Ciconia nigra

Central & Eastern Europe/Sub-Saharan Africa

Annex I	Yes
International action plan	No

Black Stork, *Ciconia nigra*, is a species of stork found in wetland and woodland and forest ecosystems.

Ciconia nigra has a breeding population size of 5900-7800 pairs and a breeding range size of 957000 square kilometres in the EU27. The breeding population trend in the EU27 is Increasing in the short term and Increasing in the long term.

The EU population status of *Ciconia nigra* was assessed as Secure, because the species does not meet any of the IUCN Red List criteria for threatened or Near Threatened, or the criteria for Depleted or Declining (the EU27 population or range has not declined by 20% or more since 1980).

This factsheet was produced for *Ciconia nigra* [Central & Eastern Europe/Sub-Saharan Africa] population. Also other subspecies/populations of the same species occur within the EU27. The assessment of status at the European level and the introductory text were done at the species level in line with the criteria for assessment of the EU population status.

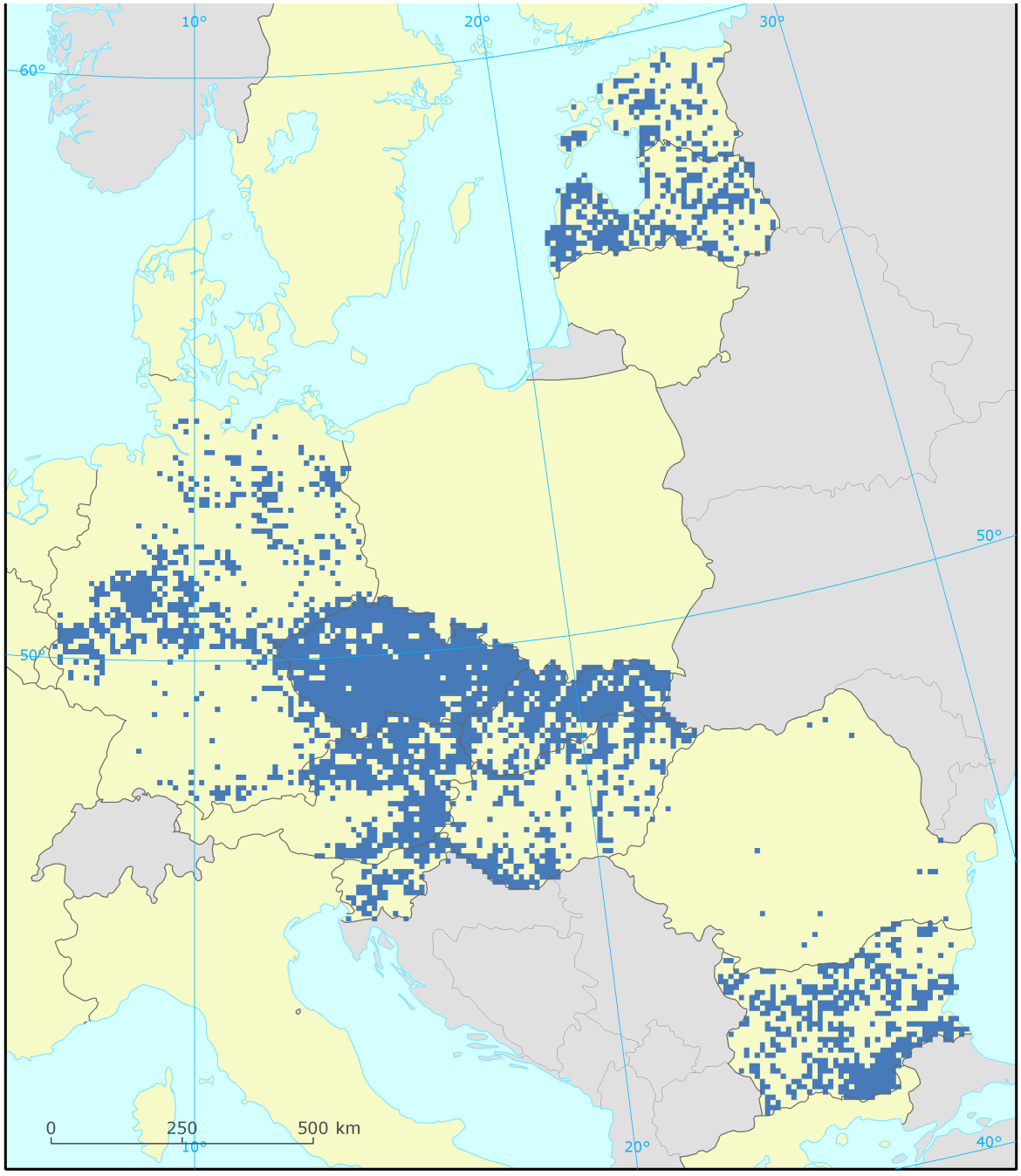
Assessment of status at the European level

Breeding population size	Breeding population trend		Range area	Breeding range trend		Winter population size	Winter population trend		Population status
	Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term	
5900 - 7800 p	+	+	957000						Secure

See the endnotes for more information[i]

The population status assessment at the EU level was carried out at the species level. The EU status assessment covers following subspecies/populations: *Ciconia nigra* [South-west Europe/West Africa], *Ciconia nigra* [Central & Eastern Europe/Sub-Saharan Africa] (each of them presented in a separate factsheet).

