



CATCA EU CAMPAIGN FOR THE SEALS 2007-2009

Dear friends, colleagues and supporters (VERY IMPORTANT),

Two months ago CATCA along with The **Atlantic Canadian Anti Sealing Coalition, Friends of Animals Croatia and the Scandinavian Anti Sealing Coalition**, CATCA launched an international campaign for EU countries to adopt the ban of all Canadian seal products.

But we still need you to write to the governments on the list ASAP.

Please copy and paste the e-mail addresses of all these European Union decision makers of the countries that still have not taken any steps towards adopting a national ban of all Canadian seal products (and even better from all the seal products), in their own countries. Please, exclude Hungary and Latvia, because they have now some laws forbidding the import of seal products in their countries.

The contact info is provided in the links below. Please, write them a brief and very polite letter. Paste the contacts of that country and send your letters ASAP.

If you prefer it, you can also write individual letters to these contacts by e-mail or by snail mail. Regular snail mails could cause a more positive impact than just impersonal e-mails.

Each country is very important. Do not leave any country out. Also include all the Parliamentarians when writing to Poland and the Nordic EU Member countries.

Remember, February/March 2008 are going to be crucial for the seals at the European Parliament, so we have to urge these decision makers in Europe NOW, if we want this seal hunt in Canada to end.

This is our big chance. Please, ACT NOW and send this email to everybody you know on your e-list.

IF YOU RECEIVE ANY ANSWER, PLEASE RE-SEND IT TO ME AT: ericka@catcahelpanimals.org

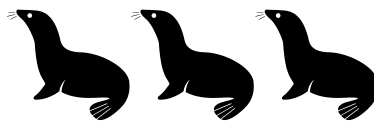
For the Seals: Ericka Ceballos



Check these links for more photos / Chequen estos enlaces para mas fotos:

<http://www.all-creatures.org/hope/antisealing-p-v-20080315.htm> Vancouver annual International anti seal hunt rally/demo / El rally-demo por el dia internacional contra la caza de focas en Vancouver, Canada

<http://www.canadianvoiceforanimals.org/SealHunt2008.html> Vancouver rally/demo, Zagreb and Dublin.
Rally-demo en Vancouver, en Zagreb, Croacia y Dublin Irlanda
<http://picasaweb.google.pl/voice4animals/SealDemoPL>,
<http://miasta.gazeta.pl/warszawa/51,86842,5025583.html?i=0>
<http://wptv.wp.pl/news.html?wid=9769511&rfbawp=1206016351.926&ticaid=1590e&ticsrn=3> Warsa
w, Poland pics + video/ Varsovia, Polonia fotos y video
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6KH15PSOKE> Dublin video of the demo. Video de Dublin.
http://www.intotheeyesofgod.org/how_to_help_stop_the_upcoming_sealing.php Vancouver demo
<http://www.index.hr/xmag/clanak/quotne-sminkerima-da-tuljanimaquot/378426.aspx>,
<http://www.javno.com/foto.php?id=2&rbr=5318&idrf=246158>,
<http://www.prijatelji-zivotinja.hr/index.en.php?id=910> Croatian demo, Croacian demo
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/24793697@N04/> Calgary demo
<http://www.mypointis.net/> New Jersey walk for the seals / Caminata por las focas organizado en New Jersey por Marcelo (de 12 anos !)



Canada set's quota of Harpseals to be killed in few days at 275,000 !

David Ljunggren, Reuters Monday, March 10, 2008

OTTAWA (Reuters) - Hunters will be allowed to kill 275,000 young harp seals on the ice floes off eastern Canada this year, the government said on Monday, a number that animal rights activists said was totally unsustainable.

The quota is slightly more than last year's 270,000, when ice conditions were poor, but considerably below the 335,000 set in 2006.

Phil Jenkins, a spokesman for the Fisheries and Oceans Department, dismissed suggestions that the harp seal herd was in danger of shrinking.

"The seal herd is healthy and abundant right now at about 5.5 million animals. We want to see it continue to be healthy and so over the years we have brought back the total allowable catch," he said. The animals are either shot or clubbed to death in a hunt that takes place in March and April each year. The furs are turned into clothes and there is a growing market for seal oil, which is rich in omega 3 fatty acids.

Activists complain the hunt is cruel and say they often catch sealers killing animals in an inhumane way. Ottawa says that from this year hunters will be obliged to take extra steps to ensure the seals die humanely.

Sheryl Fink of the International Fund for Animal Welfare said she was stunned at the quota, which she described as unsustainable. "There is absolutely no way this increase in quota can possibly be justified," she said in a statement. "It's a national embarrassment ... is killing baby seals really what Canadians want to be known for?"

The government's official plan calls for the herd to be kept at 4.1 million animals or above.

"We have a conservative approach to dealing with this herd ... 275,000 is at a level where we think we are not anywhere near in danger of bringing it down to 4.1 million," said Jenkins. The hunt is set to start in the second half of March.

Activists, who since 2005 have been urging U.S. restaurant chains to boycott Canadian seafood until the seal hunt is stopped, say they are optimistic the European Union will soon impose a ban on the import of all seal products from Canada.

