

065 Establishing mechanisms for engagement with IUCN Members involved in armed conflict, wars and occupation

AWARE that IUCN was created in 1948 in response to the atrocities of war and as a path to peace, to bring the international community together with the shared goal to protect nature;

CONCERNED that armed conflict, war and occupation have significant impacts on the realisation of “A just world that values and conserves nature” and the ability of IUCN to “Influence, encourage and assist societies to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable”;

MINDFUL that armed conflict, war and occupation have direct and indirect impacts on our ecological systems, including both natural and human and social systems, leading to declines, if not outright extinction, of entire communities of life, human cultural and language diversity, and biological diversity;

UNDERSTANDING that the term “IUCN Members involved in armed conflict, war and occupation” includes Members and Commissions that have directly and indirectly initiated armed conflict, war and occupation, including but not limited to those which are: serving in an advisory capacity; providing political, financial and military support; or being impacted by armed conflict, war and occupation; and

NOTING that IUCN Members have consistently shown support in highlighting the connection between conservation and conflict in numerous Resolutions and Recommendations;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025, at its session in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Council to invite the World Commission on Environmental Law and other Commissions to develop a guidance policy, with clear engagement mechanisms, for cooperation and engagement with IUCN Members and Commissions involved in armed conflict, war and occupation, ensuring consideration, alignment or reconciliation with IUCN's vision and mission; and
2. ENCOURAGES all IUCN Members to consider these strategies and collaborate in returning IUCN to its origins: a pathway to peace, through global conservation.