

The major international angler's organizations have agreed to launch cooperation

On the initiative of CIPS, on 14 December last year held in Brussels historically the first working meeting of heads of international angler's organizations operating in Europe and associating the European recreational and sport angler's organizations. The meeting was attended by presidents and vice presidents, respectively secretaries-general or directors of CIPS, EAA, EAF, EFTTA and ICSF.

The participants of the meeting agreed that it is necessary to join forces in order to maintain and ensure future development of recreational and sport angling as one of the most popular leisure activities of the people of all social and age groups. It is estimated that more than 25 million people in Europe are anglers. It is a respectable number. Nevertheless, European angling is facing a number of problems. Among other things, has to resist the intensifying attacks by animal rights activists and environmentalists. Sport and recreational angling has to avert ever more complex and more serious problems. These are linked to the protection of endangered species of fish, overpopulation of some fish-eating predators, deterioration of the quality of some water resources and pollution of surface waters, the negative effects of small hydropower plants, illegal fishing and poaching as well as many other issues. Participants of the meeting in Brussels agreed that against these negative effects, it is necessary to defend themselves on the basis of mutual cooperation. They noted that it is necessary to increase significantly the lobbying work in the EU institutions, significantly improve the use of mass media to propagate positive messages about the importance and benefits of sport and recreational angling in a healthy lifestyle and education of children and youth for their active leisure. Brussels meeting certainly opened up new possibilities for cooperation between European angler's organizations. The beginning of this cooperation we can certainly welcome.



View of the meeting participants