



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENLARGEMENT AND EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD

The Director-General

Brussels,
ENEST.B.3/GJK

Subject: PETITION: Support an Immediate Moratorium to Protect Albania's Protected Areas

Dear Petitioners,

Thank you for sharing your concerns regarding the situation in Albania, and particularly the development of its coastal regions.

The European Commission closely follows Albania's progress in aligning with the EU acquis, including in the areas of environmental protection and nature conservation. Developments in these areas are assessed as part of the accession process and are reflected in the Commission's annual enlargement reports. We have taken good note of the European Parliament's call for a moratorium on construction projects which is addressed to the Government of Albania.

In addition, under the EU Common Position for Cluster 4 (Green Agenda and Sustainable Connectivity), which includes Chapter 27 on Environment and Climate Change, Albania will need to meet the relevant closing benchmarks in order to advance in the EU accession negotiations. These benchmarks include among others the termination of the Law on strategic investments, as well as the repeal of the incompatible provisions of the 2024 amendments to the Law on protected areas.

Rest assured that the European Union attaches great importance to environmental issues and progress towards closing benchmarks is subject to continuous monitoring, complemented by regular exchanges and follow-up with the responsible authorities.

Yours faithfully,

Electronically signed

Gert Jan KOOPMAN