The EU trends were assessed at the species or subspecies level following BirdLife International's current taxonomy. The EU trends assessment covers more former subspecies or populations: *Ciconia nigra* [South-west Europe/West Africa], *Ciconia nigra* [Central & Eastern Europe/Sub-Saharan Africa] (each of them presented in a separate factsheet).



Ciconia nigra

Central & Eastern Europe/Sub-Saharan Africa

Species distribution

EU Member States

Outside data coverage

Trends at the Member State level

MS/Ter.	% in EU27	Breeding population size	Breeding population trend		Range area	Breeding range trend		Winter population size	Winter population trend	
			Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term		Short term	Long term
AT	9.9	270 - 350 p	0	+	62767	0	+			
BG	12.5	500 - 600 p	x	+	109600	+	+			
CZ	19.8	300 - 400 p	+	+	86093	+	+			
DE	15.7	650 - 750 p	+	+	112610	+	+			
EE	3.1	60 - 90 p	+	-	34600	-	-			
GR										
HU	7.5	380 - 420 p	+	+	27110	+	+			
LT	12.3	610 - 922 p	0	-	68900	0	0			
LV	7.8	180 - 240 p	-	-	63004	x	0			
PL		1400 - 1600 p	x	+		x	x			
RO	0.4	415 - 800 p	x	x	154500	x	x			
SI	2.2	40 - 60 p	0	+	9786	0	+			
SK	8.9	400 - 600 p	-	0	52295	0	+			

See the endnotes for more information[ii]

Ciconia nigra

Central & Eastern Europe/Sub-Saharan Africa sub-population

Short-term breeding population trend

Decreasing

Increasing

Stable or fluctuating

Unknown trend

Extinct

Present

EU Member States

Outside data coverage

<= 210

<= 400

<= 750

<= 1 500

No. of pairs

Short-term winter population trend was not reported for this species.

Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report the 20 most important pressures and threats using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the Article 12 Reference Portal (http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting/Article_12/reference_portal). Pressures are activities which are currently having an impact on the species and threats are activities expected to have an impact in the near future. The table below only contains information from Member States, where a species triggers SPA classification. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes 'high, medium and low importance', the table below only shows pressures and threats classed as 'high', for some species there were less than ten pressures and threats reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures and threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	26
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	26
C03	Production of renewable energy (abiotic)	13
B07	Other forestry activities	9
D02	Utility and service lines/pipelines	9
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	4
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	4
H01	Pollution to surface waters	4
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	4

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report the size of a species population occurring within the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of species population covered by the network was estimated by comparing the population size within the network and the total population size.

Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites

MS/territory	season	SPA trigger	% coverage
AT	breeding	YES	19.92
BG	breeding	YES	4.56
CZ	breeding	YES	24.15
DE	breeding	YES	28.97
EE	breeding	YES	22.11
HU	breeding	YES	67.91

MS/territory	season	SPA trigger	% coverage
LT	breeding	YES	6.53
LV	breeding	YES	41.52
PL	breeding	YES	42.33
RO	breeding	YES	21.26
SI	breeding	YES	61.58
SK	breeding	YES	50

See the endnotes for more information[iii]

Most frequently reported conservation measures

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species using an agreed list which can be found on the Article 12 Reference Portal. Member States were further requested to highlight up to five most important ('highly important') measures; the table below only shows measures classed as 'high', for many species there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	24
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	21
3.2	Adapt forest management	15
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	9
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	9
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	6
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	6
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	3
6.2	Establishing wilderness areas/ allowing succession	3
8.2	Specific management of traffic and energy transport systems	3

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 12 of the Birds Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2008-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at: http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article12/summary?period=1&subject=A030-B .

[i] **Assessment of status at the European level:** The EU assessments of birds population status was made by the European Red List of Birds Consortium (under contract with the European Commission)

The EU27 population trends were assessed using these categories: '+' Increasing, '0' Stable, 'F' Fluctuating, '-' Decreasing, 'xu' Uncertain and 'x' Unknown. The breeding population size is estimated in majority of the cases as 'p' number of pairs. Alternative population units used are: 'males' number of males, 'i' number of individuals, 'cmales' number of calling males and 'bfem' number of breeding females. The winter population size is estimated as number of individuals.

[ii] **Species trends at the Member State level:** The percentage of the EU27 species population occurring in the Member States (% in EU27) is calculated based on the population size reported by the Member States.

[iii] **Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites:** In some cases the population size within the Natura 2000 network has been estimated using a different methodology to the estimate of overall population size and this can lead to percentage covers greater than 100%. In such case the value has been given as 100% and highlighted with an asterisk (*). The value 'x' indicates that the Member State has not reported the species population and/or the coverage by Natura 2000. No information is available for Greece and for non-Annex I species in the Czech Republic.