed: "The principles set out in this Article have been based on Articles 2, 6 and 174 of the EC Treaty, which have now been replaced by Article 3(3) of the Treaty on European Union and Articles 11 and 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. It also draws on the provisions of some national constitutions." This declares, as well as it also obvious from national constitutions, that article 37 of the Charter is a clear manifestation of a lack of consensus among the Member States on a 'substantive' human right to the

environment. Such disagreement is reflected also at the international level. Absent any proclamation of environmental rights in the Charter, needs first explore what the principle of environmental integration means and what its legal significance is in EU law, drawing on Article 11 TFEU as the main source of article 37 of the Charter. The rationale behind the principle of environmental integration first promulgated in article 11 TFEU, and then in article 37 of the Charter, lies in the realisation that progress in the environmental field by itself is not sufficient and may be countered by developments in other policy fields that disregard environmental protection requirements. To put this in EU law terms, the very essence of the environmental integration principle resides in the fact that Treaty provisions other than the environmental legal bases may be used by the EU legislator to adopt measures that may (negatively) affect the environment. In broad terms, the environmental integration principle calls therefore for a 'continuous greening' of Union policies. As anticipated above, the language of these two provisions differs in a number of ways. First of all, the object of article 37 of the Charter refers to a 'high level of environmental protection' and to the 'improvement of the quality of the environment', whereas that of article 11 TFEU to 'environmental protection requirements' more broadly. However, none of the terms is defined in the EU Treaties. The expression 'high level' of environmental protection is considered 'one of the most important substantive principles of European environmental policy. It seems therefore useful and necessary to rely on the more precise wording of article 11 TFEU, as one of the sources of article 37. The same clarification can be assumed in the case of article 191 TFEU to be considered as a source of article 37 of the Charter. The lack of precise definitiv renders it difficult to identify the exact implications of the link between environmental integration and sustainable development in article 37 of the Charter and article 11 TFEU. In some point of view, the legal signifkance of the environmental integration principle needs to be first inferred on the basis of a close analysis of the wording of article 37 Charter and article 11 TFEU. „Unlike some of the constitutions of the EU Member States, article 37 of the Charter does not proclaim a substantive right to a healthy environment“ (Marin-Duran, Morgera, 2013). In fact, article 37 even fails to codify and elevate to a constitutional level procedural environmental rights that are already binding upon the EU and its member states, both under international and EU secondary law.

After the historical research of the European environmental law and the analysis of important legal regulations that are connected with the environmental protection can be mentioned some important topics that reflect the provisions of the treaties and are also closely touched together with the protection of the environment.

First topic is the free movement of goods. National environmental policy is obliged to adhere to the requirements posed in specific European directives or regulations. These will be discussed hereafter in as far as they apply to the European policy fields of internal market and environment. Should such specific requirements be lacking, the requirements as laid down in the TFEU apply. Regarding national environmental measures that have an impact on the free movement of goods within the Union, the prohibition of article 34 TFEU is of importance. Quantitative restrictions on imports and measures having equivalent effect are prohibited in principle, unless these are necessary for the protection of

health of humans, animals and plants, as is laid down in article 36 TFEU. The protection of the environment also constitutes a possible exception, but is subject to the so-called rule of reason. An example of the European Court of Justice applying the rule of reason is the Danish Bottles (case C-302/86). These prohibitions or restrictions may not, however, constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination nor a disguised restriction on trade between Member States. They should also be proportional, in the sense that no alternative measures that have a less of an influence on trade should be available to achieve the end (i.e. the least trade restrictiveness test). However, the result taken by the ECJ supports the economical interests rather than the environmental interests.

The second topic to be discussed is the completion of the internal market. Article 114 TFEU enables measures to be taken that have as their object the establishment and functioning of the internal market. Section 3 demands that a high level of protection with regard to amongst others the environment and public health should be taken as a base. Section 4 allows the maintenance of existing national measures for the protection of the environment or the working environment under certain circumstances. Section 5 even allows the introduction of new measures for the protection of the environment under more stringent circumstances. Case C-439/05 Land Oberosterreich v. Commission showed the difficulty of invoking the exception based on the protection of the environment. The region of Oberosterreich expressed concerns about the introduction of the new directive 2001/18 on GMO and would have liked to introduce a more stringent legislation, thus the Austrian government notified to the Commission. However, on the basis that there were no new scientific data and no new scientific evidence the Commission rejected the application.

The third topic and very important to be mentioned is about the environment and article 191 that describes the aims and principles of the EU environmental policy. Article 191(2) demands a high level of protection, but allows exceptions due to regional differences. Article 192 contains the real legal basis for measures and governs the decision-making process for their coming into being. Finally, article 193 allows Member States the option to maintain or take more stringent measures. These measures need to be compatible with the primary Treaty provisions and must be reported to the Commission. Primarily measures that have a less direct link with the functioning of the internal market, such as nature-protecting measures, but also Directive 2008/98 on waste, are taken with the title on environment as a basis.

The fourth topic to be examined while investigating the European environmental law are the directives. Article 288 TFEU provides that European directives place upon Member States an obligation to achieve a certain result within a given period of time, leaving them the freedom to choose the form and methods by which to achieve this result. Individuals can invoke provisions in a directive when the national legislator has implemented these either too late or incorrectly. Such provisions should, to this end, be sufficiently clear, precise and unconditional. A distinction can be made between the situations in which national rules are stricter than the directive and those in which they are more lenient. In the first case, persons with a direct interest can invoke the EU provisions, in the latter third parties can sometimes invoke them against the Member State in question (but not against other persons).

Last but not least topic refers to the regulations. European regulations are by their nature directly applicable within the Member States article 288 TFEU. For subjects that should be regulated in the same way in all the Member States, such as import and export of waste materials and the trade in endangered species of animals and plants, the form of the regulation is chosen.

At the end of this part of the thesis the case law is mentioned. The European Court of Justice (ECJ) is the court of last instance where issues of EU law are concerned. The ECJ consist of ECJ General Court and the Civil Service Tribunal (CST). It is assisted by Advocates General who deliver opinions when it is required, although the Court is not bound to follow those opinions. It interprets EU law in disputes brought before it in cases concerned with either one of the EU institutions or individuals in the following ways: The procedure provided for by Article 258. This Article allows the Commission of the EU to bring a procedure for enforcement before the ECJ if it considers that a Member State does not fulfil its obligations under EU law. This is only the final stage of the procedure, however. The Commission and the Member State negotiate before the ECJ gets involved. This takes place in several stages: first, there are informal negotiations between the two parties. If no satisfactory conclusion is reached, the Commission sends a letter of formal notice pointing out the specific infringements of EU law. If still no correct implementation has been achieved, the Commission issues a reasoned opinion which leaves the Member State two months to comply before proceedings are started before the ECJ. If the ECJ shares the opinion of the Commission, the Member State is obliged to change its national law and implement EU law. Pecuniary sanctions can also be imposed. Important judgement of the ECJ in the field of the environment is from the year 1992 and is called Walloon waste labeled as case C-2/90. In this case the ECJ held that a complete ban on the import of dangerous waste is not in conformity with European directive 84/631 in which a system of individual weighing of interests is prescribed. Another case from the year 1998 was taken by the ECJ, so called Danish bee, labeled as case C-67/97, where the ban on imports for other species of bee to a certain island could be justified with reference to the exception with regard to life and health of animals of article 36. More recent cases are C-297/08, Commission vs. Italy, dealing with the proper procedure for waste disposal, and C-378/08, Raffinerie Mediterranee (ERG), dealing with the polluters pay principle and liability issues. The sanctions and the results of the cases are important for the further prediction that can be taken while moving forward the issue of the endangered species and their return to the nature.

4.1.1 Legal framework of EU's environmental policy funding

As the legal framework of the environmental policy of the European Union was introduced and analysed, the next part of this chapter is focused on the practical analysis of the financial management of the environmental policy, especially on the area of endangered species protection and their return to the nature.

Despite the fact, that this policy is a young policy, it is developing very quickly. Therefore analysis of several areas must be done in order to reach the objectives of the thesis.

In order to introduce the basic framework to offer the structure how is the environmental policy applicable the structure of EU policy application will be described. The legal framework was already presented including the Treaty and the Charter. These legal documents determine that the member states should endeavour to achieve healthy environment as well as that the citizens of the member states have their right to have healthy environment. These regulations are followed by the strategies issued by the European Union. These strategies are usually medium-term strategies. These strategies then are fulfilled by issuing the Operational Programmes which are accomplished by individual projects.

Because there are many operational programmes and many ways how to achieve the goal – to find the most effective way how to finance the endangered species protection and their return to the nature – it must be distinguished the best instrument, strategy how to achieve the goal and not to get lost in the large bureaucratic system of the European Union. The same time it must correspond with the fulfillment of the articles of the Treaty. Besides, the Treaty is based on the principles that are anchored in the constitutions and charters of human rights of the member states so this must be also respected. And as was already mentioned, also the international commitments (e.g. the Kyoto Protocol) must be obeyed.

Given that the legal framework was already introduced, mainly the TFEU and the Charter, further the medium-term strategic documents can be presented. These medium-term strategic documents are created to maintain the fulfillment of the goals of the EU. The strategic document that will be mainly elaborated in this thesis is the Strategy 2020 reflecting the programme period 2014-2020. When the Strategy 2020 will be examined then the Implementation Documents and programmes (e.g. LIFE, Natura) will be analysed. These Implementation Documents and programmes are based on and derived from the Strategy 2020. Yet again, only those Implementation Documents and programmes that are closely connected to the issue of endangered species protection and their return to the nature will be elaborated in this thesis. Besides, while examining the Strategy 2020 it will be pointed out how do the EU institutions and the member states oblige, comply and follow the legal regulations that were provided in the text above.

Henceforth, the methodology used will be based on the comparison of effective financing of protection of endangered species by other organizations and the ways of funding done by the European Union until nowadays with further comparison of the European union's Strategies planned for the following years. Therefore there will be examined the prepared measures and remedies for the following year 2014 and further being a part of structural reforms of the EU policies.

4.2 Analysis of the current situation in the area of EU's environmental policy

At the beginning, the current situation in the researched field of the thesis and examination of the European Union's policy of environment protection will be realised (in detail, e.g., EU's environment policy implementation etc.).

The EU's environmental policy (Policy of Environment, Consumers and Health) is divided into 8 categories (Air, Chemicals, Civil protection, Nature and Biodiversity, Noise, Soil, Waste, Water) and the categories are still enlarging that can be seen as a positive sign for the environment protection. However, given the fact that to examine all the policy of environment would be too comprehensive, for the purposes of the thesis elaboration the focus will be put merely on the category of Nature and Biodiversity that deals most of all of the categories about the issue of endangered species protection.

As specified by the European Commission, the Biodiversity is the variety of Life on Earth. We depend on it for the food, energy, raw materials, air and water that make life possible and drive our economy.

The category Nature and Biodiversity is divided into following structure:

- EU Biodiversity Policy
- EU Nature Legislation
- Natura 2000 Network
- Species protection
- Green Infrastructure
- Invasive Alien Species
- Wildlife Trade
- Animal welfare
- Climate Change
- Partnerships

In order to fulfil the goals that are set by the environmental policy in the category Nature and Biodiversity where the issue of endangered species protection and their return to the nature belongs it must be investigated the tools that EU use in order to chieve these goals. And these goals are predefined for every EU programming period. For the period 2014 - 2020 these goals are mentioned in the Strategy 2020 that was issued by the European Commission on the 3.3.2010 in Brussels. First, these goals will be described and evaluated and next will be introduced the tools that European Union use in order to achieve these goals. The tools are the Implementation Documents and programmes (e.g. LIFE, Natura) as was already described above while introducing the structure of fulfilment of the EU policy.

4.3 The analysis of the oncoming programming process 2014-2020 and the EU budget 2014-2020 with focus on the endangered species protection politics

This chapter focuses on the analysis of the oncoming programming process 2014–2020 concerning the Europe 2020 Strategy, its implementation to the environmental policy and its impact on the study area of the thesis. With aspect of this the budget for the researched area will be examined. As the economy and functioning of the EU is developing year by year, also the policies of the EU have to develop and indeed, they do. Therefore there are continually elaborated new drafts, regulations and directives that develop the already agreed strategies that are moving the EU policies. And, moreover, it is already set in the functioning of the EU that also the strategies issued by the EU have to be renewed after a certain period of time in order to achieve sustainable development of the EU. For the period of 2014 – 2020 was already issued the Strategy 2020 that defines the goals that EU wants to attain during this period. And given the fact that during elaboration of this thesis the first year, 2014, had almost past, there emerged already some renewal documents that shape more effectively the Strategy 2020 due to the progress and changes happening in the European Union recently. However, first should be introduced the Strategy 2020 and then can be elaborated the possible changes of the Strategy 2020 in the field of environmental protection.

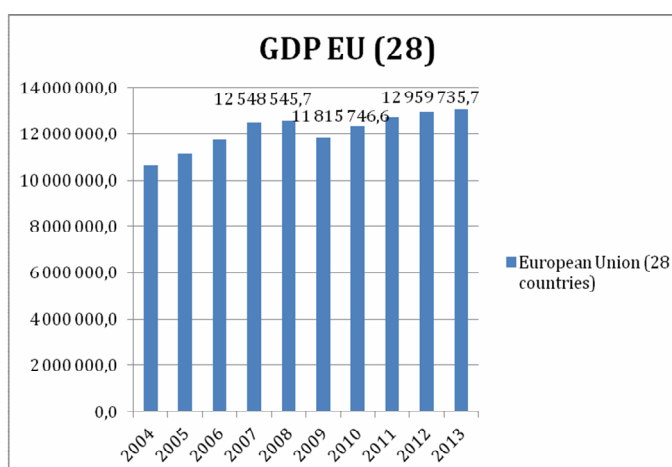
4.3.1 Strategy 2020

The final version of the Strategy 2020 was issued by the European Commission on the March 3th 2010 in Brussels. It is named as a strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The elaboration of the Strategy 2020 was highly influenced by the threats of the economic and financial crises that had hit the European Union around the year 2008. Therefore the main objectives of the European Union are to turn the EU into a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy again and to deliver high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century. Europe 2020 puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities, that are smart growth (developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation), sustainable growth (promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy) and inclusive growth (fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion. Especially the territorial cohesion plays an important role for the issue of endangered species protection – given the fact that the habitats of the endangered species are in most of the cases broaden among borders of more countries. To achieve the smart, sustainable and inclusive growth the Commission proposes the 5 EU headline targets: 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed, 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D, the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right), the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree, 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty. These targets are interrelated and critical to the overall success. To ensure that each Member State tailors the Europe 2020 strategy to its particular situation, the Commission

proposes that EU goals are translated into national targets and trajectories. This is significant for the environmental protection because also one of the priorities given by the Commission is the "Resource efficient Europe" that says that it should be helped to decouple economic growth from the use of resources, support the shift towards a low carbon economy, increase the use of renewable energy sources, modernise transport sector and promote energy efficiency. However, even if the environmental protection is anchored in the Strategy 2020 still the main priorities of the EU are focused and the growth of the economy that is unfortunately being contradictory to environmental protection. But is not the environmental protection the most important to human being? Without the healthy environment the boosting economy would not be that important (as reminder, the impending bees extinction that is crucially influencing the food production). Still the focus of the EU strategy for the future as the Strategy 2020 is put on the progressive economy that is from the environmental point of view not very satisfactory finding. However, for the future of the European Union the strengthen coordination within the Economic and Monetary Union is important. Because if the whole European Union collapses it will be quite difficult to ensure deeper cooperation among the states and the close cooperation among the states in Europe is a key prerequisite for successful management of endangered species protection and their return to the nature.

Therefore a brief look on the economic situation should be done to understand the possibilities of EU financing. As it is described in the Strategy 2020 „the GDP fell by 4% in 2009, industrial production dropped back to the levels of the 1990s, 23 million people (or 10% of active population) are unemployed, deficits are at 7% of GDP on average, debt levels at over 80% of GDP and many investment plans, talents and ideas risk going to waste because of uncertainties, sluggish demand and lack of funding“ (Communication from the European Commission, Europe 2020, 2010). These were the circumstances that preceded the elaboration of the Strategy 2020. However, nowadays the situation had improved a bit as it is shown by exploring one of the main indicator the GDP (depicted in the graph below).

Graph 1: GDP of the European Union in 2004-2013



Source: Eurostat, author

From the graph can be observed that indeed after the sustainable growth until the year 2008 there was drop down of the GDP between the year 2008 and 2009 but since the year 2009 the increase in GDP can be observed again and moreover the value in the year 2013 already exceed the value of GDP in the year 2008.⁷ This is a positive sign and it seems that the economy of the European Union is recovering. Therefore it can be assumed that the short-term priority to overcome the crisis and make stronger the still fragile EU seems hence to be successfully managed. As it was proved that the goals of the Strategy 2020 seems being on the right way to fulfilment the focus can be again put on the exploration of the environment protection in the Strategy 2020. It states that the climate and resource challenges for EU require drastic action because the expansion of the world population from 6 to 9 billion will intensify global competition for natural resources, and put pressure on the environment. The EU must continue its outreach to other parts of the world in pursuit of a worldwide solution to the problems of climate change at the same time as is implemented EU's agreed climate and energy strategy across the territory of the Union. The 28 EU economies are highly interdependent but the crisis underscored the close links and spill-overs between the national economies, particularly in the euro area. Reforms, or the lack of them, in one country affect the performance of all others, as recent events have shown; moreover, the crisis and severe constraints in public spending have made it more difficult for some Member States to provide sufficient funding for the basic infrastructure they need in areas such as transport and energy not only to develop their own economies but also to help them participate fully in the internal market. This might be a bit disconcerting while talking about the need to solve the issue of reintroduction of the endangered species more globally. Fortunately, there is still remaining the call of EU for global action among the member states. Therefore the Strategy 2020 defines the action that EU is going to take and the responsibilities of the member states in order to achieve the set goals. Also the Strategy 2020 mention the requirements for better cross border cooperation (e.g. Trans European Energy Networks.) In the environment protection, the EU will achieve emissions reduction and biodiversity targets; this includes disaster prevention and response, harnessing the contribution of cohesion, agricultural, rural development, and maritime policies to address climate change, in particular through adaptation measures based on more efficient use of resources, which will also contribute to improving global food security. Also it will be supported the trade opening initiatives for sectors of the future, such as "green" products and technologies. At national level, Member States will need to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies, limiting exceptions to people with social needs and to use regulation, building performance standards and market-based instruments such as taxation, subsidies and procurement to reduce energy and resource use and use structural funds to invest in energy efficiency in public buildings and in more efficient recycling. Policy recommendations are addressed to Member States both in the context of the country reporting as well as under the thematic approach of Europe 2020. For

⁷ The values are taken for the EU 28 despite the fact that until the Croatia had joined the EU in 2013 it was just EU 27. However this data were chosen for simplification and the result would have not differed while comparing the EU 27. (The full data set is attached as appendix of this thesis.)

country surveillance, they will take the form of Opinions on stability/convergence programmes under Council Regulation (EC) No 1466/97 accompanied by recommendations under the Broad Economic Policy Guidelines (BEPGs, Article 121.2). The thematic part includes Employment recommendations (Article 148) and country recommendations on other selected thematic issues (for instance on business environment, innovation, functioning of the single market, energy/climate change etc.)

As the Strategy 2020 was introduced and provided the basic frame about the goals of the European Union in the next years until 2020 the next steps are to examine how the goals will be fulfilled. For the fulfillment of the goals must be set the financial possibilities that will provide the goals accomplishment.

4.3.2 Programming process 2014-2020 and EU budget 2014-2020

The funding rules for the period 2014-2020 are much simpler than from the previous programming periods and therefore also easier to understand for beneficiaries and less prone to errors. It is done by so called multiannual financial framework (MFF). The multiannual financial framework (MFF) lays down the maximum annual amounts ('ceilings') which the EU may spend in different political fields ('headings') over a period of at least 6 years. The upcoming MFF covers seven years from 2014 to 2020. By defining in which areas the EU should invest more or less over the seven years, the MFF is an expression of political priorities as much as a budgetary planning tool. The EU policies are implemented through a wide range of programmes and funds which provide financial support to hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries such as farmers, students, scientists, NGOs, businesses, towns, regions and many others. The programmes of the 2014-2020 multiannual financial framework that are connected with the reintroduction of endangered species and the amounts allocated to each of them and their legal bases will be mentioned later in this work. The European Union agreed that there will be stronger result-orientation and a new performance reserve in all European Structural and Investment Funds that incentive good projects. Also have agreed on support for small and medium-sized enterprises where the objective is to double support from EUR 70 to 140 billion over the 7 years. In this support are partially included also the expenses for the environment protection.

The fulfillment of the goals of the cohesion policy is done via the European Regional Development Fund. ERDF aim to target in the Programming process 2014-2020 more enterprises than in the past programming processes. ERDF is also one of the main funds that donates the issue of environment protection. Another important tool for fulfilling the goals of environment protection is the cohesion policy. Overall, the reformed cohesion policy will make available up to EUR 366.8 billion to invest in Europe's regions, cities and the real economy. It will be the EU's principle investment tool for delivering the Europe 2020 goals such as creating growth and jobs, tackling climate change and energy dependence, and reducing poverty and social exclusion.

