Dear President of the European Commission Von der Leyen,

On behalf of the signatories of the attached letter, I’m bringing to your attention the reaction from civil society organisations regarding the communication from the Commission on 31st January 2024, here after: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_582

We have addressed these concerns on many occasions since the war in Ukraine started, after the Commission authorised the derogations to the Ecological Focused Areas in 2022 then GAEC 8 in 2023. Today, we reiterate again our arguments to not derogate from the basic environmental requirement as set out in the Regulation (EU) 2021/2115, especially without any environmental impact assessment carried out beforehand.

We thank you for your attention on this letter and we hope our arguments will be taken into consideration.

Kind regards,

[Signature]

[Logo]

BirdLife Europe and Central Asia
Stichting BirdLife Europe | BirdLife International
c/o Hive5, Cour Saint-Michel 30 B
B – 1040 Brussels | Belgium
VAT BE0823 675 597
Phone: 02 238 66 74
Email: info@birdlife.org
Web: www.birdlife.eu
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