

LEGAL PROTECTION OF BIRDS

Law VI of 1872 **prohibited the destruction of birds' nests and the collection of eggs.**

The Hunting Act of 1883 **banned the hunting of songbirds at all times** and regulated the shooting of other species.

The Field Protection Act of 1894 regulated **the protection of birds useful for agriculture.**

In 1893 the **Hungarian Ornithological Centre** was founded, the first institution in Hungary dedicated to the research and protection of birds, under the leadership of Ottó Herman.

In 1901, a decree of the Minister of Agriculture **proclaimed the full protection of 132 species.** Later amendments extended protection to additional bird species.

In 1906, Count Albert Apponyi, the Minister of Education, issued a decree obliging state schools to celebrate the **Day of Birds and Trees.**

In 1954, almost all **bird species living in Hungary were given protection, and some species were given increased protection.** Wild species, except those that can be hunted, were protected by law.

In 1974, an **intangible value for protected species** was established, covering 319 species.

In 1974, the **Hungarian Ornithological Society**, now known as the Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society, was founded, which has significantly contributed to the strengthening of Hungarian nature conservation and the prevention of the extinction of several bird species in the last 50 years.

The decree of 1982 **listed 320 species as protected**, and already distinguished between protected and specially protected species.

Act LIII of 1996 on the Protection of Nature, which was the basis for further legislation on the protection of birds, among other things.

Decree 100/2012 VM amending Decree 13/2001 KöM also regulated the protection of birds, along with other living organisms. As a result, several species were given **the highest conservation value of HUF 1 000 000.**

The **Birds Directive (79/403)** is the first regulation on nature protection in the European Union.

The **Habitat Protection Directive (92/43)** was amended to the former regulation in 1982.

The Birds Directive requires each Member State to establish Special Protection Areas for Birds.

Government Decree 275/2004 (X.8.) designates the **Hungarian Natura 2000 sites**, which are listed in Decree 14/2010 (V.11.) KvVM