Table 2: The Commission's proposal for division of sum €375bn to be allocated under the heading of Cohesion Policy

Purpose	Amount (€bn)
Convergence Regions	162.6
Transition Regions	38.9
Competitiveness Regions	53.1
Territorial Cooperation	11.7
Cohesion Fund	68.7
<i>Total Structural and Cohesion Funds</i>	<i>335.0</i>
Connecting Europe facility	40.0
Total Cohesion Policy	375.0

Source: www.dfpni.gov.uk

The Commission prepared for each Member State a position paper on the development of Partnership Agreement and programmes for the period 2014-2020. This position paper's elaboration was based on the lessons learnt during the previous programming period 2007-2013 and the Commission's legislative proposals for 2014-2020. The second political response of the Council, intervening in the context of ongoing negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2014-2020 and at a time when other EU policies which are relevant to the achievement of the EU biodiversity headline target by 2020 are undergoing a reform process (in particular the Common Agricultural Policy, the Common Fisheries Policy and the Cohesion Policy) the Council constitute the conclusions of adopting such conclusions on the implementation of the EU 2020 biodiversity Strategy. Even if these policies are developed in order to achieve the goals of the EU, the area of endangered species protection and their return to the nature is not developed by the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy yet in the extend as it should be. The EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy will be described later in this thesis.

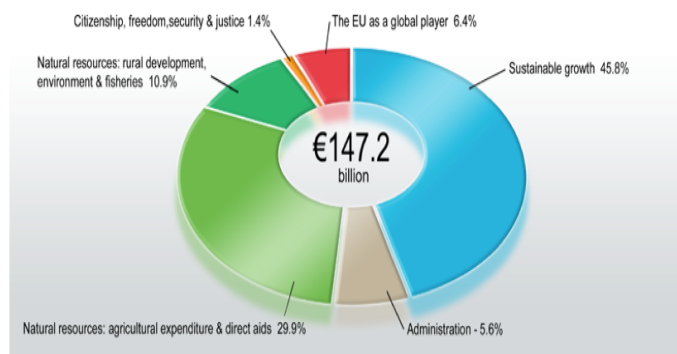
4.3.2.1 EU budget analysis, chapter II

This part of the thesis assesses the source of financing and effective distribution of resources in the policy of endangered species protection. The core issue is, whether it should be done via the EU budget in the chapter of European Commission concerning the Preservation and management of natural resources (Including the Common Agricultural Policy, common fisheries policy, rural development and environmental measures) being the second largest category financed from the budget of the EU. Or whether the prior mentioned financing by other tools of EU will be done, such as instruments of Cohesion Policy, The Common Agricultural Policy after 2013, European Structural Fund or via Operating grants of European environmental NGOs. In the previous subchapter the possibilities of financing from the programme 2014-2020 were examined.

This subchapter will focus on the analysis of the EU budget. The development of the budget within the last four years is explained in the following graphs and tables.

Graph 2: The proportion of EU budget 2012

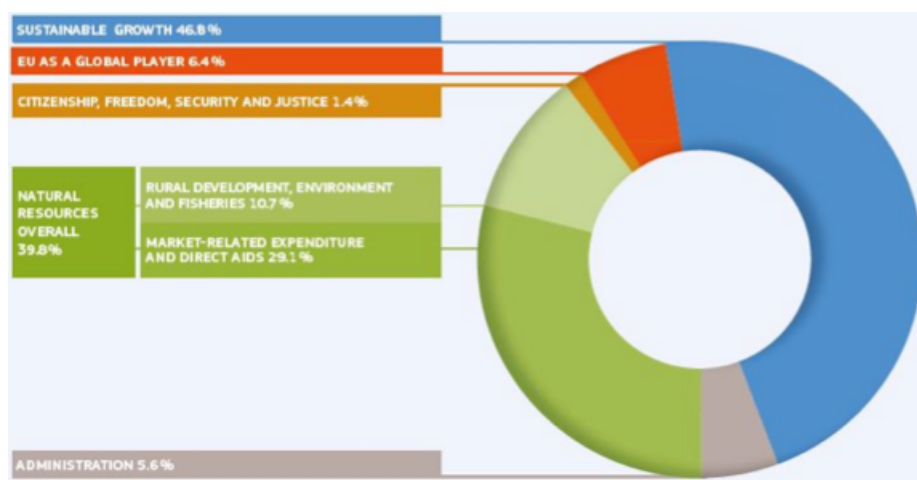
Budget 2012 in figures



Source: European commission

From the comparison of the expenses to the Natural resources where the environmental protection belongs is obvious that the expenses from the year 2012 to 2013 had decreases (the graph explaining the budgeted 2013 is depicted below). From the graphs assessment is obvious that the total expenses of the Commission for the year 2012 had reached the total amount of 40.8 % of total 147.2 billion euros. The value was obtained by sum up of the categories Natural resources – rural development, environment and fisheries and Natural resources – agricultural expenditure and direct aids. That both of these categories finance until some certain extend also the issue of reintroduction. From the graph depicting the budget 2013 the value of Natural resources allocated reach to 39.8 % that is just slight decrease compare to the year 2012.

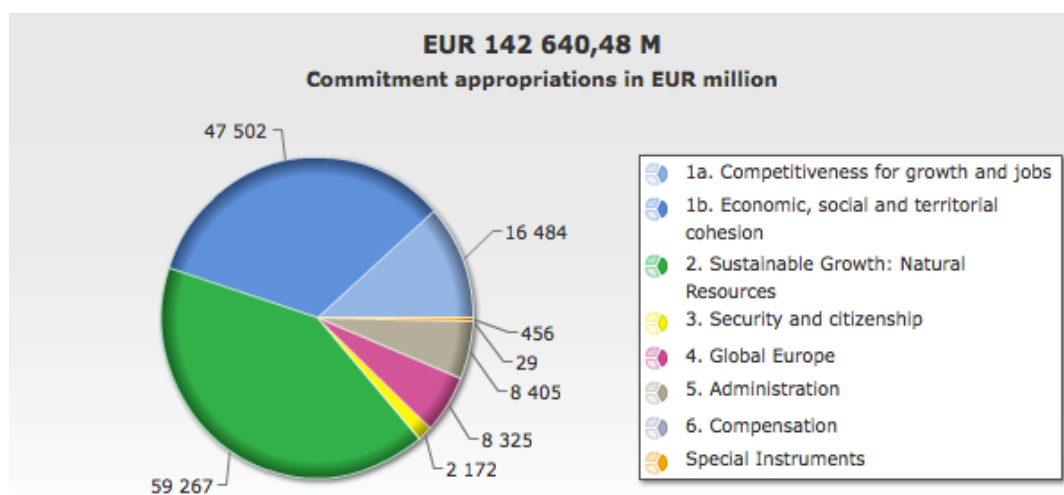
Graph 3: Budget 2013 in figures



Source: European Commission

The budget allocated for the year 2014 is explained in the next graph to see the continue of allocation of the expenses for the natural resources issue. It can be seen the obvious change in the year 2014 compare to the years 2012 and 2013. It is given by the change of the programming period and by the regulations that were issued by the Strategy 2020. The change is given in shifting the issue of Natural resources in the category of Sustainable growth. For the year 2014 it is allocated the amount of 59 267 million euros. That represents the 41.55 % of the total sum of the budget 142 640.48 million euros. By this is shown again a slight increase in the financial resources allocated compare to the year 2013 and even it exceeds the value from the year 2012. Also it is demonstrated by the graph that the final amount of the budget for the year 2014 is finally higher than was expected while estimating the financial framework 2014-2020.

Graph 4: The EU budget 2014 in figures



Source: European Commission

The examination of the EU's budget by the graphs had however offered only an overall idea about the financial resources that are allocated for the environment protection. More specific are the budget reports issued by the European Commission where are all the chapters of the budget described and can be more closely explored the resources allocated for each area. In the following tables are compared only the selected parts of the budget and depicted are solely the second chapters of the budget that contain the issue of environment protection. For illustration the second chapter of the budget from the year 2012 and 2013 are proposed bellow.

Table 3: The EU budget 2012, chapter II – the figures

2. Preservation and management of natural resources	60.0	57.0	40.8	+2.2	+1.9
<i>of which Direct aids & market related expenditure</i>	44.0	43.9	29.9	+2.6	+2.5
<i>of which Rural development, environment & fisheries</i>	15.9	13.1	10.8	-1.3	-0.1

Source: European Commission, author's adjustments

The table explains in the first column the commitment appropriations (CA), second column payments appropriations (PA), third column % of total budget, and % change from 2011 in CA and PA. The same explanation of the values can be seen in the following table for the year 2013. By this data is verified the evaluation from the graphs above and is more significantly demonstrated the allocation of the resources. It is proved that there was slight decrease in the amounts from 2011 to 2012 and then slight increase in the expenses from the year 2012 to 2013.

Table 4: The EU budget 2013, chapter II – the figures

Heading	Billion €		% of total budget	
	CA	PA	CA	PA
1. Sustainable Growth	70,6	59,1	46,8	44,5
1a. Competitiveness for growth and employment	16,1	11,9	10,7	8,9
1b. Cohesion for growth and employment	54,5	47,2	36,1	35,5
2. Preservation and management of natural resources	60,2	57,5	39,8	43,3
<i>of which market related expenditure & direct aids</i>	44,0	44,0	29,1	33,1
<i>of which Rural development, environment & fisheries</i>	16,2	13,5	10,7	10,2

Source: European Commission, author's adjustment

This comparison offered an overall view about the allocation of the resources in the past years and can be used for forecast for the following period. When all this figures are compared it is obvious that the expenditures on the second chapter have not faced dramatic restriction but are slightly increasing. This is positive statistics given the fact of decrease of the budget for the year 2014 (compare to the constant increasing of the budget in 2011, 2012, 2013). This means that aim of financing natural resources issues are important tasks in the European Union. This might have positive impact on the development of the financing of the issue of endangered species protection and their return to the nature. The fact that the amount of the budget for 2014 is lower than the past year does not have to be disconcerting because as was shown from the prepared programming process 2014 to 2020 there is expected that the budget will have increasing tendency year by year. However, this analysis offered only an overall idea about possible

financing of the reintroduction of the endangered species. Because the structure of the tools of the EU is more comprehensive and there are many possibilities of financing from different resources. How is the structure divided and what are the tools it will be described in the following part of the thesis.

4.4 Analysis of the current situation of financing the endangered species protection in Europe

As the Strategy 2020 was introduced and provided the basic frame about the goals of the European Union in the next years until 2020 the next steps are to examine how the goals will be fulfilled. For the fulfillment of the goals was set the financial possibilities that will provide the goals accomplishment that was introduced in the previous chapter. Next must be presented tools that European Union disposes of to satisfy its goals. Introducing these tools is the last step for complete presentation of the EU's structure and system of its policies' management. And as was already mentioned in the previous part of this thesis, the EU uses these tools in order to fulfil its goals that are given in the Strategy 2020. The tools are the Implementation Documents and programmes. The Implementation Documents and programmes vary due to the field they serve. For the purposes of this thesis will be examined only those Implementation Documents and programmes that are focused on the field of endangered species protection and their return to the nature. The issue of endangered species protection and their reintroduction is managed under the EU's environmental policy and therefore will be examined how the environmental policy is managed in this field. The policy of environment belongs to the responsibility of the European Commission as many other EU policies. The European Commission also disposes of a range of funding opportunities to support its policies and their programmes and projects. For the management of the policies the European Commission is divided into several departments and services. The departments are called Directorates-General and the environmental policy is managed by the Directorate-General for the Environment. The objective of the Directorate-General for the Environment (DG Environment) is to protect, preserve and improve the environment for present and future generations. The DG Environment is also responsible to manage the funding opportunities that the European Commission disposes however with the focus to the environmental issues. The Implementation Documents and Programmes that drive the funding then respond the purposes of environmental policy of the EU.

Besides the instruments that the DG Environment disposes there are also other possibilities that make possible the funding of the endangered species reintroduction. The European Commission supports the programmes and projects by grants and European structural and investment funds. For the purposes of the reintroduction funding will be examined not only the tools that the DG Environment operates but also other tools that belongs to other DG's responsibility but also offer the chance of financing the environmental issue (e.g. Cohesion fund etc.). Therefore those Implementation Documents and Programmes will be examined that drive the environment funding but also selected other funding possibilities that are connected with the reintroduction of the endangered species.

The main financing instruments of the EU for funding the endangered species protection and their return to the nature are:

- The Structural Funds (European Social Fund (ESF) and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF))
- The Cohesion Fund
- The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- The European Fisheries Fund (EFF)
- The Financial Instrument for the Environment (LIFE+)
- The 7th Research Framework Programme (FP7), Horizon 2020

It has to be mentioned that the issue of endangered species protection is until certain extent also covered under DG Health and Consumers. It recognizes the need for animal health and welfare however solely for the animals that serve the consumers and animals for trade or imports. It is not focused on the wild animals and their reintroduction. For example, about the issues of bees care it refers to the Life Programme that cares about the issue of wild bees.

Before examine of financing instruments the management of the DG Environment will be examined as all the category Nature and biodiversity. One of the tasks of the DG Environment is to ensure that the Member States correctly apply EU environmental law, follow the goals that the EU issue, e.g. the environmental goals mentioned in the Europe 2020 Strategy and comply the Regulations that were issued in the environmental field. The DG Environment also closely specifies the EU Strategies in the environmental field. Regarding to the Strategy 2020 the DG Environment had issued the Environment Action Programme to 2020. It is called the 7th Environment Action Programme (EAP) and it will be guiding European environment policy until 2020. Over the past decades the European Union has put in place a broad range of environmental legislation. As a result, air, water and soil pollution has significantly been reduced. Chemicals legislation has been modernised and the use of many toxic or hazardous substances has been restricted. Today, EU citizens enjoy some of the best water quality in the world and over 18% of EU's territory has been designated as protected areas for nature. It represents also good environment for reintroduction of the endangered species. However, many challenges persist and these must be tackled together in a structured way.

The DG Environment also specifies the importance of use of economy in environment policy. The main reason is that in the society the environment has become a scarce resource. Since economics is about how to deal with scarce resources, it can often be useful when tackling environmental problems. One way of using economics is to ensure that the costs and the benefits of environmental measures are well balanced. Although it is difficult to estimate costs and benefits, there is an increasing demand that this is done before environmental policy is decided on a European level. With the use of market-based instruments, environmental goals can sometimes be reached more efficiently than with traditional command and control regulations. Economic and environmental

objectives are often perceived as being contradictory. It is believed that a choice must be made between one and the other and that both cannot be achieved concurrently. Therefore the EU had issued a brochure that analysis the facts and figures that show that this perception is wrong, and that economy and environment can go together. Another interesting finding issued by the DG Environment is about measuring the societal development and progress together with the environmental sustainability. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the best known measure of macro-economic activity. It has also come to be regarded as a proxy indicator for overall societal development and progress in general. However, GDP does not measure environmental sustainability or social inclusion and these limitations need to be taken into account when using it in policy analysis and debates. The need to strengthen data and indicators which would complement GDP has been increasingly recognised and a number of international initiatives have been launched to advance on these issues. In August 2009, the European Commission adopted a Communication on this issue. The Communication had investigated the comprehensive environmental index that more precisely denotes about the level of quality improvement.

The category Nature and Biodiversity is one of the 8 categories of environment policy managed by the DG Environment and refers to what extent is the EU involved in protection of nature and biodiversity. The EU is committed to the protection of biodiversity, and to halting biodiversity loss within the EU by 2020. It is given by the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy that deals about the Species recovery. The EU 2020 Biodiversity strategy includes six mutually supportive and inter-dependent targets that respond to the objectives of the 2020 headline target. Species recovery aims are to halt the deterioration in the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation and achieve a significant and measurable improvement in their status so that, by 2020, compared to current assessments that is that 100% more habitat assessments and 50% more species assessments under the Habitats Directive will show an improved conservation status and 50% more species assessments under the Birds Directive show a secure or improved status.

Under the category Nature and Biodiversity are defined several target areas that EU cares. About the field of endangered species and their reintroduction deals most closely the Natura 2000 Network, Species protection and Animal welfare.

4.4.1 Natura 2000 framework

Natura 2000 gives guidance how to finance the conservation of endangered species and also how to protect them via protection of habitats of the endangered species. Although it is still not completed tool for funding of endangered species protection, it seems to be the right way how to reach the goal of conserving the endangered species in the Europe. However, the Natura 2000 is not finished yet. Effective management and restoration of sites in the Natura 2000 network requires significant investments. Natura 2000 framework offers one of the first specialized Guidance Handbook which presents the EU funding options. The Natura 2000 sites in the period 2007-2013 were, in principle, available at the national and regional level. In 2013 this handbook was updated to provide

guidance on possibilities of financing Natura 2000 for the programming period 2014-2020.

The Guidance Handbook on financing Natura 2000 describes EU funding opportunities in 2014-2020 and it was elaborated in cooperation together with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The guidance handbook defines about all the EU financial instruments that can be used to finance the goals of Natura 2000 and that are mentioned above in this thesis. However, it also states that under the integrated approach only LIFE provides dedicated support to biodiversity and Natura 2000; all other EU funding instruments are primarily targeted to deliver general EU goals: rural, regional, infra-structural, social and scientific development. Therefore after the experience of 2007-2013 the European Commission together with the Member States decided that that in 2014-2020 financing of the network should be based on the Prioritised Action Frameworks developed for the first time by the Member States. Funds governed by the CPR⁸ (i.e. the ESI Funds) in 2014-2020 continue to be managed by the Member States on the basis of programmes developed by Member States and approved by the Commission (i.e. shared management). Other EU funding instruments that may provide funding for Natura 2000, LIFE and Horizon 2020, on the other hand, are managed by the Commission.

The data for Natura 2000 are collected by European Environment Agency (EEA). EEA is one the EU's institutions which aim to anchor the environmental issues into the EU's strategies. In May 2011, the European Union adopted the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 that lays down the framework for EU action over the next ten years in order to meet the 2020 biodiversity headline target set by EU leaders in March 2010 and also following the global strategic plan for biodiversity. EU commits to the Global Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

The EEA helps also to estimate the expenses on Natura 2000 that is expressed in the table below.

Table 5: Estimated expenses on Natura 2000

2004	6.1 billion EUR	In 2004 the Commission provided a first cost estimate of 6.1 billion EUR per year for EU-25 Natura 2000 financing needs
2014	5.8 billion EUR	Based on data received from 25 Member States it is estimated that a minimum of 5.8 billion EUR per year will be needed for EU-27 to manage and restore the sites in the network

Source: author, European Commission

⁸ Common Provisions Regulation (CPR) is a set of common rules and principles that govern the European Structural and Investment Funds (or the ESI Funds) in the period 2014-2020.

4.4.2 Species protection

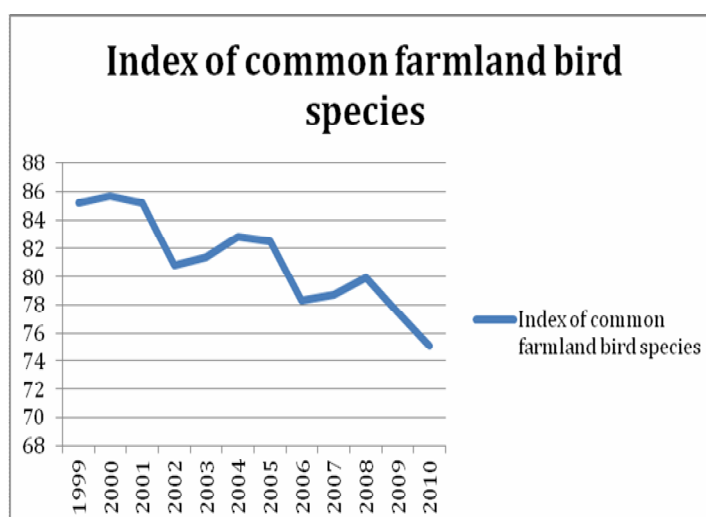
Compare to Natura 2000 framework, the area of Species protection was not elaborated until the year 2014. Until 2014 was on the level of monitoring. During elaboration of this thesis, it means from year 2013 until 2014, have been done huge progress in this field. A recent European assessment of the conservation status of around 6000 European species undertaken by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) revealed that up to 25% of European animal species are now threatened with extinction. The directives are being prepared and amended and in cooperation with Natura 2000 represent the basic framework for endangered species protection and their return to the nature.

There are the two main Directives anchored in the legislation given by the Court of Justice:

- Species under the Birds Directive
- Species under the Habitats Directive

The species under the Birds Directive monitors the birds that are threatened with extinction. The fact, that the situation of endangered bird species within EU is critical explains even the Index of common farmland bird species. This indicator is an aggregated index integrating the population abundance and the diversity of a selection of common bird species associated with specific habitats. Farmland birds use and have a high dependence on cultivated land during the nesting season, and for feeding during most of the year. As shows the Graph 3, the number of farmland bird species is decreasing. The rare species are excluded. If the number of farmland bird species is increasing then the number of endangered bird species is dramatically decreasing, too.

