



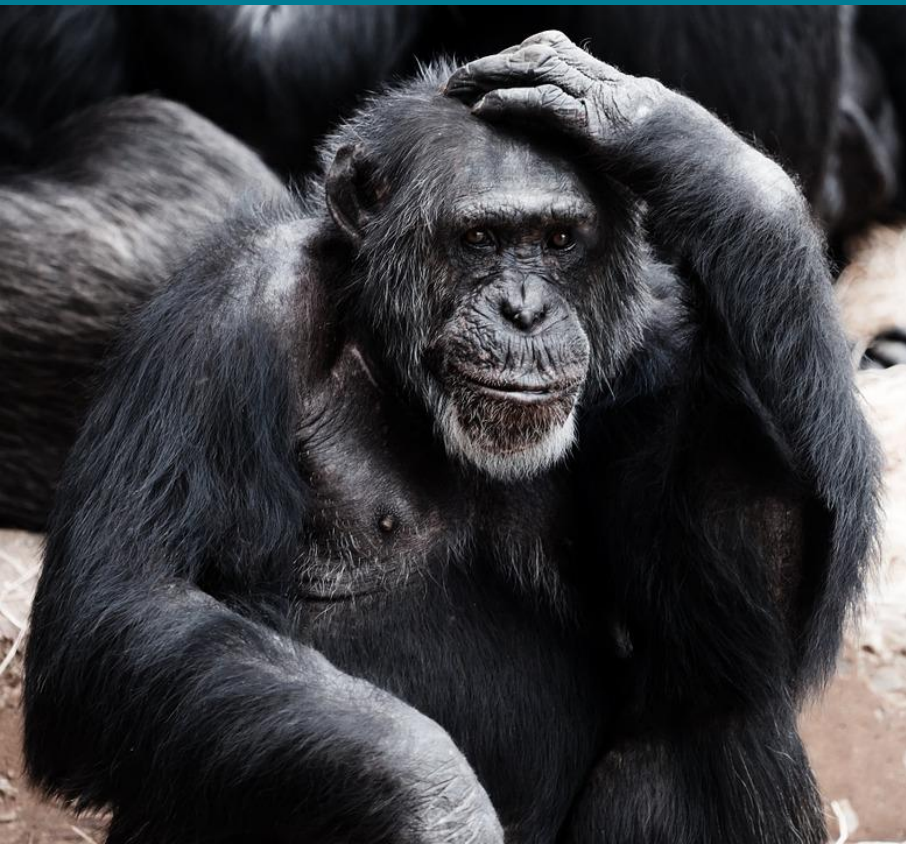
# Zoos Directive: recommendations for a better implementation

# Why is the Zoos Directive important?



- ✓ It's the only EU legislation requiring the respect of the welfare of wild animals in captivity;
- ✓ It has established a compulsory and centrally regulated licencing of zoo facilities in EU Member States;
- ✓ It has requested the exchange of information and data related to species conservation;
- ✓ It has prevented the opening of new zoos by amateur individuals.

# Key positive findings of the REFIT process





- ✓ The EU Zoos Directive fits for purpose;
- ✓ Several Member States have introduced stricter or more detailed provisions in their national legislation;
- ✓ Zoos have strengthened their role on conservation;
- ✓ Progress has been made in the last 20 years in animal husbandry

# What needs to be improved?



- ✓ Poor capacity and limited expertise in MS prevent the closure of illegal zoos;



▲ Glossy-black cockatoos were among the birds ACP was permitted to import from Australia. Photograph: Dave Watts/Alamy Stock Photo/Alamy Stock Photo