Graph 5: Index of common farmland bird species



Source: Data from Eurostat, adapted by author

Concerning the species under the Habitats Directive the EC issued guidance on species protection called "Guidance document on the strict protection of animal

species of Community interest under the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC" which describes how species conservation can be supported through rural development programmes. It might be an effective way how to protect some species but can not efficiently solve the whole issue of endangered species protection. However, the first steps towards successful species protection and their reintroduction have been done. As a very important progress is seen in the EU's initiative in the protection of the large carnivores from extinction during the last days. The large carnivores are bear, lynx, wolf and wolverine. In order to encourage the adoption of best practices that promote coexistence with large carnivores the Commission has been funding a number of projects associated with large carnivores. By far the largest such mechanism for funding the large carnivores conservation is the LIFE programme. Between 1992 and 2012 the LIFE programme funded 78 projects dealing with brown bear, wolves and Eurasian lynx. The continue of the successful projects is then financed by other funding instruments (e.g. ERDF).

While initiating the protection and reintroduction of large carnivores there must be counted on the possible conflicts together with Natura 2000. Natura 2000 is focused also on the protection of livestock. The carnivores represent a threat for e.g. shepherds and therefore have been taken measures how to protect the stakeholders from the carnivores while being protected the carnivores from the stakeholders. That is for example the programme for purchase the shepherd dogs - livestock guarding dogs to ensure the human coexistence with large carnivores. Also the large carnivores reintroduction is very costly. They need large areas for their living. Therefore in the areas that are inhabited by human needs to be invested in proper monitoring systems in order to protect the human. Also, if the carnivores are reintroduced it is also needed to ensure the informing the hunters to change the quotas to take predation into account. These few examples show that while reintroducing the large carnivores it requires enough financial resources. In order to manage more effectively the large carnivores conservation in Europe there has been established the Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE) under the IUCN. It connects several interest groups including the NGO's as well as European Commission.

4.4.3 Animal welfare

The area of Animal welfare has not been developed so extensively until nowadays. At the moment refers to Humane Trapping Standards and to Trade in Seal products. These two important issues are covered by regulations that were issued by the European Union. It is the Leghold Trap Regulation and Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council prohibiting the trade in seal products. These regulations are important also for the issue of reintroduction that is covered in this thesis. Because if the endangered species should be reintroduced it must be first made sure that the possible threats for them in their habitats are minimized.

Another institution that is significant for the environment species protection issue is the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA). EAZA is not an institution under of the European Union. It is association established independently by the European ZOO's and Aquaria representatives. EAZA represents and links 345 member institutions in 41 countries. It's mission is to facilitate cooperation within the European zoo and aquarium community towards

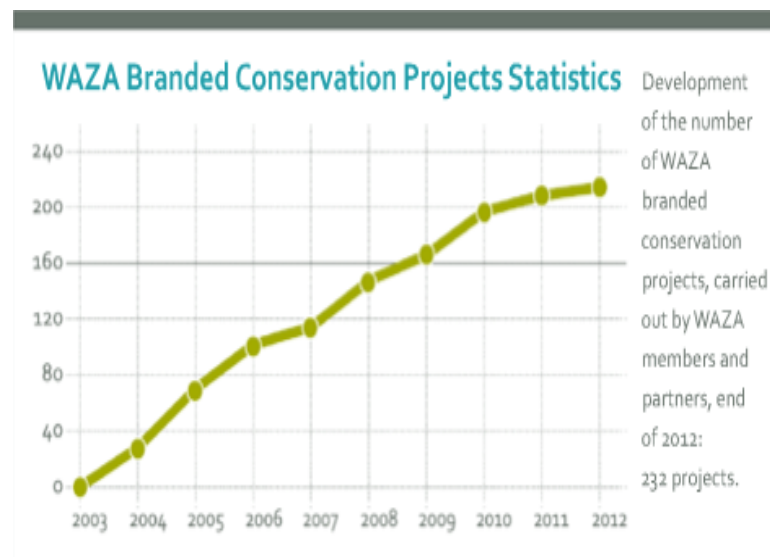
the goals of education, research and conservation. It helps to empower the European citizens to learn about and contribute to global biodiversity conservation goals. EAZA presently has two different levels of breeding programme:

- the European Endangered species Programme (EEP). The EEP represents the fulfillment of databases and monitoring of the situation of animals transfers between the members of EAZA. It has just administrative character.
- the European StudBook (ESB). The ESB represents the analyses based on the data collected by EEP.

Even if the EAZA collects informations about endangered species and their protection, it doesn't have resources to finance these issues. Its activities are financed by the contributions of its members – ZOO's and Aquaria of the European countries. EAZA also organize campaigns in order to provide protection of endangered species.

As EAZA connects the ZOOs and Aquariums within Europe there exist also World association of Zoo's and Aquariums that associates members all over the world and provides them services, e.g. lobbying for conservation. WAZA also awards a grant for training purposes on a yearly basis and supports field projects for conservation of its members. This is the main feature that differentiates WAZA from EAZA. WAZA currently has a total annual budget of cca € 700,000 or US\$ 950,000. The majority (84%) of the annual revenue comes from membership fees as in the case of EAZA.

Graph 6: WAZA conservation funding



Source: WAZA

From the introduction of the EU environmental policy investigating the areas Natura 2000 Network, Species protection and Animal welfare is obvious that these areas have character of monitoring and recommendations that can be considered as pasive attitude towards financing of these issues included in these areas. However it refers to the active attitude that can be seen in the financial instruments

that ensure the financing of the issues covered in the category Nature and Biodiversity. This is mainly the LIFE Programme. Further are available also several grants and either other financial instruments that are however primarily targeting other goals than environment protection (e.g. ERDF, Cohesion Fund, Eco Innovation that via environment protection offers financing opportunities for business but is not closely connected with reintroduction issues). But also among these financial instruments can be found programmes that can until some extent help to reintroduction of endangered species.

4.5 EU's Financial Instruments for funding environment protection in 2014-2020

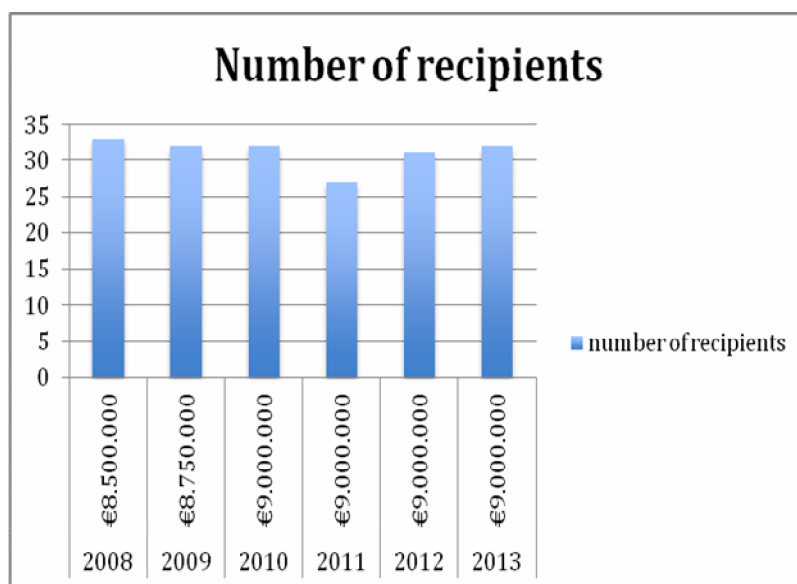
4.5.1 The LIFE Programme

The LIFE programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action. The general objective of LIFE is to contribute to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation by co-financing projects with European added value. It is managed by the DG Environment and DG Climate Action. The DG Environment also finances through the LIFE Programme projects that contribute to environmental protection in the EU. Since 1992 some 2,600 projects have received some financing from LIFE, the EU's financial instrument for the environment. The heading – the EU policy areas for the period 2014-2020 is Sustainable Growth: Natural Resources with total amount € 3 456,66 million (current prices). The aims of the Life Programme are focused at improving the implementation of EU environment and climate policy and legislation. The programme will in the period 2014-2020 contribute to the shift towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon and climate resilient economy, to the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment and to halting and reversing biodiversity loss. Its legal basis for the 2014-2020 is given by the Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 establishing a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE Programme). The LIFE programme will contribute to sustainable development and to the achievement of the objectives and targets of the Europe 2020 Strategy, the 7th Union Environmental Action Programme and other relevant EU environment and climate strategies and plans. It is given by the Article 3 of the regulation that says that in pursuing the general objectives, the LIFE Programme shall contribute to sustainable development and to the achievement of the objectives and targets of the Europe 2020 Strategy and of relevant Union environment and climate strategies and plans. The 'Environment' strand of the new programme covers three priority areas: environment and resource efficiency; nature and biodiversity; and environmental governance and information. LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU, as well as in some candidate, acceding and neighbouring countries. The paradox is that due to the Regulation the LIFE Programme should be complementary to other Union funding programmes (i.e. ERDF, Cohesion Fund) because environmental and climate requirements should be integrated into the Union's policies and activities. But for the issue of endangered species protection it is the most important financial instrument. Through the many best practice and demonstration projects

this fund continues to be of strategic importance for the financing of Natura 2000. The programme is meant to be an instrument for implementing the Habitats and Birds Directives and it is specifically not focused on research. Its main strength is that it represents one of the most valuable financial instruments for effective conservation of species of community interest. It supports projects that are focused on species conservation actions, supporting projects aimed at conserving threatened species listed in the annexes of the EU Habitats Directive, Birds Directive and the IUCN European Red List. More than 400 listed species - everything from large mammals to molluscs - have been targeted at least once by a LIFE project. It also finances the projects that aim the natural habitats protection that is important for the reintroduction of the endangered species, too. The funding under LIFE Programme is done by grants, by LIFE operating grants for NGOs and other LIFE financial instruments (e.g. the Private Finance for Energy Efficiency).

The European environmental NGOs represent the main institutions that benefit from LIFE Programme. The European Commission redistributes amount of financial resources via its grants. For the past years had allocated sum of financial resources which had redistributed to those European NGOs, that had answered the calls and applied.

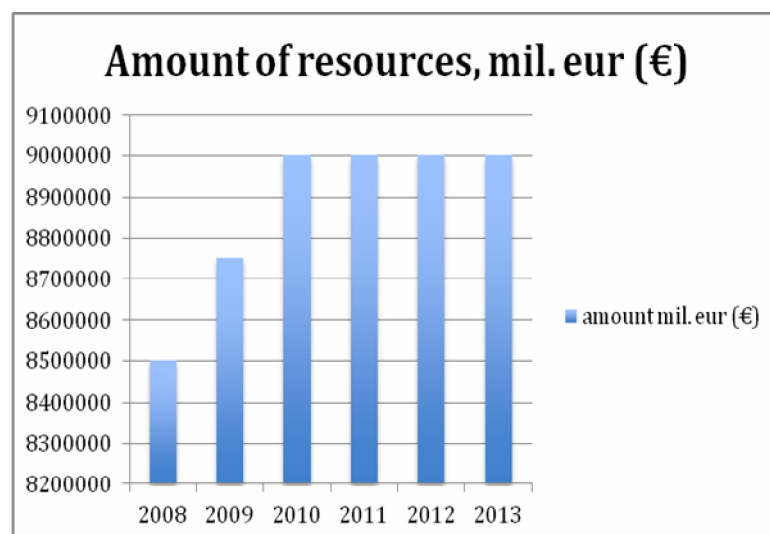
Graph 7: Number of recipients of grants from EU's environmental policy



Source: The LIFE Programme, Author's own calculations

The Graph 1 shows the number of recipients during the period 2008 until 2013. The Graph 2 below shows the resources allocated in the same period. The comparison of both graphs shows that although the European Commission allocated more financial resources, the number of recipients did not change. It means that the possible applicants are not sensitive to the amount of resources redistributed. If the reports of EC are examined, merely the same companies receive the donations every year. It means that the grants are suitable for a specific group of NGOs only. Meaning that these NGOs might also not be able to prepare projects that will finance different issues.

Graph 8: The amount of resources invested during years 2008 - 2013



Source: The LIFE Programme, Author's own calculations

The problem might be seen in the fact that above mentioned grants and funding programmes of the European Commission do not reflect the given need of the organisations but rather force to implement their strategies only. The compromise between these two streams should be done.

As outlined under Article 3 of the Regulation the LIFE Programme has the following general objectives that are to contribute to the shift towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon and climate-resilient economy, to the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment and to halting and reversing biodiversity loss, including the support of the Natura 2000 network and tackling the degradation of ecosystems, to improve the development, implementation and enforcement of Union environmental and climate policy and legislation and to act as a catalyst for, and promote, the integration and mainstreaming of environmental and climate objectives into other Union policies and public and private sector practice, including by increasing public and private sector capacity; to support better environmental and climate governance at all levels, including better involvement of civil society, NGOs and local actors; and to support the implementation of the 7th Environment Action Programme. Around 75% of the total LIFE funding is allocated to the sub-programme for Environment, of which at least 55% of the resources dedicated to projects financed by way of action grants shall be allocated to support the conservation of nature and biodiversity. The remaining 25% of the funds is allocated to the sub-programme for Climate Action. Furthermore, at least 15% of the budgetary resources dedicated to projects is recommended (although not obliged) to be allocated to transnational projects.

The efficiency of the LIFE Programme is demonstrated by successfully managed projects. The most significant examples of the good practice projects are shown on the successfully managed projects of conservation and reintroduction of the large carnivores. In the table below are summed up the amounts spent for each of the large carnivore species.

Table 6: EU Contribution on projects of protection of large carnivore species

Targeted species by LIFE	Total EU Contribution by species (€) 1992-2011
Brown bear (<i>Ursus arctos</i>)	36.38 million Euros
Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>)	17.24 million Euros
Eurasian lynx (<i>Lynx lynx</i>)	0.7 million Euros
Total	54.32 Million Euros

Source: The LIFE Programme

Due to this funding the most of the endangered large carnivores were safed from extinction, however, the population does not increase in most of the cases yet but luckily remains due to this funding stable at the moment.

Project of good practise concerning the reintroduction is the LIFE Luchs Pfälzerwald - Reintroduction of lynxes (*Lynx lynx carpathicus*) in the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve in Germany. The Eurasian lynx (*lynx lynx carpathicus*) disappeared from the Rhineland-Palatinate area in the 18th century. Nowadays the closest population of lynx to the Pfälzerwald/Palatinate Forest is a French population in the southern Vosges. Monitoring in the Pfälzerwald has periodically identified individual lynxes. These are expected to originate from the Vosges population and have shown no sign of establishing a resident population in the Pfälzerwald. A programme of reintroducing lynx in the Pfälzerwald is therefore considered important in order to re-establish a population of the species in its formerly natural range in the Palatinate Forest. Around 90% of the project area is public land and the relevant authorities all indicate their support for the reintroduction of lynx. Other key stakeholders (including civil society groups and hunters) are also supportive. The project's main aim is to re-establish a lynx population in the Palatinate Forest. This will be achieved through a reintroduction programme involving the release of 20 lynx (10 coming from Switzerland and 10 from Slovakia). The expected results are reproducing population of lynx re-established in the project area; close cooperation between German and French stakeholders (especially hunters, shepherds or other livestock owners) to establish self-contained, long-term acceptance of the lynx; public acceptance of the lynx in the regions of Palatinate-Forest, Alsace and Lorraine; scientific monitoring and evaluation of the reintroduction work; development (and agreement by stakeholders) of a local plan for the lynx in the Palatinate Forest; and completion and dissemination of new guidelines for 'Wildlife Overpasses in Spatial Planning' in order to increase the permeability of traffic infrastructure at the level of land-use planning in the Palatinate Forest, as well as in a larger range e.g. in other low range mountains in Rhineland-Palatinate and possibly other federal states.

As demonstrated by the example of good practice even if dealing about reintroduction on the german area there is covered also some part of french area. It represents as most of the projects focused on reintroduction that the projects fostered cross-border cooperation.

While investigating the LIFE Programme financed projects focused on reintroduction, some weaknesses of this programme were revealed, e.g. that the projects are lasting short term for example for large carnivores issues so that it is

difficult to examine whether the projects were successful and to propose more effective managing for the future.

Therefore some recommendations for better management of the projects for large carnivores reintroduction are proposed:

- for the reintroduction of the bears the future LIFE projects should aim at minimising the existing conflicts with human activities, low acceptance and illegal killing. Stakeholders should be included from early stages, possibly at the project proposal level. The involvement of local institutions is also. Future LIFE projects should further reduce the fragmentation of the inhabited area, and increase collaboration between management authorities. Close monitoring should be encouraged. Efforts for patrolling should be continued, as they also represent a socio-economic benefit. Future LIFE projects should encourage international collaboration and share management decisions across provincial and national borders. Activities for mitigating conflicts with local stakeholders as well as reducing illegal killings and traffic mortalities should be a priority. Future LIFE projects should support decision makers in undertaking a process for mitigating conflicts with human activities. Inter-sectoral cooperation should be required. Infrastructure development should be associated with LIFE projects aiming at minimising habitat fragmentation. Also should be ensured the data sharing with neighbouring countries, should be established management of grazing practices to avoid competition for key food sources, management of forestry activities to minimise impact on bear habitat. There is an urgent need to involve non-EU countries. Future LIFE projects should envisage the possibility to co-fund non-EU beneficiaries. The reduction of conflict situation should be encouraged (bear-proof bins, damage prevention tools). Mitigation measures to increase the permeability of highways and reduce traffic accidents are also urgently needed. Mitigation measures (crossing structures) for the future development of infrastructure should be encouraged, as well as a close collaboration with interest groups (e.g., hunters) for management of food sources.
- in the case of wolves the future LIFE projects should encourage the existing international collaboration and implementation of transboundary activities to ensure the management of the population as a whole. Actions aimed at mitigating the conflicts with human activities and control of illegal activities should be supported, as well as measures for mitigating the impact of infrastructure on the fragmentation of wolf habitat. The integration between science and management should be supported. Future LIFE projects should support coordinated actions across regions and between countries. Support for continuing the well-structured monitoring system should be provided. Strengthening management capacities of local institutions through training for monitoring techniques in newly colonised areas, as well as communication campaigns that increase the awareness of local people inhabiting areas where the wolf is expanding are strongly needed. Poison and hybridization with dogs seem to be recent threats that need to be looked into and addressed. Coordination of monitoring by national authorities should be requested. Participation of public authorities should be required in order to ensure long term continuation of

implemented actions. Actions to be implemented include those aimed at mitigating conflicts with livestock owners and involvement of other stakeholders, particularly hunters, improving technical capacity of management structures, controlling illegal activities, as well as mitigation of the impact that infrastructure development will have on wolf habitat. There is also a need to clarify the distribution, status and connectivity of the wolf population in the non-EU countries that constitute the largest part of the populations range. Habitat fragmentation seems to be a strong threat for the population, and actions to mitigate it should be supported. Control of illegal hunting activities should be encouraged. Standardised monitoring across and within countries should be required.

- for the better reintroduction chances of Eurasian lynx the future LIFE projects should encourage actions targeting intensive collaboration with hunters. Facilitation of genetic exchange may be taken into account. Future LIFE projects should be involved in reducing the fragmentation of population. The evaluation of impact of infrastructure development on the population should also be encouraged in all countries sharing the population. The involvement of non-EU countries should be encouraged, at least for monitoring activities.

By budget of the LIFE Programme will be financed new financial instrument that was recently introduced and that will also aim to achieve the EU's 2020 biodiversity goals. It is the Natural Capital Financing Facility created by blending European Investment Bank (EIB) funding and European Commission financing. The main aim of the NCFF is to demonstrate that natural capital projects can generate revenues or save costs, whilst delivering on biodiversity and climate adaptation objectives. Currently there are clear barriers to the uptake of many natural capital projects, including lack of experience, long investment and project payback periods, and uncertainties about target markets, revenue streams and profit margins.

4.5.2 The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

The Fund contributes to improving the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry, the environment and the countryside and the quality of life and the management of economic activity in rural areas. The Fund complements national, regional and local actions, which contribute to Community priorities.

With focus towards the Natura and Biodiversity and Natura 2000 it can be used to finance also some of the environment activities such as restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry, with a focus on biodiversity, including Natura 2000 areas, and in areas facing natural or other specific constraints, and high nature value farming, as well as the state of European landscapes, improving water management, including fertilisers and pesticides and preventing soil erosion and improving soil management.

4.5.3 European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

For the EU's maritime and fisheries policies for 2014-2020 the fund helps fishermen in the transition to sustainable fishing, supports coastal communities in

diversifying their economies, finances projects that create new jobs and improve quality of life along European coasts and makes it easier for applicants to access financing.

Under the Natura 2000 can be used to help promoting environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based fisheries by pursuing the following specific objectives such as reducing the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems, ensuring of a balance between fishing capacity and available fishing opportunities. The aim is to foster environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture by pursuing the specific objectives protection and restoration of aquatic bio-diversity, enhancement of ecosystems related to aquaculture, and promotion of resource-efficient aquaculture. The EMFF designs and implement conservation measures and regional cooperation. AS highly required is seen to involve limitation of the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adaptation of fishing to the protection of species. Until nowadays, the EMFF has the largest cooperation with Natura 2000 among of all the funds. It recognizes two ways of financing. It is the financing under shared management (i.e. Member State-led initiatives, co-funded by the EU budget mainly and financing of few measures that are financed under direct management (i.e. Commission-led initiatives, fully covered by the EU budget).

4.5.4 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The ERDF aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions. It is done also by the differentiation of the funding possibilities among the more developed and less developed regions.

From the point of view of financing the reintroduction issues is not that significant the European Territorial Cooperation under ERDF, neither its International Cooperation but rather the Macro-regional Strategies of ERDF.

There are some examples of good practice from the past programming period 2007-2013 such as the EU Strategy for the Danube Region that EU can benefit from them for the next programming period 2014-2020. This strategy is further followed by the Danube Transnational Programme 2014-2020. The Danube Transnational Programme 2014-2020 is example of good practise of transnational programme. The interesting fact is that it contains developed countries (e.g. Austria) and also less developed countries (e.g. Hungary) and even some non-EU countries. On the 6th October 2011 the European Commission adopted a draft legislative package for the Cohesion Policy for the funding period 2014 - 2020. According to the draft regulations, European Territorial Cooperation will be continued and even reinforced as separate cohesion goal. The existing strands of cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation will be maintained. The European Commission presented its views on the future transnational programme areas on 18 December 2012 to be adopted by means of implementing act. The new regulatory framework (EC Draft Common Provision Regulation, Annex 1, Article 7(2) and Draft ETC Regulation, Article 3(3) provides that relevant transnational cooperation programmes shall assist the implementation of macro-regional strategies to ensure a consistent approach

between them. According to the proposal, the European Commission has proposed that the present area of the South East Europe Programme Transnational Cooperation Programme will be covered in the next programming period 2014-2020 by two transnational programmes: Danube and South East Gateway (renamed later on Adriatic-Ionian). These two new programmes will support the development and implementation of two Macro Regional Strategies: Danube and Adriatic-Ionian Regions. A third transnational programme in the area was proposed by the EC in December 2013: Balkan-Mediterrane. Thematic priorities of the Danube programme will be defined in line with the relevant draft EC legislation, the national priorities of Partner States, and reflect the needs of the programme area. Topics to be addressed by programme priorities may include many of traditional transnational cooperation topics, like innovation, transport, environment, etc. Implementation of the programme will be coordinated by joint structures set up in Budapest, Hungary. Implementing structures of the programme are designed in a new institutional setup, taking into account simplification and transnationality as guiding principles. The priority axes of the programme will be the innovative and socially responsible Danube region; Environment and culture responsible Danube region; better connected and energy responsible Danube region and Well-governed Danube region. The new programme global ERDF contribution is 202,3 million euros and IPA⁹ contribution 19,8 million euros.

The Danube Transnational Programme belongs among the programs from the European Territorial Co-operation under Interreg. European Territorial Cooperation is one of the two goals of cohesion policy and provides a framework for the implementation of joint actions and policy exchanges between national, regional and local actors from different Member States. Interreg was first developed as a Community Initiative in 1990 with a budget of EUR 1 billion covering exclusively cross-border cooperation. It was developed into a formal "objective" of European Cohesion Policy in 2000. Nowadays, European territorial Cooperation is one of the two goals of Cohesion Policy. Over the years, Interreg has become an experienced instrument to support cooperation between partners across borders.

Although this programme have not offered direct financing focused on the endangered species protection and their return to the nature yet, it is seen as huge opportunity to develop it this way and the structure of financing the common aims of the regions across borders is exactly the effective way that will represent the efficient reintroduction projects. The fact that this programmes under ERDF are developing from one programming period 2007-2013 to the next one 2014-2020 means that it is successful tool and and instrument of the EU.

The proof of possible financing of Natura 2000 issues under ERDF is example of good practice that even represents the financing of EU and also non-EU countries that aim the same goals because of their bordering. And this project even

⁹ The Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) offers assistance to countries engaged in the accession process to the European Union (EU) for the period 2007-2013. The aim of the IPA is therefore to enhance the efficiency and coherence of aid by means of a single framework in order to strengthen institutional capacity, cross-border cooperation, economic and social development and rural development.

deals about the conservation of endangered species that is very close to reintroduction issue. Without the cooperation among the states the effort of preservation of the endangered species would not be so efficient. Luckily there exist already some of good practice examples where also the European Union play its role and by this demonstrates that had already realised the need of trans-border cooperation. Furthermore, even beyond the borders of the European Union as can be seen on the example of the support to the Bialowieza National Park in Poland. Because of the unique biodiversity of the Bialowieza National Park in Poland, the park is designated as a World Heritage Site. For the animals of the primeval Bialowieza Forest, stretching from the north-eastern part of Poland into Belarus, there are no borders. Boars and wolves regularly make an appearance on both sides of the frontier. Even if the countries are walled off with solid fences the animals dig under them and cross the border easily. Therefore the cooperation among Poland and its neighbour country must be set. The first sign of cooperation among the states already occurs as will be mentioned further. Bialowieza Forest is also the only place where the European bison, Europe's biggest land mammal, can still roam freely like in the old days (with its majestic build, the animal more than deserves its nickname of King of the Forest). The forest is not only famous for its bison but also for the enormous diversity of habitats and species – including those that are scarce or even extinct elsewhere in Europe. And luckily, the EU plays a key role in preserving this diversity. Bialowieza National Park benefits from being in the Natura 2000 network, an EU scheme that sets out to protect Europe's most valuable species and their habitats. In addition the park also receives money from several European funds, including the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), to better protect animals. For example, thanks to European funding, bisons are kept in a semi-natural reserve, where they can be observed online by means of a live webcam. Bialowieza Biodiversity Academy is also able to organise workshops thanks to funding from the Rural Development Programme for 2007 – 2013. The main goal of the workshops is to improve people's understanding of nature and to explore the biodiversity of the Bialowieza National Park. Moreover, tourism in this area is also co-funded by the EU, especially thanks to the Neighbourhood Programme Poland–Belarus-Ukraine. For the successful continue of the programme it should be included also in the strategy for 2014-2020 that is not developed for this programme yet.

For the purposes of this master thesis the most valuable is the support of tourism from the Neighbourhood Programme Poland–Belarus-Ukraine. On the other hand, the tourism brings positive impact to the development of the given area but it has some features of negative impact on decreasing of the wildness of this habitat. However, the funding of ERDF supporting the buy of live webcam is questionable because the direct impact on the preservation of species is covered by the accent on the economy development (by purchasing the web cameras is supported the trade and growth of the market). The same question occurs in the case of the funding from the Rural Development Programme for 2007 – 2013. Despite it is important to educate the people in order to maintain their knowledge about importance of the species and nature protection as well as the need for return and maintain of the animals into the wild, the direct impact on the species protection that is studied in this work is not that obvious.

But then the question is: What are the most important actions to be done in order to preserve the endangered species and to be able to bring them back to their natural habitats? This question was partially discussed in The Great Britain in the case of bringing back the beavers or wolves. In the case of beavers their positive impact is that due to their action they can prevent floodings and create good environment for many other species and by this to maintain the biodiversity. Then what are the steps to bring the beavers to their natural habitats? Does it need to clean the waters first to solve the pollution first so that the beavers are able to survive? Or does it need to bring up enough beavers' families first? Or does it need first to educate the people to understand that beavers have positive impact for them or to do some preventive measures to avoid the possible losses to farmers or fishermen that the beaver can cause to them? The answers to these questions are important because it must be distinguished what should be the funding focused at and what kind of funding strategies should be developed. In the issue of wolves the answer is more complicated. The need for bringing the wolves back to their natural habitats in the Scotland is significant. One good example is the problem with increasing number of deer that cause the danger for the growing trees to renew the forests naturally because the deer do not have natural enemy nowadays. However, the main problem is seen in the attitude of the locals living close to the areas where the wolves would be brought. The people are afraid of the wolves and also point on the possible danger for their animals. Especially, when the wolves would overgrow because they have no natural enemy (the discussion about bringing back their natural enemy, bear, is at the moment not possible). The solution might be seen in bringing back the lynxes first. Lynxes are also extincted in the wild and their „comeback“ is being prepared and is seen as more acceptable for the people because lynx does not present any danger to them.

Under the ERDF the operational programmes were prepared by each member state and present the priorities selected by the national and regional authorities for the programme period in effect (2014-2020) or for the previous periods (2007-2013). They are financed by the European Regional Development Fund (FEDER) and/or by the Cohesion Fund. For the endangered species protection and their return to the nature the Thematic Objective to be considered is the TO6 Environment and resource efficiency.

While considering the financing of reintroduction of the endangered species under Natura 2000 from the ERDF it brings several recommendations that should be established in order to make the funding as effective as possible. It is recommended to propose better promoting of climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management, including supporting investment for adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches and promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems and low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multimodal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures, preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency including investment in the waste and water sectors, natural and cultural heritage, protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, improving the urban environment, innovative technologies related to environmental protection and

resource efficiency in the waste and water sectors and with regard to soil, or to reduce air pollution and industrial transition towards a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth, eco-innovation and environmental performance management in the public and private sectors, supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors including employment-friendly growth, enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through actions to strengthen the institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF, and in support of actions under the ESF to strengthen the institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration.

Applying the knowledge obtained by the example of the good practice can be adopted the European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) under the ERDF for the purposes of reintroduction funding. The European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) under the ERDF is an integral part of the ERDF funding. It provides specific provisions for enhancing territorial cohesion by supporting joint actions and policy exchange between different Member States. In the 2014–2020 funding period this cooperation will be focused on integrated territorial development and delivering the overall EU thematic objectives as set out for ERDF funding with specific focus on cross-border labour markets, gender equality and social inclusion, joint education and training schemes, and legal and administrative cooperation and cooperation between citizens and institutions, supporting transnational cooperation by development and coordination of macro-regional and sea-basin strategies and supporting interregional cooperation by disseminating good practices, exchange of expertise and strengthening the evidence base. The Investment priorities for European Territorial Cooperation dealing about the cross-border cooperation are promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility by integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility, joint local employment initiatives, information and advisory services and joint training; promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination by promoting gender equality, equal opportunities, and the integration of communities across borders, investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning by developing and implementing joint education, vocational training and training schemes, enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration by promoting legal and administrative cooperation and cooperation between citizens and institutions. Transnational cooperation should aim at enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration by developing and coordinating macro-regional and seabasin strategies and interregional cooperation should focus on enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration by disseminating good practices and expertise and capitalising on the results of the exchange of experience in relation to sustainable urban development, including urban-rural linkages, promoting the exchange of experience in order to reinforce the effectiveness of territorial cooperation programmes and actions, strengthening the evidence base in order to reinforce the effectiveness of cohesion policy and the achievement of the thematic objectives through the analysis of development trends.

The cross border programmes that can be used for financing reintroduction are

- (INTERREG Va) that cover neighbouring border regions on a smaller geographic level;
- Transnational cooperation programmes (INTERREG Vb) that cover several regions and countries on a macro-regional level that are often linked by similar geographic features (e.g. Baltic sea, Alpine space, Danube Basin);
- One Interregional cooperation programme (INTERREG EUROPE) that covers the whole territory of Europe.

The EU had even established the ENPI - The European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). Under this instrument is realized the Information and Communication Support Project that was established by the contract awarded by the European Commission for the programme period 2014-2020. However it is mainly the instrument of EU neighbourhood policy and it is not closely connected to reintroduction issues. But it can support the ERDF programmes in some extent. The EU neighbours involved in this project are Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine.

4.5.5 European Social Fund (ESF)

The ESF is Europe's main instrument for supporting jobs, helping people get better jobs and ensuring fairer job opportunities for all EU citizens. Given the fact that is focused on the education mainly it is not that significant for funding of the reintroduction of endangered species issues. However, as it was proved by the example of good practice the education of the people in the habitat areas is also important and therefore also this fund will be taken partially into account.

Considering the Natura 2000 cooperation it should to be focused mainly at enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services, self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation, investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and life-long learning.

4.5.6 Cohesion Fund

The Cohesion Fund is aimed at Member States whose Gross National Income (GNI), sometimes denoted also for GDP per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the EU average. It aims to reduce economic and social disparities and to promote sustainable development. It is now subject to the same rules of programming, management and monitoring as the ERDF and ESF though the Common Provisions Regulation. For the 2014-2020 period, the Cohesion Fund supports as eligible ones Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Croatia, Cyprus (phasing out), Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia. The objectives of CF are to support investment in the environment, including areas related to sustainable development and energy which present environmental benefits; and Trans-European networks (TEN-T) in compliance with the guidelines adopted by Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013.

The Trans-European networks present a good example how the issue of endangered species could be managed because the Trans-European networks aim at priority projects of European interest that the reintroduction of endangered species projects should also be. Regarding to Trans-European networks the European Union has a new transport infrastructure policy that connects the continent between East and West, North and South. This policy aims to close the gaps between Member States' transport networks, remove bottlenecks that still hamper the smooth functioning of the internal market and overcome technical barriers such as incompatible standards for railway traffic. It promotes and strengthens seamless transport chains for passenger and freight, while keeping up with future technological trends. The system of Trans-European networks would be effectively applicable on the reintroduction financing because this financing is in most of the cases among the member states with different status (more developed/less developed) and such a system would help to reduce the dissimilarities among the states in funding possibilities and would help to smoother reintroduction proces.

To denote that the funding via Operational Programmes under the Cohesion Policy is not seen as effective for the reintroduction of endangered species and their protection can be demonstrated on exploration of the GDPs of the member states proposed in the following table.

Table 7: Gross domestic product (GDP) of EU member states

Member State	GDP	Member State	GDP	Member State	GDP	Member State	GDP
Belgium	118,3	Greece	76,1	Lithuania	74,0	Portugal	75,2
Bulgaria	46,4	Spain	94,9	Luxembourg	263,2	Romania	54,0
Czech Republic	79,6	France	107,9	Hungary	66,6	Slovenia	82,4
Denmark	124,5	Croatia	60,6	Malta	87,9	Slovakia	76,0
Germany	123,8	Italy	97,8	Netherlands	126,3	Finland	111,4
Estonia	72,8	Cyprus	85,8	Austria	128,6	Sweden	126,6
Ireland	125,8	Latvia	67,0	Poland	67,8	United Kingdom	105,4

Source: Eurostat, author's modification

In the table above are depicted the values for Gross domestic product at market prices of the EU's member states expressed as the percentage of EU 27. The values were obtained for the year 2013 for simplification (The year 2013 is the significant year while requiring funding for the year 2014.). Also for simplification the EU 27 average was used instead of EU 28 but as mentioned already in this thesis the values do not differ significantly and the results from this analysis would not differ, too. The values in this table expresses the percentage proportion of GDP of the member states to the EU average 100,00. By the CF defination is given that the eligible countries are the ones that their GDP per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the EU average. It means, that those countries that their values are below 90,00 are the eligible ones.

While considering the fact that the reintroduction in most of the cases extends the borders of one country and needs cooperation among the member states it can be defined by comparing the values from the table that the CF instrument based on the support of the less developed countries might not be efficient. Because the values in the table show that in most of the cases the neighbour countries have different values regarding the value of 90,00 and that means that in Europe are mainly neighbouring the less developed countries with the more developed countries.

The representative example can be the case of reintroduction in the Czech Republic. The Czech Republic has boundary with Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Poland. These countries are mixture of less developed and more developed countries. The possible reintroduction of e.g. lynxes in the Bavarian forest or in the Carpatian area would not be successful via cohesion fund financing based on the distribution of resources due to the country development level as it was shown by the analysis of the countries GDPs. The conclusion is that for the purposes of reintroduction of endangered species the Cohesion Fund is not that effective. Rather would be implemented such strategy as the Trans-European networks.

However, for those areas that their development level is similar (e.g. only Czech Republic with Slovakia) it can be analysed the possible improvement of the Cohesion Fund to serve the objectives for Natura 2000. It can be done by promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management through investment for adaptation to climate change including ecosystem-based approaches and investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems, low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multi-modal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures. Further should be improved the preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency through investment in the waste and water sectors, protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure and improving the urban environment, including regeneration of brown field sites, reduction of air pollution and promoting noise-reduction measures.

4.5.7 Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014 to 2020). Horizon 2020 is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness. With aspect to the Environment the Horizon 2020 aims to develop new processes and technologies promoting sustainable development, in a broad sense, and combating climate change. The Horizon 2020 was established by Council Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013 of 11 December 2013 as The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020).

Rarely it can be also connected with the issue of reintroduction of endangered species, e.g. by developing scientific methods for conservation as well as for reintroduction. Such example can be seen from the year 2010 about the Bees

in Europe and the Decline Of honeybee Colonies Project (BEE DOC) that was launched under Research Framework Programme 7. The BEE DOC comprised a network of eleven partners from honey bee pathology, chemistry, genetics and apicultural extension aiming to improve colony health of honey bees. The BEE DOC worked on empirically and experimentally filling the knowledge gaps in honey bee pests and diseases.

Regarding to the Natura 2020, given the scope of Horizon 2020, all opportunities related to financing management activities on Natura 2000 sites need to take place in the research context. However, this allows for a wide range of Natura 2000 measures to be funded, mainly related to the development and testing of new management approaches and/or evaluation of the past Natura 2000 management regime.

4.6 Proposals

After the analysis and research of the endangered species protection and their return in the nature within the European Union under the Strategy 2020 can be evaluated the possible threats in funding and proposed some recommendations for more effective management of this issue with respect to the EU budget possibilities.

These examples of good practice definitely showed that nature does not stop at borders or man-made boundaries and therefore the effort to conserve it should extend the borders, too. Transboundary conservation is increasingly important in protecting and maintaining large ecosystems and enhancing the socioeconomic development in the areas.

It is given by the historical development that deep forests and high mountains created the natural border for the states and from the natural borders were created the more or less artificial borders that in smaller or bigger extent remain until nowadays. However, these borders were respected by the human nation but not that fact by the animals. For the animal species is exactly the opposite. They do not respect the borders created by human and the deep forests and high mountains are one habitat for them and they are free to move within this habitat with no restriction. In our times, also due to the interference of the European Union, the borders of the states are slowly being less important. Moreover, there occurs the cooperation among the states with no borders that creates again the natural demarcation of the territories where the animals can move with no limitations. This is the very positive impact of creating union.

In order to ensure the protection of the endangered species within the European Union it must be allocated proper financial means for the activities encouraging the endangered species protection and their return to the wild. As was described the financing by the EU funds it was noticed that some funds require the co-financing. It means that the issues will be partly financed from the EU's budget and partly from the member states' budget. And it was also examined that the development of the member states differs. Therefore it will be analysed the possible co-financing from the EU member states. The analyses will require to explore the parts of the budgets of the EU member states that concern the expenses on the environment protection. These will be compared with the expenses allocated by the European Union. Generally can be assumed that the

country which allocates most of its budget to the environmental issues will be also most willing to give out its finance to the protection of endangered species and their return to the nature. Then the extent of EU's interventions is necessary to be specified.

Table 8: Total general government expenditure on environmental protection by country, % of GDP, 2012

Member State	% GDP	Member State	% GDP	Member State	% GDP	Member State	% GDP
Belgium	55,0	Greece	53,7	Lithuania	36,1	Portugal	47,4
Bulgaria	35,7	Spain	47,7	Luxembourg	44,3	Romania	36,7
Czech Republic	44,5	France	56,6	Hungary	48,7	Slovenia	48,1
Denmark	59,4	Croatia	45,7	Malta	43,1	Slovakia	37,8
Germany	44,7	Italy	50,6	Netherlands	50,4	Finland	56,7
Estonia	39,5	Cyprus	45,8	Austria	51,7	Sweden	52,0
Ireland	42,6	Latvia	36,5	Poland	42,2	United Kingdom	48,1

Source: Eurostat, author's modification

From the comparison of the values in the table above together with the values regarding to the GDP per inhabitant expressed as percentage proportion to the EU average for the year 2012 (see the Appendix of the thesis) can be evaluated that those countries that have higher GDP per inhabitant does not have necessarily to have the highest expenses on the environment protection (e.g. Ireland). It means that those countries rather finance different issues than environment protection. Then it can be assumed that these countries will be also less willing to give the financial resources from their national budgets to the issues of endangered species protection and reintroduction. These countries such as Ireland might be focused on financing different issues for example policies to recover from the financial and economical crises.

In the case of Czech Republic its GDP per inhabitant (% to EU average) is higher than Hungary and Slovakia. But its government's environmental expenses are not exceeding the Hungarian values, only the expenses of Slovakia. It means that it is not definitely significant whether it will be willing to spend more for the reintroduction expenses. However, Hungary can allocated the majority of its expenses to the e.g. water pollution protection than to endangered species protection. So that at the end the expenses of the Czech Republic for the reintroduction can be higher than in Hungary. In the Czech Republic the most important endangered species that are threatened with extinction or already need reintroduction and therefore should obtain initiative from the EU funding instruments are the wolves and Eurasian lynx in Carpathian.

Therefore the interest will be put towards examination of the resources that EU member states obtain from the EU's budget for financing the environmental protection. Although there emerge some comments from the EU that EU funds will not and cannot cover all Natura 2000 needs in member states,

this means that national funds remain very important but as also national funds are getting shorter the EU would like to expand the discussion to look for new alternative or innovative sources for funding. Therefore it will be also investigated whether the countries such as Ireland that does not belong among the less developed regions receive more financial contributions from the EU's budget for the environment protection. Rather even more than the less developed countries.