## **'A legitimate zoo?' How an obscure German group cornered global trade in endangered parrots**



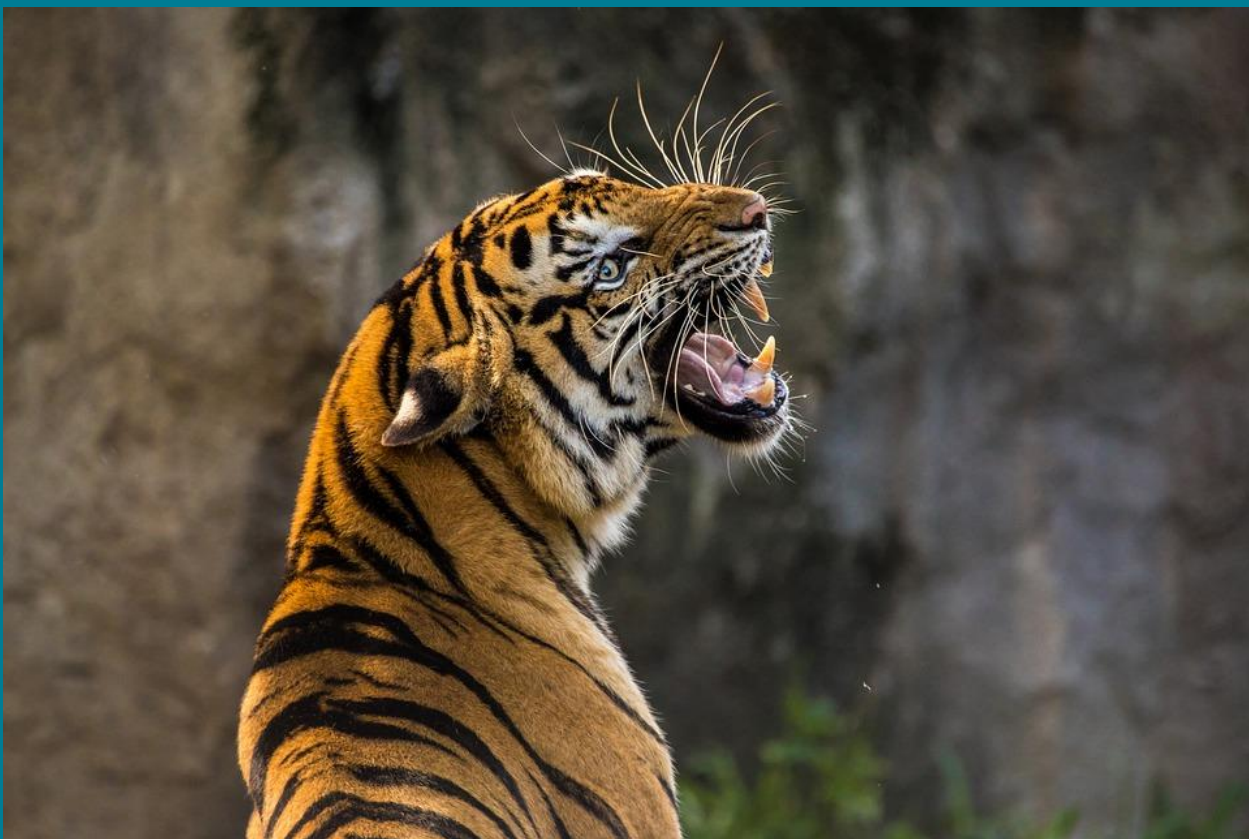
- ✓ Poor capacity and limited expertise in MS prevent the closure of illegal zoos;
- ✓ Many zoos still keep animals under sub-standard conditions;



Greek Centre for the Protection of Wild Animals (EKPAZ)

- ✓ Poor capacity and limited expertise in MS prevent the closure of illegal zoos;
- ✓ Many zoos still keep animals under sub-standard conditions;
- ✓ Only 35% of threatened species in zoos collection; limited role on rescuing;
- ✓ Licences also delivered to facilities which use animals in performances, donate or lend animals to circuses or cull surplus animals

# Action Points





- ✓ EC translation of the Zoos Directive Good Practices Document and other EC follow up actions
- ✓ Identify harmonised EU standards to improve the well-being of the animals in captivity;
- ✓ Establish rigorous management plans for zoo animal populations;
- ✓ Create a protocol to assist MS' Competent Authorities in phasing-out unlicensed zoos
- ✓ Support the dissemination of the translated Zoos Directive Good Practices Document



**Thank you!**

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FOR ANIMALS**