Table 9: EU spending for member states, LIFE+, 2011

Member State	LIFE+ (eur milion)	Member State	LIFE+ (eur milion)	Member State	LIFE+ (eur milion)	Member State	LIFE+ (eur milion)
Belgium	25,5	Greece	7,2	Lithuania	0,5	Portugal	1,6
Bulgaria	0,7	Spain	28,4	Luxembourg	0,5	Romania	1,9
Czech Republic	1,1	France	7,7	Hungary	4,4	Slovenia	1,9
Denmark	5,8	Croatia	0,0	Malta	0,9	Slovakia	2,1
Germany	23,8	Italy	37,6	Netherlands	5,1	Finland	5,0
Estonia	1,2	Cyprus	1,2	Austria	8,8	Sweden	5,2
Ireland	1,1	Latvia	0,5	Poland	4,5	United Kingdom	14,1

Source: European Commission, author's modification

From the table above it is obvious that most of the resources from the EU's budget received the most developed countries. It can be given by the fact that these countries know how to prepare the proposals in order to get the funding, they have higher education level, better technologies etc. On the other hand, it must be taken into account that some of the developed countries like France may not need to ask for the funds in this feeld because they are more capable to finance these issues on their own. Or this statistics is also influenced by the size of the countries. The Luxembourg will not need to require so many resources to finance its environmental issues because its area size is much smaller than France. It also depends what kind of environmental funding the country require. Because as the LIFE Programme is focused on more environmental issues it is logical that not all the countries will demand financing of reintroduction of endangered species. Because not every single country has the species that are threathened with extinction until the point of reintroduction. In the case of the Czech Republic the amount of 1,1 million eur seems to be logical and predicts quite sufficient possibilities for managing to obtain the resources for funding of endangered species protection and their return to the nature from the LIFE Programme. Interesting finding can be oserved in the case of Ireland that either for the year 2011 did not demand too huge amount for funding of environmental issues, at least not from the LIFE Programme. The amount is logical and represents the area size of the country. From the analysis of the expenses from national budget and from EU resources it is dedicated that Ireland does not spend too much of the resources for environmental activieties thus its GDP is quite high. And it remained quite high even after declining due to the crises. It means that Ireland is eiber quite "rich" country or it finances different issues than environment protection.

At the end of this analysis has to be stated that it does not propose the complete information because the allocation of the resources among the EU states also depends on many more economical indicators such as tax burden or the contribution of the Member States to the EU budget based on their Gross National Income (GNI). However, for obtaining the overall information about the allocation of the resources for reintroduction of endangered species is sufficient.

It is important to mention that the majority of EU funds support environmental priorities through their integration into sectoral policies such as agriculture, marine, fisheries and cohesion. This approach offers certain benefits but also poses challenges and limitations. The benefits of this approach include possibility of accessing major EU funding streams, requirement for the managing authorities to integrate biodiversity into the programme development process, possibility for developing multi-purpose and multi-sectoral projects, and uniform rules for project applications, eligibility of costs and project implementation. The challenges and limitations include competition with other policy priorities which can risk the side-lining of biodiversity concerns, the need to align biodiversity investments with the fund-specific overarching priorities (such as regional development, growth and jobs, rural development or sustainable management of fish stocks), the requirement to develop programmes in such a way as to ensure clear and measurable results, and project application and selection processes which are more suited to major infrastructure developments rather than biodiversity conservation (indicators, level of cofinancing, administrative burden etc.)

As it is explained in the previous chapters, the EU financing framework provides ample possibilities for investing in nature and natural capital. However, due to the fact that fund-specific regulations provide only an option – rather than create an obligation – to use different funds for Natura 2000, it is for the Member States and stakeholders to ensure that the available opportunities are taken up. The EAFRD is a noticeable exception in this respect as it requires the Member States to spend a minimum of 30 per cent of the total EAFRD contribution to each RDP on climate and environmental issues. Available information from the 2007-2013 funding period suggests that better integration of biodiversity into the programmes requires closer cooperation between different authorities. The experience shows that authorities responsible for Natura 2000 are often not sufficiently consulted or involved in drawing up programmes and in deciding on the allocation of money from different funds. To address this problem, in the EU MFF for 2014-2020, specific emphasis is placed on the need to ensure partnership and consultation.

Therefore there had emerged a requirement to improve participation of public, as well as non-governmental, stakeholders in the development of the programme, to strengthen their ability to implement biodiversity conservation through EU funding.

There is also a need for greater coordination between measures financed from different funds (e.g. EAFRD and ERDF). Such cooperation helps to improve synergies, avoid duplications and improves chances of long-term sustainability of projects. Setting clear objectives for biodiversity investment, in line with EU and national biodiversity strategies and the fund-specific objectives, helps to underpin funding for biodiversity and for the Natura 2000 network. Ideally these objectives

should reflect national or regional conservation priorities. Measures should target those habitats and species which are in the direst need of active conservation and/or which – in addition of their conservation values – also support the maintenance of important ecosystem services. In many cases measurable positive impacts on biodiversity may not be seen until several years after a project has been completed. It should, however, be pointed out that many Member States and regions have already carried out substantial preparatory work (also to a large extent co-financed by the EU). Therefore, site-specific measures and indicators measuring their success should, as much as possible, be based on existing knowledge.

The positive progress for the next period 2014-2020 is that technical assistance including knowledge sharing, study trips and twinning projects is available to different branches of administration through dedicated programmes or dedicated thematic objectives (TO11) within cross-sectoral programmes.

The further recommendation is to look for synergies and multi-benefit approaches with other sectoral policy goals such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, resource efficiency and green infrastructure, secure complementarity between different funds and to improve cooperation between different authorities and participation of stakeholders in the development of the programmes. For example, in the case of projects carried out under the Cohesion Policy, there is a need to link different Natura 2000 management activities with the economic and societal context and to demonstrate the broader socio-economic benefits achieved. In the context of LIFE funding, there is a need to show elements of innovation and value added at the EU level. Consequently, obtaining EU funding often requires a cross-sectoral analysis and a wider horizontal perspective.

It is stated by the EU chat, for example, developing full proposals for LIFE or Horizon 2020 takes a significant amount of time and resources, going beyond the capacity of individual organisations. Building partnerships with institutions with more administrative capacity can help to lessen or at least share the administrative burden. However the question is whether the partnership would be more effective or will become more complicated.

Furthermore, funds like the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund tend to finance large scale projects, requiring wide partnerships at regional level. Consequently, building partnerships and ensuring that all relevant partners are eligible as beneficiaries is integral to the successful uptake of EU funds at the project level. Difficulty in ensuring match funding for EU co-funded projects has often been quoted as a limiting factor for developing biodiversity related projects, particularly by small and/or non-governmental organisations. This is a complex issue since availability of matching funds might be related to the general economic situation of a Member State or region. However, using the right arguments regarding the contribution of a project to overall development of a region and/or Member State and emphasising multiple benefits can ease this process. Matching EU co-financing with innovative financial instruments might also offer a way forward.

In order to solve this inconvenience it is needed to ensure cooperation and coordination related to project development at national and/or regional level by establishing permanent or ad-hoc structures that are responsible, amongst other things, for information sharing or networking between relevant stakeholders and administrations.

- **Conection between applicant and investor – new resources for financing**

In the Natura 2000 financing handbook is declared that infrastructure needed for the restoration of habitats or species moderate. A range of means could be used to fund restoration infrastructure, including biodiversity offsets, new sources of grant funding, loans and environmental bonds and corporate sponsorship. It can be even extended and make the reintroduction in Europe tool of promotion for private investors. There can be used new sources of finance, such as business sponsorship, to co-finance EU funded projects. Because the EU funds will not and cannot cover all Natura 2000 needs in the countries, this means that national funds remain very important but as also national funds are getting shorter it is required to expand the discussion to look for new alternative or innovative sources for funding. This recommendation would help to bring new financial resources except of the EU's budget. There were already started discussions with the European Investment Bank about offering loans for such issues like environment protection and many others. And this is very interesting potential for the private investors. The statement is supported by the fact chat simultaneously with running the Natura 2000 the EU develop for 2014-2020 the enlarging of possible financing of Natura 2000 that means that it is useful so that to be improved.

- **Recommendations for current funding improvement**

The EMFF networks of scientists and fishermen can help to improve accuracy and precision of ecological models which could be used to inform site selection. Data collection could be done to inform scientists of the presence/ absence of priority spe-cies for protection.

The ERDF cross-border Coheesion should aim to pilot new methods of developing nature-friendly/low-risk transport corridors (e.g. new technology for over-passes and under-passes) as a part of larger transport network projects.

Within the EARDF the Local Action Groups could include the development of site management plans as an objective of local development strategy. Projects could then be developed that en-courage the sustainable management of environmentally sensitive habitats.

The most effective way of financing the reintroduction within Europe nowadays is definitely the financing by the LIFE Programme. It targets directly the core problems of reintroductions and solves them effectively. However, it has still some inconveniences that could be managed better. As was already mentioned the reintroduction has no borders among member states. But the LIFE Programme requires one recipient and the other countries can be as partners. It does not solve effectively the issue of less developed and more developed countries. The recommendation is that the LIFE Programme should allow to donate more recipients at one proposal and derive instruments how to divide the financial resources effectively due to the countries development as well as due to the extend of the financing need (one country can have wider area of natural habitats than the other that means more expenses). Another weekness of LIFE Programme is the fact that the eligible ones are the NGO's. It should to become open also for private stakeholders. One more recommendation is about providing possibility for longer term financing or monitoring for the projects because it is also unique as most funding programmes (coming either from public or private sources) do not include it, failing to stimulate a sense of responsibility for long term results, which is

essential for nature conservation. Therefore should be prepared continue when the project ends – not to be then the responsibility of the government of the member states. This in many cases means that the previous effort of conservation or reintroduction goes in vein.

It is also questionable that the high and ambitious goals presented in the proposals are often not realistic, but are presented for increasing the probabilities to receive funds. Because the calls are set like this. Therefore it is recommended to set less ambitious goals in the calls so that the applicant can set achievable goals. Modest goals should be preferred as they grant results and do not pose beneficiaries under pressure when the project is funded.

Short notice more should be denoted to the Cohesion fund and ERDF that is the fact that these projects have other main objectives than environmental protection. Although the environmental issues are included and can be solved until some extent it is not the main target of these funds and therefore these funds are not recommended for financing the endangered species protection and their return to the nature as the main financing instrument.

- **Fusion of institutions**

After the analysis of the current situation done in this thesis it was recognised that there it is big fraction of institutions dealing with the issues of environmental protection as well as with the reintroduction of the endangered species. It is the European Commission's DG with Natura 2000 and LIFE Programme, IUCN, EEA, many nongovernmental organisations and large scale of partial funding possibilities (ERDF, CF). It is confusing for the applicant and it is also not effective because there are lost the connections and many times happen that activity of one institution is covered by activity of another institution. Also such extend of institutions is quite costly. Especially while considering the fact that a lot of the activity is passive concerning the monitoring, databases filling and administration. The expenses on Natura 2000 are not that high but if summed up the costs for all the institutions and organisations the amount is high and could be used more effectively. Fusion of these organisations would be more effective. However, it must be taken into account that it would amend the budget of the EU just partially given that the non-EU institutions do not benefit from the EU's budget. It would require appropriate amendment of the legal regulation, too.

- **One funding instrument based on the Trans-European network system**

By the elaboration of this thesis was proved that the reintroduction of endangered species and their conservation requires transboundary cooperation (in several cases the EU and even nonEU countries are involved). It is seen as effective the system of ERDF or CF based on the cross-border cooperation. But it is not focused directly on the environment protection. The LIFE Programme is focused solely on the environment protection. And its projects are very successful. But it does not include wider cross-border cooperation. Therefore it is proposed as the effective solution combination of these programmes and creating one programme that would adopt the system of Trans-European networks but would be focused only on the environment protection as the LIFE Programme. Or from the other point of view it would bring similar result to improve the LIFE Programme while shifting it to the level of Trans-European networks. It means that the environment protection will get the European importance and would be managed on the European level.

This would require from the member states to give part of their national sovereignty to the European level.

Regarding the Trans-European network in the wider context of European Governance the Commission launched its strategy for simplification of the regulatory environment COM (2005)535 on the basis of four principles. The first principle says that the EU should only regulate if a proposed action can be better achieved at EU level and should look at all possible alternatives, including co-regulation and self-regulation. The second principle refers that any EU action should not go beyond what is necessary to achieve the policy objectives pursued. Third principle mention that it needs to be cost efficient and take the lightest form of regulation called for and fourth principle explain that in this respect simplification intends to make legislation at both Community and national level less burdensome, easier to apply and therefore more effective.

Good example of „simplifying“ the policy is the the restriction applied to agricultural policy. If such a large policy can be summed up into 3 main categories of financial support it can be also successfully applied to environmental policy. Nowadays there exist too many institution EU and non-EU that are not having deeper cooperation and that spend too much cost for bureaucracy. Fusion of all of them or at least as many of them as possible would significantly help not only to reduce the costs but also to manage the issue of endangered species protection more effectively. Therefore it arrise the idea of managing the protection of endangered species on the european continent on the supranational level. Even the possibility of dealing this issue on the principle of trans-European network seems to be a very logical one. As was already mentioned at the beginning of this thesis most of the areas where the endangered species have their natural habitats is situated on the borders of the countries. Therefore it is needed to solve the issue more globally and the cooperation among the states is necessary.

From exploration of the budget structure is obvious that the cross-border and trans-national projects are financed under the ERDF which belong to the section 1.2.1 of the Structural Funds, Chapter 1. The Cohesion Fund is under the Chapter 1 of EU budget named Sustainable Growth. There the CF is further established to the area 1.2.2 Cohesion Fund. The LIFE Programme is in the structure of the EU budget in the section 2.0.5 LIFE that belongs to the second Chapter of the EU's budget Preservation and Management of Natural resources. While proposing the cooperation in financing among these funds it must be also reestablished the budget structure, at least partially. It means that adequate financial resources has to be shifted from one chapter to another, or from one section to another. Or there must be established new section in the budget strucure. Regarding the analysis in this thesis the most effective seems to be the shifting of a part of the resources from the section 1.2.1 Structural Funds to the Chapter 2 and fusion of it with the resources allocated to the 2.0.5 LIFE Programme. The LIFE Programme should be simultaneously transformed into programme of european importace and developed as the structure of trans-european network.

- **More strict sanctions**

As all of the policies of the European Union are anchored in its legislative regulations also the issue of endangered species protection has to follow the legal rules issued in the law of the European Union. Namely it is the set of sanctions when any of the member state does not respect the legal rules. As it is declared “If

the Commission considers that a Member State has failed to fulfil an obligation under the Treaties, it shall deliver a reasoned opinion on the matter after giving the State concerned the opportunity to submit its observations. If the State concerned does not comply with the opinion within the period laid down by the Commission, the latter may bring the matter before the Court of Justice of the European Union.” (Article 258, The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union 2012/C 326/01). The Article 258 of the TFEU refers to the matters when the Commission decides to do so. However, the Article 259 refers to the action of the member state. “A Member State which considers that another Member State has failed to fulfil an obligation under the Treaties may bring the matter before the Court of Justice of the European Union. Before a Member State brings an action against another Member State for an alleged infringement of an obligation under the Treaties, it shall bring the matter before the Commission. The Commission shall deliver a reasoned opinion after each of the States concerned has been given the opportunity to submit its own case and its observations on the other party's case both orally and in writing. If the Commission has not delivered an opinion within three months of the date on which the matter was brought before it, the absence of such opinion shall not prevent the matter from being brought before the Court.” (Article 259, The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union 2012/C 326/01).

Despite the framework of sanction regarding the environment protection was set is not strict enough and has rather recommending character than directive. Therefore more strict sanctions are recommended for the member states as well for the private companies and other sectors of economy. The possible financial sanctions will then represent a source of revenues for the EU's budget.

A case when the Commission was not satisfied with the member country in the relation to the protection of natural habitats is the case of Spain risking fines over failures to comply with nature conservation laws. The European Commission was warning Spain about breach of environmental legislation. The first case, which could result in Court action, concerns a failure to assess the environmental impact of open-cast mining in a Natura 2000 conservation area in Castille-León, which is home to a number of threatened species such as brown bears (the area is home to several critically endangered species including brown bear (*Ursus arctos*)) and capercaillie, both of which are protected under European law. Under Community law, adverse effects on priority species under the Habitats Directive and endangered bird species protected under the Birds Directive must be properly assessed before any work can commence. As the Commission is not satisfied by the quality of the environmental assessments that have been carried out to date, or by Spain's subsequent justifications, the country is being referred to the Court of Justice.

The elaboration of this thesis proposed an analysis of the current situation of funding possibilities of the issue of endangered species protection and their return to the nature under the Europe 2014-2020 Strategy. It was demonstrated by the examples of good practice that the environment protection and economy progress can be achieved together. The analysis of successfully financed projects

and programs realised by the selected organisation of the EU's member states have helped to understand the extent of resources that are needed for financing this issue on supranational level. This was compared with the analysis of the successfully financed projects adopting the grants and donations of the European Union. In order to illustrate the current situation of endangered species protection in Europe some of the examples of good practice were mentioned. It helps to understand in what level the cooperation among the states is developed and what position takes the European Union and into what extent does it interfere. On the following figure below can be seen the world areas concerning the threatened species by extinction.

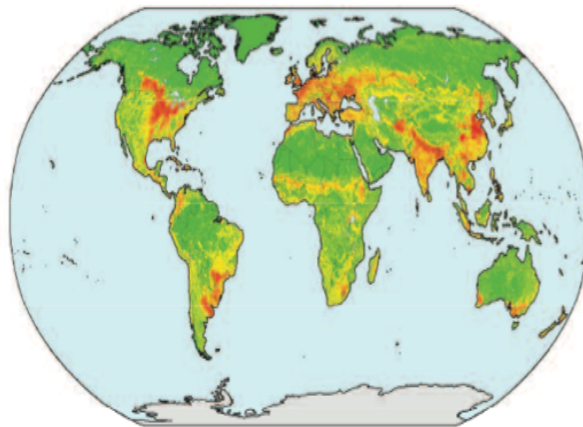


Figure 2: Mean species abundance 2010

Source: MNP/OECD, author's modification

The red area on the Picture characterizes the areas with more endangered species than the green area. It is obvious that it also illustrates the areas with higher level of development. The fact is that the USA is still the leading development country. But European Union quickly follows. Given of this comparison can be estimated that the European Union will follow the United States also in the endangered species reduction, if no measures will be taken.

Luckily, as proved by this work, there are several actions taken in order to save the endangered species. The very significant example of good practice can be seen on the slowly developing cooperation among the EU member state and the states that are the candidate countries: Albania, Macedonia and the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo. The effort of improvement of the transboundary conservation in the mountainous border zone among these countries is initiated by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature). Due to the isolation in the area in the past and recent political instability, the border between those countries was strictly guarded for decades. As a result, it now represents one of the last intact natural sites in Europe with some of the largest populations of species such as bear, wolf and lynx. Therefore the cross-border conservation in this region creates the opportunity to preserve this unique natural heritage. As additional but not least important benefit it brings together countries that were isolated for years. In the Prespa Lakes area, a region of unique

diversity of species and geological structures which lies within Albania, Macedonia and Greece, transboundary conservation action is used as a means to ease political tensions between the three countries. Many examples illustrate the benefits that the transboundary cooperation brings in order to protect natural and cultural heritage, improving the lives of local communities, reducing tensions and re-establishing friendly neighbourly relations. The effective cross-border conservation involves overcoming political, economic and social differences across borders. The countries and protected area managers start increasingly recognize this potential which predicts a good future for the nature, endangered species but also for the human population, countries development and finally for the economy of each of the country. Transboundary conservation brings with it large-scale ecological benefits by protecting extensive natural areas, supporting species migrations and reducing the risk of biodiversity loss. It also encourages former enemies (the countries) to start talking, generates additional income opportunities, and helps resolve political conflicts. And the importance of the future benefits such as tourism is also not negligible. Nevertheless, for the scientists and experts involved into return of endangered species in the nature within the European Union has this region and its protection inspirational and exemplary character. Because the well-preserved wildlife in this area is unique on the European level as well as the presence of the bear, wolf and lynx in the wild in this extend.

To emphasize the economical benefits of the importance of the nature and species protection on the transboundary level can be mentioned the example of the East Carpathians Biosphere Reserve or the Bavarian Forest and Sumava National Parks. The East Carpathians Biosphere Reserve, which includes Poland, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine, by applying the cross-border cooperation to protect the area's nature has helped to rebuild friendly relationships between nations that lost tens of thousands of people in armed conflicts in the 1940s and suffered years of isolation under the Communist regime. Still there exist the large portion of most of Europe's major large carnivores populations which is shared with non-EU countries (e.g., wolves and brown bears in the Dinaric Pindos, (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Serbia, Kosovo), wolves, bears and lynx in the Carpathian (Ukraine, Serbia), Karelian (Russia), and Baltic (Russia, Belarus) populations etc.). It would be highly desirable to find ways to encourage submission of projects (already possible for EU-based beneficiaries) which cover these countries in coordinated actions, e.g. the environmental Trans-European network based programme fused with the LIFE Programme. The environment is rapidly changing and the impact of socio-economic development can certainly be considered as a threat to the conservation of large carnivores, particularly concerning the development of transport and energy production infrastructures that likely result in habitat fragmentation, increased human access to habitats, and direct mortality. Thus coordination of the LIFE programme with EU development programmes and funding mechanisms should be sought so as to enhance cross-sectorial cooperation, even when specific measures are envisaged by other sectors but not sufficiently implemented. An inter-sectoral policy agreement should be sought at EU level for species that are considered priorities for conservation, and start-up funds for memorandum of understanding could be envisaged in the LIFE programme. Agriculture remains

one of the most common issue to be tackled while managing large carnivores populations, and the effort of LIFE projects in damage prevention and mitigation of conflicts is certainly noticeable.

Concerning the Carpathian area also the Czech Republic is partially included and can benefit from the unique opportunity of protection the wolves and Eurasian lynx in Carpathian. Because the threats that endanger these unique species still remain (poisoning, infrastructure building, shooting, etc.).

The example of good practice of the Bavarian Forest and Sumava National Parks demonstrates that since the establishment of the Bavarian Forest and Sumava National Parks, located in the Czech Republic and Germany, tourism has become an important component of the regional economy, providing additional jobs and income.

And many more examples within the states of the European Union could be mentioned: the programs for shepherds to reintroduce their herd or donations to purchase the dog in order to prevent the lynxes from extinction in Julian Alps on the Austrian-Italian-Slovenian borders, reintroduction of bears in Dolomites (Austria, France, Italy, Slovenia and partially Switzerland cooperation) or Pyrenees (France, Spain), Ardennes forests (France, Belgium, Luxembourg), Armenis (Romania, Serbia) and many more.

As is obvious from the examples of good practice mentioned above the solving of the issue of the endangered species protection and their return to the nature in the European Union is emerging. And it is proved that the species conservation and reintroduction has positive impact on the economy. All the economy and the environment are interconnected and while being well managed can lead to improvement in many areas. Therefore it is positive finding that the European Union aims at improvement of environment. As a benefit will be the increase in job opportunities, education level, economical growth and by this will be fulfilled the main objectives of the European Union 2014-2020 strategy.

5 Discussion

The environment is a scarce resource and a key tool for efficient economy and therefore its protection is the main target of European Union's Cohesion Policy and the Europe 2020 Strategy. Nonetheless, given the fact that it is such an important issue for the European Union, why have not any initiatives involved in immediate financing of this issue emerged yet in order to lead up for better environment and better economy? Except for the official theories, even some conspiracy theories have emerged. These are two extreme theories. The experts state that the solution is somewhere in the middle.

Lets assume the impact of environmental protection on the business. The impact can be either positive or negative. The positive impact was proved in this diploma thesis. It is the benefit of marketing for those enterprises and businesses that donate towards the species and - especially - the ones that finance the projects of species return to their natural habitats. It is a kind of advertisement with a positive impact - for the enterprise and for the species, too. However, there also emerges a negative impact of environmental protection that influences the businesses. It is given by the costs the enterprises might pay in case of environmental protection (e.g. building fences to protect animals from enter the factories or highways, factories that pollute waters by chemicals). These costs might be sometimes very high. The related negative impacts bring about the regulations issued by the European Union, non-EU organisations or governments in order to preserve endangered species, their habitats or the environment. In relation to the newly issued directive for better protection of the environment (and Birds Directive and Habitat Directive), the enterprises must change some technologies or invest in solutions that fulfil the EU's regulation. It is logical that due to this fact there arise lobbying groups that aim to affect the decision-making process across the political spectrum. And European Union offers ideal conditions for lobbying. Therefore, the fact that the lobbying can influence the progress of environmental issues must be taken into account. On the other hand, there also emerged the groups of experts, so called thinktanks that can influence the environmental policy in many ways.

The way how the environmental issue affects the economy is illustrated in the Figure 3.

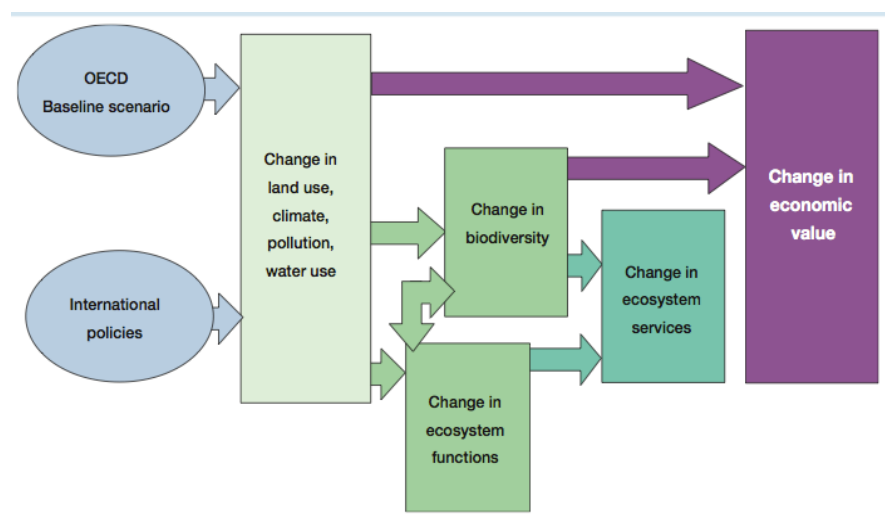


Figure 3: Establishing a scenario analysis
Source: MNP/OECD, author's modification

If the appropriate strategy regarding the 2014-2020 Strategy for financing the endangered species protection is applied successfully (considering the needs of society to the environment and harmonizing the social and economical aspects to maintain the economic stability and sustainability) the next possible enlargement of the EU policy of environment can be proposed. Another possible enlargement will be focused on the development of rescue programs for temporarily disabled wild animals. This enlargement nowadays also forms part of the discussion within the European Union's environmental policy. These discussions have taken place as the future EU's Cohesion Policy and its every year renewal is being prepared. Further, some specific aspects regarding the environmental issues, such as the possible conflict of interest with other organizations must be taken into account. Firstly, the United Nation, that also cares for endangered species protection but does not finance programs for their conservation, just propose the legislation, monitor and declare the optimal solutions for their conservation. The following organisations are the World Wildlife Fund for Nature and Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITES). The CITES is an association that deals with the contributions of transfer of species of fauna and flora in order to eliminate the extinction of certain species.

If the agencies and institutions operating the databases all over the Europe were to be fused into one, there would be decrease of the administrative costs, and these resources could be effectively allocated for conservation of the endangered species and their return to the nature or development of rescue programs for temporarily disabled wild animals. This system of effective allocation of resources was successfully implemented in the United States.

Some controversial solutions can be discussed in order to determine resources for financing of environmental issues. The first controversial issue is the financing of headquarters of Council of European Union (Council of Ministers), both in Brussels and Luxembourg. The second controversial topic is the rich diets of some EU employees.

Whatever the future developments of environmental policies will be, the existing difference among the member states of European Union (peripheral countries –

core countries, Visegrad Group – main actors as Germany) will influence any common action of the EU. The European Union represents the clash of nationalities with different history and culture that, despite their dissimilarities, manage to cooperate and solve the key issues collectively.

The fact that the endangered species protection has positive impact on the economy was shown in this thesis by several examples of good practice. It was also demonstrated that the nature conservation does not have borders and therefore by its protection is helped to overcome political and economical divides among the EU member states.

Nevertheless, the positive sign that EU cares for environment protection improvement is seen from comparison of the Sixth Environmental Action Program (6EAP) that the Commission unveiled together with the The 7th Environment Action Programme (EAP) that follows the Environment Action Programme to 2020. The 6EAP was focused mainly on the waste management, natural resources etc. but was not so much focused on the species protection. As was stated in the practical part of this thesis, the 7EAP made quite sufficient progress about the endangered species protection issue. Thus there is seen great pattern of improvement there is still space for even more improvement of protection of endangered species (e.g. Greenland that is still in majority supported by contribution of Environmental defence fund).

It should to be also more specifically denoted the area of possible funding from all the instruments of EU (ERDF, CF, LIFE). From the analysis of the instruments done in this thesis emerged suspicion that if the issue of endangered species protection financing would follow this system after a certain period of time will be lost the clarity. That could lead to duplicity in funding and would mean some loss of efficiency.

However, even if the environmental protection is anchored in the Strategy 2020 still the main priorities of the EU are focused on the growth of the economy. Fortunately, it is not being contradictory to environmental protection due to the EU's every year improvement of strategies and impacts from economy to environment and from environment to economy. Although this is the positive trend in cooperation there can be seen from the EU's programmes that are focused on the economy development mainly and the environmental protection still stays a bit behind. But is not the environmental protection the most important to human being? Without the healthy environment the boosting economy would not be that important (as reminder, the impending bees extinction that is crucially influencing the food production). Still the focus of the EU strategy for the future as the Strategy 2020 is put on the progressive economy that is from the environmental point of view not very satisfactory finding. However, for the future of the European Union the strengthen coordination within the Economic and Monetary Union is important. Because if the whole European Union collapses it will be quite difficult to ensure deeper cooperation among the states and the close cooperation among the states in Europe is a key prerequisite for successful management of endangered species protection and their return to the nature.

6 Conclusion

This thesis is focused on the EU's environmental protection, especially on the protection of endangered species and their return to the nature within the Strategy 2014-2020. The main goal of the thesis was to propose possible amendment of the EU's budget regarding the reintroduction of the endangered species and their conservation under the Europe 2020 Strategy implementing the programming period 2014-2020.

The analysis that led to the proposal establishment contained the analysis of the current situation of environment protection within EU with focus on the endangered species protection and their return to the nature. This analysis contained examination of the successfully realised projects and examples of good practice. There were recognized projects of mainly trans-boundary cooperation and cross-border cooperation.

Further it was done analysis of the EU's environmental policy regarding the Strategy 2020 (including the Natura 2000), financial instruments for endangered species protection during 2014-2020 (LIFE Programme, ERDF, ESF, CF, EAFRD, EMFF, Horizon 2000) and legal framework dealing about the species protection under the Programmes 2020 (TFEU, TEU, Directives, Regulations).

It was realised that the financing of the species reintroduction is done in certain extend by all of the EU financial instruments, mainly under the LIFE Programme and then the ERDF (cross-border and trans-national programmes) and in larger extend than in 2007-2013. Positive finding was that the need of species protection and reintroduction is more precisely anchored in the EU legislation compared to the previous programming period.

Based on the analysis of the funding that concerned the analysis of the EU's member states budgeting (comparison of member states proportion of environmental expenses based on the GDP per capita indicator together with the environmental expenses of the EU's budget to the member states and analysis of proportion of the resources allocated to the member states from LIFE Programme), there were set the following proposals:

- **One funding instrument based on the Trans-European network system**

By the elaboration of this thesis was proved that the reintroduction of endangered species and their conservation requires transboundary cooperation (in several cases the EU and even nonEU countries are involved). It is seen as effective the system of ERDF or CF based on the cross-border cooperation. But it is not focused directly on the environment protection. The LIFE Programme is focused solely on the environment protection. And its projects are very successful. But it does not include wider cross-border cooperation. Therefore it is proposed as the effective solution combination of these programmes and creating one programme that would adopt the system of Trans-European networks but would be focused only on the environment protection as the LIFE Programme. Or from the other point of view it would bring similar result to improve the LIFE Programme while shifting it to the level of Trans-European networks. It means that the environment protection will get the European importance and would be managed on the European level. This would require from the member states to give part of their national sovereignty to the European level.

While proposing the cooperation in financing among these funds it must be also reestablished the budget structure, at least partially. It means that adequate financial resources have to be shifted from one chapter to another, or from one section to another. Or there must be established new section in the budget structure. Regarding the analysis in this thesis the most effective seems to be the shifting of a part of the resources from the section 1.2.1 Structural Funds to the Chapter 2 and fusion of it with the resources allocated to the 2.0.5 LIFE Programme. The LIFE Programme should be simultaneously transformed into programme of European importance and developed as the structure of trans-european network.

- **Connection between applicant and investor – new resources for financing**

A range of new sources of grant funding, loans and environmental bonds and corporate sponsorship can be used. It can be done by making reintroduction in Europe a tool of promotion for private investors. There can be used new sources of finance, such as business sponsorship, to co-finance EU funded projects. The possibility of financing with support of the European Investment Bank about offering loans for such issues like environment protection and many others had emerged. This solution represents relief for the EU's budget.

- **Recommendations for current funding improvement**

If the budget structure would remain unchanged and the funding will continue the same way as it is nowadays, there emerge improvement recommendations for management of the EU funds. The LIFE Programme should extend to support cross-border projects. The Cohesion fund and ERDF have other main objectives than environmental protection that shifts the environmental objectives to lower level. Therefore it should promote higher importance of environment protection (endangered species protection and reintroduction). Especially for the projects that despite asking ERDF or CF funding are focused primarily on the environment protection.

- **Fusion of institutions**

After the analysis of the current situation done in this thesis it was recognised that there it is big fraction of institutions dealing with the issues of environmental protection as well as with the reintroduction of the endangered species. It is confusing for the applicant and it is also not effective because there are lost the connections and it happens that the activities of the institutions are facing duplicity. Also such extend of institutions is quite costly. Fusion of these organisations would be more effective. However, it must be taken into account that it would amend the budget of the EU just partially given that the non-EU institutions do not benefit from the EU's budget. It would require appropriate amendment of the legal regulation, too. This is an ambitious recommendation and would require further analysis of the costs of the institutions and the effectiveness of the fusion.

- **More strict sanctions**

Despite the framework of sanction regarding the harming of environment protection was set by the EU legal framework (TFEU) it is not strict enough and has rather recommending character than directive. Therefore more strict sanctions are recommended for the member states as well for the private companies and

other sectors of economy. The possible financial sanctions will then represent a source of revenues for the EU's budget.

These proposals are considered as effective because of the fact that the EU's budget is renewable and still being amended due to variety of factors (crisis emerging, new coming member states, etc.). It means that during the programming period 2014-2020 can still be done amendments and possible improvement of the budget regarding the improvement of endangered species protection within EU.

The elaboration of this thesis further proved that the nature and biodiversity drives the economy. This statement is already anchored in the legislation of the European Union. In spite of several existing drafts for better management and financing of the environmental issue, especially while focusing on the issue of endangered species, the practical realization and redistribution of the resources remained more or less theory until the year 2013. During the time that this thesis was elaborated it faced great improvement by the year 2014. The reasons why it was not improved earlier might be numerous, for instance the dimension of the institutions and bodies within the European Union, the negative lobbying of the multinational corporations and privately owned enterprises, or simply the fact that the environmental economy is still a young science and is not developing as fast as it is needed.

While analyzing the current situation of financing the endangered species protection with the aim to elaborate a budget, the following consequences were obtained. Under the Natura 2000 framework, which is anchored in the environmental policy of EU, 6000 endangered European species are recognized. It represents 25% of European animal species that are now threatened with extinction. Estimated expenses on Natura 2000 are 5.8 billion EUR. Expenses on LIFE Programme extends 200,0 million EUR per year during the last years. It is quite unproportional distribution of resources. The second chapter of the budget under of the European Commission, called Preservation and management of natural resources, allocates in 2014 the sum of 59 billion EUR. It means that the endangered species protection represents still the smaller part of the environmental expenses. Therefore the financing of projects to protect endangered species from extinction by financing from supranational resources (by EU's resources) should be driven forward. The calculation of the administrative costs should be included as the enumeration of the EU and non-EU organisations dealing with the policy of endangered species protection was completed. Considering all of the organizations dealing with the issue of endangered species protection it states that the activities of these organisations, such as European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA), European Environment Agency (EEA), are often overlapping (for instance monitoring or database operating). And still, these organisations are financed by contributions of its members, and majority of these resources are spent on the administrative expenses (employees' salaries etc.)

The EU's environmental policy (Policy of Environment, Consumers and Health) is divided into 8 categories. The problematics of endangered species protection is worked out directly and merely by the category Nature and Biodiversity. It includes the Natura 2000 Network, Species protection and Animal welfare that aim at the solution of the crucial issue of endangered species

protection and their return to the nature. In contradiction of the Natura 2000 framework, the Species protection is not completed yet. But it is developing quickly as a target of the Strategy for 2014-2020. The legal framework, directives and drafts providing the guidance regarding the protection and conservation of the endangered species and their habitats are set. Nevertheless, the financial regulation or guidance for permanent and systematic process management is not provided yet. However, the Natura 2000 and Species protection are interconnected and aim at the same goal, just use different methods.

The fact that the direct contributions from the supra-nationally managed organization are still needed in order to ensure financing of the maximum of reintroduction projects within EU member states. It is supported by the results of the analyses of financing of the projects for endangered species protection and their return to the nature done by EAZA, WWF and IUCN. The results demonstrate that all the projects realized by the zoos are financed mainly by the donations of small-medium enterprises, individual sponsors and donors, and by government contributions (declared in Constitution of the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (2006) and European Union Zoo Directive (1999)). This statement is alarming and encourages global solutions.

The further analysis of the budget of the EU demonstrates the fact that the second chapter of the budget of the European Union (Preservation and management of natural resources) remains nearly the same during the examined period 2011-2014 while the total amount of the budget is changing. This is significant mainly due to the fact that the budget for 2014 was restricted (while during the years 2011-2013 was slightly increasing) but the resources in chapter two remained the same as the previous year. This means that the restrictions were not done in this chapter – policies financed from this chapter are the key policies for the European Union's goals fulfillment and this might have a positive impact on the implementation of the policy of endangered species protection and their return to the nature.

The thesis also examined the oncoming programming period 2014-2020 where the objectives of the European Union are specified. However, the analysis of the reports of the previous programming period showed that the subsidies covering the environmental issues were allocated among the same companies and did not cover the issues of endangered species protection and their return to the nature. It might be given by the fact that this issue is specific and requires opposite method of resolving. It means to identify the issue first and then prepare adequate resources. The endangered species protection issue did not correspond with the calls issued in most of the cases. As the oncoming process 2014-2020 was examined – given the materials only available at that time – the conditions remain relatively the same. Despite the fact, the issued drafts refer to the expecting progress. However, the development of the environmental politics and the increasing interest in environmental economics predicts an optimistic future.

The thesis presents an extensive analysis of the possible ways of financing the issue of endangered species protection and their return to the nature within the European Union by distribution of resources from the EU budget. The aim to conserve the species, their habitats and the environment is one of the most essential ones and is the key prerequisite for sustainable development of the EU's economy for the period 2014-2020 and in the future.

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Appendices

Appendix I

GDP of EU, Gross domestic product at market prices (unit in million euros)

Part 1

GEO/TIME	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
European Union (28 countries)	10 658 018,6	11 128 703,0	11 764 657,3	12 473 648,9	12 548 545,7
European Union (27 countries)	10 625 013,7	11 092 672,9	11 724 922,7	12 430 268,5	12 501 007,4
European Union (15 countries)	10 047 788,5	10 420 973,1	10 971 818,9	11 555 718,5	11 506 513,1
Euro area *	7 771 786,0	8 048 123,5	8 455 402,9	8 938 314,2	9 162 363,9
Euro area (18 countries)	7 871 113,8	8 157 982,2	8 580 205,1	9 051 697,9	9 265 902,2
Euro area (17 countries)	7 859 959,2	8 145 054,4	8 564 223,2	9 030 671,4	9 243 012,4
Euro area (16 countries)	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (15 countries)	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (13 countries)	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (12 countries)	7 771 786,0	8 048 123,5	8 455 402,9	8 903 720,6	9 101 998,9
Belgium	291 287,0	303 435,0	318 829,0	335 815,0	346 375,0
Bulgaria	20 387,9	23 255,8	26 476,7	30 772,4	35 430,5
Czech Republic	91 849,5	104 628,8	118 290,8	131 908,6	154 269,7
Denmark	197 069,9	207 366,9	218 747,4	227 533,9	235 133,0
Germany (until 1990 former territory of the FRG)	2 195 700,0	2 224 400,0	2 313 900,0	2 428 500,0	2 473 800,0
Estonia	9 692,2	11 189,1	13 396,2	16 071,3	16 239,5
Ireland	150 024,5	162 896,8	177 573,5	189 654,7	180 249,5
Greece	185 265,6	193 049,7	208 621,8	223 160,1	233 197,7
Spain	841 294,0	909 298,0	985 547,0	1 053 161,0	1 087 788,0
France	1 655 571,8	1 718 047,0	1 798 115,3	1 886 792,1	1 933 195,0
Croatia	33 004,9	36 030,1	39 734,6	43 380,4	47 538,3
Italy	1 397 728,3	1 436 379,5	1 493 031,3	1 554 198,9	1 575 143,9
Cyprus	12 596,0	13 598,2	14 670,5	15 901,5	17 157,1
Latvia	11 154,6	12 927,8	15 981,9	21 026,5	22 889,8
Lithuania	18 244,8	20 969,1	24 104,2	28 738,8	32 414,3
Luxembourg	27 444,5	30 269,5	33 914,1	37 496,8	37 371,5
Hungary	82 114,8	88 765,5	89 589,9	99 422,8	105 535,8
Malta	4 669,9	4 930,9	5 206,7	5 575,4	5 963,5
Netherlands	491 184,0	513 407,0	540 216,0	571 773,0	594 481,0
Austria	234 707,8	245 243,4	259 034,5	274 019,8	282 744,2
Poland	204 236,5	244 420,1	272 088,9	311 001,7	363 175,3
Portugal	149 312,5	154 268,7	160 855,4	169 319,2	171 983,1
Romania	61 063,9	79 801,9	97 751,0	124 728,5	139 765,4
Slovenia	27 227,5	28 730,9	31 050,7	34 593,6	37 244,4
Slovakia	33 994,6	38 489,1	44 501,7	54 810,8	64 413,5
Finland	152 266,0	157 429,0	165 765,0	179 830,0	185 670,0
Sweden	291 634,1	298 353,3	318 170,8	337 944,2	333 255,7

United Kingdom	1 787 298,5	1 867 129,3	1 979 497,7	2 086 519,9	1 836 125,5
Iceland	10 674,1	13 111,9	13 315,9	14 932,4	10 292,3
Liechtenstein	2 782,4	2 942,9	3 188,7	3 362,4	3 467,1
Norway	209 423,5	244 582,1	271 001,2	287 712,2	311 284,9
Switzerland	301 430,1	309 428,4	322 993,1	329 214,4	357 724,8
Montenegro	1 669,8	1 815,0	2 149,0	2 680,5	3 085,6
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the	4 442,0	4 813,5	5 230,6	5 966,5	6 692,6
Serbia	18 993,6	20 285,3	23 327,4	28 473,9	32 678,9
Turkey	314 584,4	386 936,8	419 232,1	471 972,2	498 601,7
Bosnia and Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	:
United States	9 868 076,2	10 524 636,3	11 035 281,9	10 563 735,9	10 007 207,0
Japan	3 746 841,0	3 682 155,6	3 469 983,6	3 181 241,6	3 287 696,3

*Euro area (EA11-2000, EA12-2006, EA13-2007, EA15-2008, EA16-2010, EA17-2013, EA18)

Part 2

GEO/TIME	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
European Union (28 countries)	11 815 746,6	12 337 153,6	12 711 206,8	12 959 735,7	13 068 600,5
European Union (27 countries)	11 770 968,3	12 292 730,1	12 667 015,8	12 916 258,7	13 025 472,7
European Union (15 countries)	10 893 376,1	11 346 193,1	11 674 695,6	11 909 719,2	11 998 539,5
Euro area *	8 907 494,3	9 153 351,1	9 423 758,6	9 483 205,2	9 579 227,7
Euro area (18 countries)	8 939 985,3	9 185 761,0	9 443 969,9	9 505 462,2	9 602 599,9
Euro area (17 countries)	8 921 464,1	9 167 722,2	9 423 758,6	9 483 205,2	9 579 227,7
Euro area (16 countries)	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (15 countries)	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (13 countries)	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (12 countries)	8 786 470,3	9 028 104,9	9 277 848,2	9 334 742,1	9 429 617,6
Belgium	340 669,0	355 791,0	369 258,0	375 852,0	382 692,0
Bulgaria	34 932,8	36 052,4	38 504,9	39 927,0	39 940,3
Czech Republic	142 197,0	149 932,0	155 486,0	152 925,6	149 491,1
Denmark	223 575,8	236 334,1	240 487,1	245 252,0	248 974,8
Germany (until 1990 former territory of the FRG)	2 374 200,0	2 495 000,0	2 609 900,0	2 666 400,0	2 737 600,0
Estonia	13 973,4	14 530,4	16 197,5	17 460,1	18 613,4
Ireland	162 283,5	158 096,7	162 599,7	163 938,7	164 049,8
Greece	231 081,2	222 151,5	208 531,7	193 347,0	182 054,2
Spain	1 046 894,0	1 045 620,0	1 046 327,0	1 029 002,0	1 022 988,0
France	1 885 761,9	1 936 719,7	2 001 398,0	2 032 296,8	2 059 852,0
Croatia	44 778,3	44 423,4	44 191,0	43 477,0	43 127,9
Italy	1 519 695,1	1 551 885,6	1 579 946,4	1 566 911,6	1 560 023,8
Cyprus	16 853,5	17 406,0	17 878,0	17 720,2	16 503,7
Latvia	18 521,3	18 038,9	20 211,3	22 257,0	23 372,1
Lithuania	26 654,4	27 709,7	30 958,5	32 939,8	34 631,2
Luxembourg	35 575,2	39 302,6	41 729,7	42 917,8	45 478,2

Hungary	91 415,4	96 243,0	98 920,6	96 968,3	97 948,0
Malta	5 956,0	6 458,5	6 691,9	6 913,2	7 262,6
Netherlands	573 235,0	586 789,0	599 047,0	599 338,0	602 658,0
Austria	276 228,0	285 165,3	299 240,4	307 003,8	313 066,9
Poland	310 681,4	354 616,1	370 850,6	381 479,7	389 695,1
Portugal	168 529,2	172 859,5	171 126,2	165 107,4	165 690,0
Romania	118 196,0	124 327,7	131 478,0	131 578,9	142 245,1
Slovenia	35 420,2	35 484,6	36 150,0	35 318,6	35 274,9
Slovakia	62 794,4	65 897,0	68 974,2	71 096,0	72 134,1
Finland	172 318,0	178 724,0	188 744,0	192 350,0	193 443,0
Sweden	292 472,1	349 945,1	385 450,7	407 820,3	420 849,1
United Kingdom	1 590 858,0	1 731 809,0	1 770 909,6	1 921 904,9	1 899 098,0
Iceland	8 675,3	9 487,5	10 087,2	10 572,7	11 000,3
Liechtenstein	3 246,0	3 840,0	4 182,1	4 267,8	:
Norway	272 958,8	317 862,4	352 962,8	389 148,5	385 746,9
Switzerland	367 133,5	414 884,1	474 689,2	491 040,4	489 673,2
Montenegro	2 981,0	3 103,9	3 234,1	3 148,9	:
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the	6 702,4	7 056,5	7 478,7	7 454,4	:
Serbia	28 951,9	27 967,8	31 472,4	29 601,0	31 988,0
Turkey	440 367,3	550 362,8	555 100,2	612 404,8	617 793,9
Bosnia and Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	:
United States	10 337 467,7	11 287 923,4	11 147 916,7	12 580 323,8	12 625 630,6
Japan	3 614 690,0	4 149 900,2	4 247 573,9	4 635 675,7	3 702 977,0

*Euro area (EA11-2000, EA12-2006, EA13-2007, EA15-2008, EA16-2010, EA17-2013, EA18)

Source: Eurostat

Appendix II

Gross domestic product at market prices, Percentage of EU 27 total (based on PPS per inhabitant)

GEO/TIME	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
European Union (28 countries)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	:
European Union (27 countries)	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
European Union (15 countries)	113,0	112,6	112,1	111,3	110,5	110,0	109,7	109,2	108,8	108,6
Euro area *	110,2	110,0	109,7	109,4	109,1	108,4	108,6	108,4	108,0	107,5
Euro area (18 countries)	108,5	108,4	108,2	108,1	108,0	107,9	108,1	108,1	107,8	107,3
Euro area (17 countries)	108,9	108,8	108,6	108,5	108,3	108,2	108,4	108,4	108,0	107,5
Euro area (16 countries)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (15 countries)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (13 countries)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Euro area (12 countries)	110,2	110,0	109,7	109,6	109,3	109,2	109,4	109,3	109,0	108,4
Belgium	121,0	119,5	117,4	115,4	115,2	117,4	120,1	119,6	119,7	118,3
Bulgaria	34,5	36,5	38,0	40,0	43,3	43,7	44,0	46,3	47,3	46,4
Czech Republic	77,9	78,9	79,7	82,4	80,5	82,2	80,3	80,7	80,7	79,6
Denmark	125,3	123,2	123,5	122,1	124,0	122,8	127,2	124,8	125,4	124,5
Germany (until 1990 former territory of the FRG)	115,2	115,5	115,0	115,1	115,5	114,3	119,1	122,2	122,8	123,8
Estonia	57,3	61,4	65,6	69,9	68,7	63,4	64,3	68,8	71,3	72,8
Ireland	142,3	143,8	144,8	145,6	131,1	127,9	127,9	128,1	128,3	125,8
Greece	93,5	90,4	91,9	90,1	92,5	94,5	88,2	80,7	76,1	:
Spain	101	102	104	104	103	103	99	96	95	94,9
France	109,4	109,7	107,7	107,3	106,3	108,4	108,5	108,5	108,2	107,9
Croatia	57,7	58,6	59,3	62,2	64,7	63,2	59,9	60,2	60,8	60,6
Italy	106,8	104,9	104,2	103,7	103,8	103,4	102,2	101,0	100,0	97,8
Cyprus	90,6	92,5	92,8	94,0	99,1	99,5	96,3	93,1	91,1	85,8
Latvia	46,4	49,4	52,8	57,2	58,2	53,7	54,9	59,6	63,9	67,0
Lithuania	51,4	54,4	57,4	61,8	64,2	57,7	61,7	67,2	71,4	74,0
Luxembourg	251,8	253,1	268,8	273,2	262,3	251,2	261,0	264,5	262,0	263,2
Hungary	62,8	63,0	62,7	61,3	63,6	65,0	65,7	66,8	66,3	66,6
Malta	79,5	80,0	78,4	78,2	80,9	84,2	86,9	85,8	86,2	87,9
Netherlands	128,8	130,3	130,5	131,8	133,6	131,5	129,3	128,7	127,0	126,3
Austria	127,5	124,8	125,4	123,3	124,0	125,1	126,0	128,2	129,3	128,6
Poland	50,5	51,2	51,7	54,2	56,1	60,3	62,8	64,9	66,8	67,8
Portugal	77,1	79,3	78,7	78,3	77,6	79,9	79,9	76,6	75,6	75,2
Romania	34,4	35,3	38,9	42,6	48,8	49,5	50,5	51,1	52,9	54,0
Slovenia	86,4	87,1	87,2	88,2	90,3	85,9	83,9	84,0	83,5	82,4
Slovakia	56,9	60,0	63,0	67,6	72,2	72,3	73,9	75,0	75,7	76,0
Finland	115,9	114,0	113,6	117,1	118,5	114,0	113,7	115,2	114,7	111,4
Sweden	126,1	121,4	122,4	124,5	123,3	119,5	123,0	124,6	125,6	126,6
United Kingdom	124,4	123,6	121,8	117,5	113,8	111,6	107,3	104,7	103,9	105,4

Iceland	130,9	129,9	122,8	120,3	122,8	119,8	113,9	113,9	114,6	116,1
Liechtenstein	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Norway	164,9	176,8	184,5	180,8	190,8	175,8	179,5	184,7	193,8	190,7
Switzerland	138,1	136,0	138,9	143,6	148,0	149,3	151,5	153,8	157,2	157,4
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the	27,3	29,2	30,1	30,8	33,5	35,9	36,1	35,7	:	:
Serbia	:	31,6	32,4	32,7	35,9	35,6	34,5	35,5	35,3	:
Turkey	39,4	42,3	44,2	45,0	46,7	46,2	49,7	53,0	:	:
Bosnia and Herzegovina	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
United States	162,5	164,2	158,8	155,5	150,4	149,2	150,2	148,3	153,7	154,2
Japan	114,1	113,0	108,9	108,2	104,5	101,7	104,9	102,3	:	:

* Euro area (EA11-2000, EA12-2006, EA13-2007, EA15-2008, EA16-2010, EA17-2013, EA18)

Source: Eurostat

Appendix III

Total general government expenditure on environment, Percentage of GDP

GEO/TIME	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
European Union (28 countries)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	49,3
European Union (27 countries)	47,2	46,7	46,7	46,2	45,5	47,0	51,0	50,6	49,1	49,3
European Union (25 countries)	47,2	46,8	46,8	46,3	45,6	47,1	51,1	50,7	49,2	49,5
European Union (15 countries)	47,3	47,0	47,0	46,5	45,8	47,4	51,5	51,1	49,6	50,0
Euro area *	48,1	47,5	47,4	46,8	46,1	47,2	51,3	51,1	49,5	49,9
Euro area (18 countries)	48,0	47,4	47,3	46,7	46,0	47,1	51,2	51,0	49,5	49,9
Euro area (17 countries)	48,0	47,4	47,3	46,7	46,0	47,1	51,2	51,0	49,5	49,9
Euro area (16 countries)	48,0	47,5	47,4	46,7	46,0	47,1	51,3	51,1	49,5	50,0
Euro area (15 countries)	48,0	47,5	47,4	46,7	46,1	47,2	51,3	51,1	49,6	50,1
Euro area (13 countries)	48,0	47,5	47,4	46,8	46,1	47,2	51,3	51,2	49,6	50,1
Euro area (12 countries)	48,1	47,5	47,4	46,8	46,1	47,3	51,3	51,2	49,6	50,1
Euro area (11 countries)	48,1	47,6	47,5	46,8	46,1	47,2	51,3	51,2	49,5	50,0
Belgium	51,0	49,2	51,9	48,5	48,2	49,8	53,7	52,6	53,5	55,0
Bulgaria	39,1	38,6	37,3	34,4	39,2	38,4	41,4	37,4	35,6	35,7
Czech Republic	50,0	43,3	43,0	42,0	41,0	41,1	44,7	43,7	43,2	44,5
Denmark	55,1	54,6	52,8	51,6	50,8	51,5	58,1	57,7	57,7	59,4
Germany (until 1990 former territory of the FRG)	48,5	47,1	46,9	45,3	43,5	44,1	48,3	47,9	45,2	44,7
Estonia	34,8	34,0	33,6	33,6	34,0	39,7	44,7	40,5	37,5	39,5
Ireland	33,2	33,7	33,9	34,5	36,7	42,8	48,1	65,5	47,1	42,6
Greece	44,7	45,5	44,6	45,4	47,5	50,6	54,0	51,4	52,0	53,7
Spain	38,4	38,9	38,4	38,4	39,2	41,4	46,2	46,3	45,7	47,7
France	53,4	53,3	53,6	53,0	52,6	53,3	56,8	56,6	55,9	56,6
Croatia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	45,7
Italy	48,1	47,5	47,9	48,5	47,6	48,6	51,9	50,4	49,8	50,6
Cyprus	44,6	42,4	43,1	42,6	41,3	42,1	46,2	46,2	46,3	45,8
Latvia	34,9	35,9	35,8	38,3	36,0	39,1	43,7	43,4	38,4	36,5
Lithuania	33,8	34,0	34,0	34,2	35,3	37,9	44,9	42,3	38,7	36,1
Luxembourg	41,8	42,6	41,5	38,6	36,3	39,1	45,2	43,5	42,6	44,3
Hungary	49,7	49,1	50,1	52,2	50,7	49,2	51,4	50,0	50,0	48,7
Malta	45,6	43,6	43,6	43,2	41,8	43,2	42,5	41,2	41,3	43,1
Netherlands	47,1	46,1	44,8	45,5	45,3	46,2	51,4	51,3	49,9	50,4
Austria	51,3	53,8	50,0	49,1	48,6	49,3	52,6	52,8	50,8	51,7
Poland	44,7	42,6	43,4	43,9	42,2	43,2	44,6	45,4	43,4	42,2
Portugal	44,7	45,4	46,6	45,2	44,4	44,8	49,8	51,5	49,3	47,4
Romania	33,5	33,6	33,6	35,5	38,2	39,3	41,1	40,1	39,4	36,7
Slovenia	46,2	45,6	45,1	44,3	42,3	44,1	48,7	49,4	49,9	48,1
Slovakia	40,1	37,7	38,0	36,5	34,2	34,9	41,6	40,0	38,4	37,8
Finland	50,3	50,2	50,3	49,2	47,4	49,2	56,1	55,8	55,1	56,7
Sweden	55,7	54,2	53,9	52,7	51,0	51,7	54,9	52,3	51,5	52,0

United Kingdom	41,8	42,7	43,4	43,6	43,3	47,1	50,8	49,9	48,0	48,1
Iceland	45,6	44,0	42,2	41,6	42,3	57,7	51,0	51,6	47,4	47,4
Norway	48,2	45,1	41,8	40,0	40,3	39,8	46,2	45,2	43,9	43,3
Switzerland	:	:	35,2	33,2	32,1	32,1	34,1	33,9	33,7	34,1

* Euro area (EA11-2000, EA12-2006, EA13-2007, EA15-2008, EA16-2010, EA17-2013, EA18)

Source: Eurostat

Appendix IV

EU spending data, Budget

Part 1

	2011 (EUR million)	Total	earmarked	other	non-EU	EU-27
	POPULATION					
	Currency name					
	Rate to euro (2011 average)					
	COUNTRY NAME					
	COUNTRY CODE 3					
1	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	54 731,6	636,9	1 004,1	926,5	52 164,1
1.1	Competitiveness for growth and employment	12 353,0	636,9	890,9	926,2	9 899,1
1.1.1	Seventh Research framework programme (incl.compl.of sixth Research FP)	7 510,7	324,9	760,9	573,3	5 851,5
1.1.2	Decommissioning (Direct research)	23,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	23,5
1.1.3	Ten	865,6	29,5	0,5	295,0	540,6
1.1.4	Galileo	565,6	8,2	0,5	0,5	556,4
1.1.5	Marco Polo	20,8	0,0	0,1	0,0	20,7
1.1.6	Lifelong Learning	1 315,1	171,1	0,2	19,6	1 124,2
1.1.7	Competitiveness and innovation framework programme (CIP)	494,7	25,3	107,5	14,2	347,7
1.1.7.1	<i>CIP Entrepreneurship and innovation</i>	297,1	22,1	106,0	11,2	157,8
1.1.7.2	<i>CIP ICT policy support</i>	102,4	1,5	0,4	2,1	98,4
1.1.7.3	<i>CIP Intelligent energy</i>	95,3	1,6	1,1	1,0	91,5
1.1.8	Social policy agenda	150,9	2,0	0,0	2,7	146,1
1.1.9	Customs 2013 and Fiscalis 2013	61,4	0,3	14,6	11,6	34,9
1.1.10	Nuclear decommissioning	102,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	102,0
1.1.11	European Global Adjustment Funds	114,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	114,3
1.1.12	Energy projects to aid economic recovery	487,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	487,7
1.1.DAG	Decentralised agencies	249,2	13,9	0,9	0,0	234,4
1.1.OTH	Other actions and programmes	391,6	61,5	5,8	9,3	315,0
1.2	Cohesion for growth and employment	42 378,5	0,0	113,3	0,3	42 265,0
1.2.1	Structural funds	35 914,3	0,0	112,8	0,0	35 801,5
1.2.1.1	<i>Convergence objective</i>	27 121,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	27 121,2
1.2.1.2	<i>Regional competitiveness and employment objective</i>	7 651,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	7 651,0

1.2.1.3	<i>European territorial cooperation objective</i>	1 076,8	0,0	111,2	0,0	965,6
1.2.1.4	<i>Technical assistance</i>	65,3	0,0	1,5	0,0	63,7
1.2.2	Cohesion Fund	6 453,7	0,0	0,5	0,0	6 453,2
1.2.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.2.OTH	Other actions and programmes	10,5	0,0	0,0	0,3	10,3
2	PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	57 374,5	1 335,9	8,6	161,2	55 868,8
2.0.1	Market related expenditure and direct aids	44 123,6	1 319,1	4,5	0,8	42 799,1
2.0.1.1	Agriculture markets	43 817,88	1 318,38	1,36	0,19	42 497,96
	<i>Direct Aid</i>	40 178,0	501,5	0,0	0,0	39 676,5
	<i>Export refunds</i>	179,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	179,4
	<i>Storage</i>	-175,6	0,0	0,0	0,0	-175,6
	<i>Other</i>	3 636,1	816,9	1,4	0,2	2 817,6
2.0.1.2	Fisheries market	34,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	34,0
2.0.1.3	Animal and plant health	271,7	0,8	3,2	0,6	267,2
2.0.2	Rural development	12 295,2	9,1	0,3	0,0	12 285,8
2.0.3	European fisheries fund	445,9	0,0	0,2	0,0	445,7
2.0.4	Fisheries governance and international agreements	236,9	0,0	1,5	157,8	77,6
2.0.5	Life+	205,2	2,2	2,1	2,7	198,2
2.0.DAG	Decentralised agencies	53,1	5,5	0,0	0,0	47,6
2.0.OTH	Other actions and programmes	14,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	14,7
3	CITIZENSHIP, FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE	1 827,3	86,8	6,0	22,3	1 712,2
4	THE EU AS A GLOBAL PARTNER	7 102,2	180,7	1 557,4	5 174,9	189,2
4.0.1	Instrument for Preaccession (IPA)	1 262,0	9,4	217,4	846,1	189,2
	Other actions and programmes	5 840,2	171,4	1 340,0	4 328,8	0,0
5	ADMINISTRATION	8 359,3	439,6	363,7	153,4	7 402,7
6	COMPENSATIONS	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		129 394,9	2 679,9	2 939,8	6 438,3	117 336,9

Source: European Commission

EU spending data

Part 2

	2011 (EUR million)	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL
	POPULATION	1100063 8	7369431	1048673 1	5560628	8175160 2	1340194	456986 4	1130988 5
	Currency name	€	лв	Kč	kr.	€	€	€	€
	Rate to euro (2011 average)	1	0,5109	0,0407	0,1342	1	1	1	1
	COUNTRY NAME	Belgium	Bulgaria	Czech Republic	Denmark	Germany	Estonia	Ireland	Greece
	COUNTRY CODE 3	BEL	BGR	CZE	DNK	DEU	EST	IRL	GRC
1	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	1 328,4	607,5	1 849,9	321,5	5 024,2	287,4	325,6	3 551,6
1.1	Competitiveness for growth and employment	1 041,6	68,1	75,1	189,7	1 576,7	19,2	170,5	219,9
1.1.1	Seventh Research framework programme (incl.compl.of sixth Research FP)	603,6	10,6	29,7	119,0	947,0	7,2	72,3	132,7
1.1.2	Decommissioning (Direct research)	1,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	5,3	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.3	Ten	42,2	0,5	3,7	13,8	78,2	0,9	0,5	1,6
1.1.4	Galileo	7,6	0,0	0,0	0,0	242,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.5	Marco Polo	2,2	0,4	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.6	Lifelong Learning	69,5	24,1	24,3	19,7	142,3	7,9	12,8	32,8
1.1.7	Competitiveness and innovation framework programme (CIP)	38,7	2,5	3,5	5,7	49,4	1,8	3,5	12,5
1.1.7.1	<i>CIP Entrepreneurship and innovation</i>	13,3	1,5	2,2	3,4	23,7	1,1	1,8	5,4
1.1.7.2	<i>CIP ICT policy support</i>	8,1	0,9	1,3	1,7	9,7	0,5	1,1	6,4
1.1.7.3	<i>CIP Intelligent energy</i>	17,3	0,1	0,0	0,6	15,9	0,2	0,5	0,7
1.1.8	Social policy agenda	66,8	1,0	1,0	1,9	12,4	0,4	0,6	0,9
1.1.9	Customs 2013 and Fiscalis 2013	18,3	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,3	0,3	0,4
1.1.10	Nuclear decommissioning	0,0	27,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.11	European Global Adjustment Funds	9,9	0,0	0,3	24,4	12,7	0,0	35,7	2,9
1.1.12	Energy projects to aid economic recovery	55,1	0,0	10,6	0,0	36,5	0,0	18,4	6,0
1.1.DAG	Decentralised agencies	24,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	34,1	0,0	20,2	23,1
1.1.OTH	Other actions and programmes	102,3	1,0	1,3	4,7	16,0	0,8	6,0	7,0
1.2	Cohesion for growth and employment	286,8	539,4	1 774,8	131,7	3 447,5	268,1	155,1	3 331,7
1.2.1	Structural funds	281,8	269,8	1 734,4	130,7	3 438,5	196,0	144,0	2 734,6
1.2.1.1	<i>Convergence objective</i>	11,4	269,8	1 643,4	0,0	2 194,6	191,5	44,6	2 587,3
1.2.1.2	<i>Regional competitiveness and employment objective</i>	190,2	0,0	37,0	98,2	1 076,9	0,0	90,9	139,9
1.2.1.3	<i>European territorial cooperation objective</i>	52,7	0,0	53,9	31,5	146,3	4,5	8,5	7,2
1.2.1.4	<i>Technical assistance</i>	27,5	0,0	0,1	1,0	20,7	0,0	0,0	0,3

1.2.2	Cohesion Fund	4,6	269,6	40,4	0,8	8,1	72,1	11,1	597,1
1.2.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.2.OTH	Other actions and programmes	0,4	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,8	0,0	0,0	0,0
2	PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	713,5	443,7	1 132,8	1 088,1	6 836,9	201,0	1 257,2	2 894,7
2.0.1	Market related expenditure and direct aids	587,1	315,2	671,7	967,8	5 520,4	79,6	893,9	2 407,7
2.0.1.1	Agriculture markets	556,89	315,07	667,95	964,20	5 498,09	74,79	873,05	2 406,90
	<i>Direct Aid</i>	516,9	300,3	657,0	942,7	5 341,8	71,7	828,0	2 353,7
	<i>Export refunds</i>	2,6	0,5	0,9	4,7	21,4	0,1	3,5	0,1
	<i>Storage</i>	-9,1	-5,3	-1,4	1,5	32,6	1,4	37,8	-9,0
	<i>Other</i>	46,5	19,6	11,5	15,2	102,2	1,6	3,8	62,1
2.0.1.2	Fisheries market	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,9	0,0	3,2	0,9	0,0
2.0.1.3	Animal and plant health	30,1	0,1	3,8	2,7	22,2	1,5	20,0	0,8
2.0.2	Rural development	83,2	123,3	452,3	50,0	1 275,8	109,2	358,1	442,9
2.0.3	European fisheries fund	10,4	4,4	7,7	20,6	12,9	10,8	0,0	36,0
2.0.4	Fisheries governance and international agreements	6,2	0,1	0,0	7,4	3,5	0,3	4,1	0,5
2.0.5	Life+	25,5	0,7	1,1	5,8	23,8	1,2	1,1	7,2
2.0.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	35,9	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
2.0.OTH	Other actions and programmes	1,1	0,0	0,0	0,6	0,4	0,0	0,0	0,5
3	CITIZENSHIP, FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE THE EU AS A GLOBAL PARTNER	151,8	11,6	29,3	12,6	87,7	7,0	14,0	52,9
4	Instrument for Preaccession (IPA)	0,0	31,3	0,3	0,0	0,0	0,7	0,0	0,0
4.0.1	Other actions and programmes	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
5	ADMINISTRATION	4 603,1	13,1	16,8	50,9	184,2	8,7	42,5	37,7
6	COMPENSATIONS	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		6 796,7	1 107,1	3 029,1	1 473,1	12 133,0	504,7	1 639,5	6 536,9

Source: European Commission

EU spending data, Budget

Part 3

	2011 (EUR million)	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT
	POPULATION	46152926	65048412		839751	2074605	3052588	511840	9985722	415198
	Currency name	€	€	€	€	Ls	Lt	€	Ft	€
	Rate to euro (2011 average)	1	1	1	1	1,4105	0,289	1	0,0036	1
	COUNTRY NAME	Spain	France	Italy	Cyprus	Latvia	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Hungary	Malta
	COUNTRY CODE 3	ESP	FRA	ITA	CYP	LVA	LTU	LUX	HUN	MLT
1	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	6 331,2	3 085,3	3 167,7	103,8	588,9	1 070,2	156,0	3 748,5	103,6
1.1	Competitiveness for growth and employment	903,1	1 312,7	826,7	18,5	28,1	93,0	134,5	111,5	18,9
1.1.1	Seventh Research framework programme (incl.compl.of sixth Research FP)	634,9	791,1	553,4	9,6	2,8	5,5	24,2	39,3	1,8
1.1.2	Decommissioning (Direct research)	3,1	2,8	8,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.3	Ten	57,4	84,0	29,2	0,9	5,4	3,2	4,8	8,8	0,0
1.1.4	Galileo	1,5	214,3	38,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.5	Marco Polo	1,4	1,7	4,3	0,2	0,4	0,0	1,2	0,1	0,0
1.1.6	Lifelong Learning	96,5	123,2	124,6	5,7	10,5	15,5	3,8	25,4	1,5
1.1.7	Competitiveness and innovation framework programme (CIP)	30,4	27,2	41,1	1,2	1,4	1,1	22,9	3,6	0,7
1.1.7.1	<i>CIP Entrepreneurship and innovation</i>	15,7	14,5	20,5	0,4	0,5	0,7	1,9	2,4	0,3
1.1.7.2	<i>CIP ICT policy support</i>	12,9	6,7	13,4	0,7	0,7	0,5	1,0	0,9	0,4
1.1.7.3	<i>CIP Intelligent energy</i>	1,8	6,0	7,3	0,1	0,2	0,0	20,0	0,2	0,0
1.1.8	Social policy agenda	3,0	10,0	6,1	0,3	0,2	1,0	10,0	2,0	0,4
1.1.9	Customs 2013 and Fiscalis 2013	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,2	0,4	0,4	6,2	0,4	0,2
1.1.10	Nuclear decommissioning	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	57,1	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.11	European Global Adjustment Funds	5,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.12	Energy projects to aid economic recovery	50,1	0,0	11,6	0,0	5,1	1,0	30,0	22,0	13,8
1.1.DAG	Decentralised agencies	13,6	23,6	0,0	0,0	1,2	7,5	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.OTH	Other actions and programmes	5,5	34,3	8,7	0,5	0,7	0,7	31,3	9,9	0,5
1.2	Cohesion for growth and employment	5 428,1	1 772,6	2 341,0	85,3	560,8	977,1	21,6	3 637,1	84,7
1.2.1	Structural funds	4 573,9	1 772,1	2 340,8	37,3	399,1	598,7	16,6	2 797,5	57,6
1.2.1.1	<i>Convergence objective</i>	2 970,7	439,2	1 434,0	0,0	387,7	580,5	0,0	2 245,6	57,5
1.2.1.2	<i>Regional competitiveness and employment objective</i>	1 555,2	1 141,4	840,6	37,3	0,0	0,0	12,4	508,0	0,0
1.2.1.3	<i>European territorial cooperation objective</i>	47,8	187,9	64,6	0,0	11,4	18,1	1,4	43,8	0,0

1.2.1.4	Technical assistance	0,2	3,6	1,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	2,8	0,1	0,1
1.2.2	Cohesion Fund	854,2	0,4	0,2	48,0	161,6	378,4	0,0	838,0	27,1
1.2.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.2.OTH	Other actions and programmes	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	4,9	1,6	0,0
2	PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	7 092,4	9 541,5	5 993,5	66,0	302,7	536,2	53,3	1 500,0	15,3
2.0.1	Market related expenditure and direct aids	5 868,6	8 751,8	4 659,4	42,1	112,2	282,1	38,3	1 054,0	5,2
2.0.1.1	Agriculture markets	5 819,55	8 679,88	4 649,32 ⁴	42,00	109,17	279,91	36,86	1 049,77 ¹	4,4
	Direct Aid	5 208,4	8 007,8	4 038,0	34,3	105,2	271,4	34,2	953,7	3,7
	Export refunds	3,0	85,7	15,3	0,0	0,0	4,7	0,0	1,5	0,0
	Storage	-57,8	60,3	-91,2	0,1	-3,9	-5,0	0,0	28,0	-0,6
	Other	666,0	526,1	687,3	7,6	7,8	8,9	2,6	66,5	1,2
2.0.1.2	Fisheries market	7,2	9,7	0,0	0,0	1,3	1,0	0,1	0,0	0,0
2.0.1.3	Animal and plant health	41,8	62,3	10,1	0,1	1,8	1,2	1,3	4,2	0,8
2.0.2	Rural development	1 051,6	758,9	1 222,2	18,0	164,4	248,7	13,6	432,7	7,6
2.0.3	European fisheries fund	118,4	14,1	59,3	4,5	25,5	4,7	0,3	7,2	1,1
2.0.4	Fisheries governance and international agreements	13,4	8,1	11,1	0,1	0,1	0,3	0,6	0,0	0,5
2.0.5	Life+	28,4	7,7	37,6	1,2	0,5	0,5	0,5	4,4	0,9
2.0.DAG	Decentralised agencies	11,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
2.0.OTH	Other actions and programmes	0,3	0,9	3,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	1,8	0,0
3	CITIZENSHIP, FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE	90,2	192,9	174,9	7,6	9,8	34,8	12,6	44,1	8,1
4	THE EU AS A GLOBAL PARTNER	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	1,1	0,0	16,5	0,0
4.0.1	Instrument for Preaccession (IPA)	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	1,1	0,0	16,5	0,0
	Other actions and programmes	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
5	ADMINISTRATION	85,2	342,6	249,7	6,2	9,5	10,6	1 326,6	21,7	8,2
6	COMPENSATIONS	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		13 599,0	13 162,3	9 585,9	183,6	911,0	1 652,8	1 548,5	5 330,9	135,2

Source: European Commission

EU spending data, Budget

Part 4

	2011 (EUR million)	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI
	POPULATION	16655799	8404252	38529866	10572157	21413815	2050189
	Currency name	€	€	zł	€	lei	€
	Rate to euro (2011 average)	1	1	0,243	1	0,2358	1
	COUNTRY NAME	Netherlands	Austria	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Slovenia
	COUNTRY CODE 3	NLD	AUT	POL	POR	ROU	SVN
1	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	885,8	501,8	9 867,4	3 293,1	768,1	589,7
1.1	Competitiveness for growth and employment	578,8	283,0	234,0	184,9	68,0	64,9
1.1.1	Seventh Research framework programme (incl.compl.of sixth Research FP)	403,9	146,5	60,3	59,0	18,5	21,6
1.1.2	Decommissioning (Direct research)	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.3	Ten	50,5	72,3	1,5	3,9	0,3	3,5
1.1.4	Galileo	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,0
1.1.5	Marco Polo	0,0	4,5	1,1	0,0	0,0	0,7
1.1.6	Lifelong Learning	37,0	25,6	87,0	29,2	35,1	8,9
1.1.7	Competitiveness and innovation framework programme (CIP)	22,3	12,0	7,5	8,5	4,2	3,1
1.1.7.1	<i>CIP Entrepreneurship and innovation</i>	9,0	4,4	6,3	2,5	2,5	1,4
1.1.7.2	<i>CIP ICT policy support</i>	9,9	3,1	0,8	2,5	1,3	0,9
1.1.7.3	<i>CIP Intelligent energy</i>	3,5	4,5	0,4	3,4	0,5	0,7
1.1.8	Social policy agenda	6,4	4,0	2,1	0,7	0,5	1,5
1.1.9	Customs 2013 and Fiscalis 2013	0,4	0,3	0,4	0,5	0,4	0,3
1.1.10	Nuclear decommissioning	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.11	European Global Adjustment Funds	8,4	9,5	1,2	1,5	0,0	2,2
1.1.12	Energy projects to aid economic recovery	9,8	4,3	71,5	32,5	7,8	16,0
1.1.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,1	0,0	0,0	47,0	0,0	5,9
1.1.OTH	Other actions and programmes	39,7	4,0	1,3	2,3	1,0	1,1
1.2	Cohesion for growth and employment	307,0	218,8	9 633,3	3 108,1	700,1	524,9
1.2.1	Structural funds	305,9	218,3	6 952,9	2 936,9	601,2	473,8
1.2.1.1	<i>Convergence objective</i>	1,1	34,1	6 893,7	2 752,6	599,8	463,0
1.2.1.2	<i>Regional competitiveness and employment objective</i>	292,9	108,0	6,7	165,2	0,0	0,0
1.2.1.3	<i>European territorial cooperation objective</i>	10,8	74,9	52,5	18,7	1,4	10,7
1.2.1.4	<i>Technical assistance</i>	1,1	1,3	0,0	0,4	0,0	0,0

1.2.2	Cohesion Fund	0,4	0,1	2 680,2	171,3	98,8	51,0
1.2.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.2.OTH	Other actions and programmes	0,6	0,4	0,2	0,0	0,1	0,1
2	PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	940,4	1 312,4	4 293,0	1 333,4	1 693,6	227,0
2.0.1	Market related expenditure and direct aids	869,2	742,6	2 407,2	783,5	796,0	109,8
2.0.1.1	Agriculture markets	860,2	739,8	2 398,3	761,0	795,7	108,7
	<i>Direct Aid</i>	<i>817,4</i>	<i>713,7</i>	<i>2 177,0</i>	<i>655,4</i>	<i>728,8</i>	<i>102,2</i>
	<i>Export refunds</i>	<i>8,3</i>	<i>5,5</i>	<i>14,4</i>	<i>4,7</i>	<i>0,5</i>	<i>0,5</i>
	<i>Storage</i>	<i>-3,0</i>	<i>1,5</i>	<i>-25,1</i>	<i>-13,7</i>	<i>-39,7</i>	<i>-2,3</i>
	<i>Other</i>	<i>37,5</i>	<i>19,1</i>	<i>231,9</i>	<i>114,6</i>	<i>106,1</i>	<i>8,3</i>
2.0.1.2	Fisheries market	0,6	0,0	0,0	8,5	0,0	0,0
2.0.1.3	Animal and plant health	8,5	2,8	8,9	14,1	0,3	1,1
2.0.2	Rural development	59,2	560,2	1 809,1	527,5	894,9	112,5
2.0.3	European fisheries fund	1,6	0,8	71,1	19,2	0,0	2,8
2.0.4	Fisheries governance and international agreements	3,6	0,0	1,1	1,6	0,5	0,1
2.0.5	Life+	5,1	8,8	4,5	1,6	1,9	1,9
2.0.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
2.0.OTH	Other actions and programmes	1,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,3	0,0
3	CITIZENSHIP, FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE	149,0	42,6	242,5	60,7	50,0	21,4
4	THE EU AS A GLOBAL PARTNER	0,0	0,0	10,1	0,0	128,5	0,2
4.0.1	Instrument for Preaccession (IPA)	0,0	0,0	10,1	0,0	128,5	0,2
	Other actions and programmes	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
5	ADMINISTRATION	89,1	19,1	27,7	28,1	19,3	8,7
6	COMPENSATIONS	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		2 064,3	1 875,8	14 440,6	4 715,3	2 659,5	847,0

Source: European Commission

EU spending data, Budget

Part 5

	2011 (EUR million)	SK	FI	SE	UK	HR
	POPULATION	5392446	5375276	9415570	62498612	4407000
	Currency name	€	€	kr	£	kn
	Rate to euro (2011 average)	1	1	0,1107	1,1523	0,1
	COUNTRY NAME	Slovakia	Finland	Sweden	United Kingdom	Croatia
	COUNTRY CODE 3	SVK	FIN	SWE	GBR	HR
1	SUSTAINABLE GROWTH	1 096,8	457,4	653,5	2 399,2	11,7
1.1	Competitiveness for growth and employment	40,9	153,9	295,7	1 187,2	11,7
1.1.1	Seventh Research framework programme (incl.compl.of sixth Research FP)	7,3	105,8	203,1	840,8	9,4
1.1.2	Decommissioning (Direct research)	0,0	0,0	0,0	2,5	0,0
1.1.3	Ten	2,1	16,2	35,6	19,6	0,0
1.1.4	Galileo	0,0	0,0	0,0	52,1	0,0
1.1.5	Marco Polo	0,0	0,0	0,7	1,7	0,0
1.1.6	Lifelong Learning	9,6	23,1	20,9	107,6	0,3
1.1.7	Competitiveness and innovation framework programme (CIP)	1,2	4,6	7,4	29,6	1,6
1.1.7.1	<i>CIP Entrepreneurship and innovation</i>	0,5	1,8	3,2	16,8	0,9
1.1.7.2	<i>CIP ICT policy support</i>	0,5	1,4	3,5	7,6	0,6
1.1.7.3	<i>CIP Intelligent energy</i>	0,1	1,5	0,7	5,3	0,2
1.1.8	Social policy agenda	0,7	0,7	0,9	10,8	0,2
1.1.9	Customs 2013 and Fiscalis 2013	0,3	0,5	0,7	0,5	0,1
1.1.10	Nuclear decommissioning	17,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.1.11	European Global Adjustment Funds	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0
1.1.12	Energy projects to aid economic recovery	1,2	0,0	24,3	60,1	0,0
1.1.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	33,5	0,0
1.1.OTH	Other actions and programmes	1,2	3,1	2,0	28,1	0,0
1.2	Cohesion for growth and employment	1 056,0	303,6	357,8	1 211,9	0,0
1.2.1	Structural funds	917,6	303,4	357,4	1 210,8	0,0
1.2.1.1	<i>Convergence objective</i>	851,2	24,9	7,9	435,2	0,0
1.2.1.2	<i>Regional competitiveness and employment objective</i>	49,5	261,6	323,2	715,9	0,0
1.2.1.3	<i>European territorial cooperation objective</i>	16,9	16,8	26,2	57,0	0,0
1.2.1.4	<i>Technical assistance</i>	0,0	0,0	0,1	2,7	0,0

1.2.2	Cohesion Fund	138,2	0,0	0,0	1,1	0,0
1.2.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
1.2.OTH	Other actions and programmes	0,2	0,1	0,4	0,0	0,0
2	PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	647,9	794,6	996,2	3 961,4	0,0
2.0.1	Market related expenditure and direct aids	298,6	497,2	700,1	3 337,8	0,0
2.0.1.1	Agriculture markets	296,9	496,4	697,8	3 315,5	0,0
	<i>Direct Aid</i>	283,1	539,0	694,2	3 296,9	0,0
	<i>Export refunds</i>	0,2	0,1	0,1	1,1	0,0
	<i>Storage</i>	0,8	-52,3	-7,7	-12,4	0,0
	<i>Other</i>	12,9	9,6	11,2	29,9	0,0
2.0.1.2	Fisheries market	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,4	0,0
2.0.1.3	Animal and plant health	1,7	0,8	2,3	22,0	0,0
2.0.2	Rural development	345,9	285,9	276,3	602,0	0,0
2.0.3	European fisheries fund	1,3	5,0	5,5	0,6	0,0
2.0.4	Fisheries governance and international agreements	0,0	0,9	8,4	5,0	0,0
2.0.5	Life+	2,1	5,0	5,2	14,1	0,0
2.0.DAG	Decentralised agencies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
2.0.OTH	Other actions and programmes	0,0	0,5	0,8	2,0	0,0
3	CITIZENSHIP, FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE	29,2	16,0	78,2	80,9	2,5
4	THE EU AS A GLOBAL PARTNER	0,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	97,6
4.0.1	Instrument for Preaccession (IPA)	0,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	90,6
	Other actions and programmes	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	7,0
5	ADMINISTRATION	10,7	25,0	29,2	128,6	1,3
6	COMPENSATIONS	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		1 785,1	1 293,0	1 757,0	6 570,0	113,2

Source: European Commission