"The seal hunt is an economic mainstay for numerous rural communities in Atlantic Canada, Quebec and the North. It's with these people in mind we make decisions based on science," said federal Fisheries Minister Loyola Hearn.

Activists say the minority Conservative government is in fact subsidizing the hunt in a bid to gain votes in Eastern Canada at the next federal election, which is set for October 2009.

"We believe this quota is reckless and it's far more about conserving votes than it is about conserving seals, said Rebecca Aldworth of the Humane Society of the United States.



New CATCA EU e-campaigns for the seals 2009

Please write very polite letters to these decision makers at the EU. Follow the instructions carefully because what you have to write varies for the different groups of countries and in order to make this campaign successfully, we need to pinpoint the remarks mentioned for each group. MY advice would be to send these e-mails individually, but you can send them also (*if in a hurry*), by groups. Just don't forget to send them as "Bc"/blind copy. But if you have the time, and can send them in January or this week, do it one by one. This would be the best.

As usual, IF YOU GET ANY REPLY or get a question, please re-send it to me ASAP at info@catcahelpanimals.org, to collect in our database and /or answer them.

Thank you very much. I know, this is going to take a couple of hours to do it, but it is worth it for our seals.

1) Please thank the Czech Government for their great support and for their hard work to get a national ban on seal products and wish them the best of good luck with the their EU presidency term.

Government of the Czech Republic

Minister of the Environment, Martin Bursik info@env.cz

Mirek Topolánek, Prime Minister (President of the EU Council) topolanek.mirek@vlada.cz

Radim Ochvat, Secretary ochvat.radim@vlada.cz

Karel Schwarzenberg At present he is Czech senator and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic info@mzv.cz

Minister of the Environment, Martin Bursik info@env.cz, posta@env.cz.

Deputy Premier for European Affairs :RNDr. Alexandr Vondra, posta@vlada.cz

Dr. Jan Kucera jan_kucera@env.cz

2) Please send a thank you to these *Central European UE Member Countries* for their general support and attempts of getting a total/partial ban for the seal products. Tell them that we believe, that if it would successfully pass, it would certainly help to reduce or stop the senseless and cruel, largest slaughter of marine mammals in the world.

We are trying for Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary to strongly support the Czech Republic in passing the TOTAL BAN. This support is really needed, especially now when Canada and other hunting countries are increasing the pressure in Europe, hoping that the Czech Presidency will be not strong enough to pass this ban efficiently.

We will once more underline that this ban is not against the aboriginal hunting. In spite of information spread by Canada, the annual killing of about 300.000 seals is almost exclusively for fur, purely commercial and for political issues.

Minister of Environment Maciej Nowicki e-mail: info@mos.gov.pl

Minister of Foreign Affairs Radoslaw Sikorski e-mail: dsi@msz.gov.pl

Minister of the Environment Slovakia Jaroslav Izak urad@government.gov.sk, info@enviro.gov.sk

dr. Dimitrij Rupel Minister of Foreign Affairs Slovenia info.mzz@gov.si

Janez Lenarčič State Secretary for European Affairs Slovenia gp.svez@gov.si

Janez Podobnik, dr.med. Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning Slovenia gp.mop@gov.si

Minister for Environment and Water Hungary, Gabor Fodor miniszter@mail.kvvm.hu, szerkesztoseg@mail.kvvm.hu

- 3) To these *Eastern European EU member countries* (as new EU countries), please kindly ask them to support the Total Ban on the trade of seal products at the EU and especially to support in solidarity (*as new EU Country members*), to the Czech Republic in passing this ban. This support is really need it, especially now when Canada and other hunting countries are increasing the big pressure, that now falls on the shoulders of the Czechs, so they need all the support from their governments.

Ministry of Environment and Water Bulgaria Vania Ivanova press@moew.gove

Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development Romania, Attila Korodi relatii.cupublicul@mmediu.ro,

- 4) To these three countries, just tell them that you hope they would support the Total Ban on the trade of seal products at the European Parliament and Council upcoming decision, especially for them also as new EU member countries to *support in solidarity* the Czech Republic in passing the ban. This support is really needed, especially now when Canada and other hunting countries are increasing big pressure, hoping that the Czech Presidency will be not strong enough to pass this ban efficiently

Ministry for Rural Affairs and the Environment Malta George Pullicino info.mrae@gov.mt

Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, Republic of Cyprus, Mr Fotis Fotiou registry@moa.gov.cy, Minister of Foreign Affairs Greece, Ms Dora Bakoyannis e-mail: dorabakoyiannis@mfa.gr, cio@mfa.gr, Minister of the Environment, physical planning, and public works Greece, Minister: SOUFLIAS Georgios (Deputy Minister: KALOGIANNIS Stavros, Deputy Minister: XANTHOPOULOS Themistoklis) service@dorg.minenv.gr

- 5) To these other Ministers, just please ask them kindly to consider to support of the Total Ban on the trade of seal products at the EU at the upcoming decision at the European Parliament and Council.

Minister of the Environment Estonia, Jaanus Tamkivi min@envir.ee

Minister of the Environment Latvia, Raimonds Vejonis birojs@zp.lv
 Minister of the Environment Lithuania Arunas Kundrotas a.kundrotas@am.lt
 Minister of the Environment Spain, Cristina Narbona Ruiz , informacionmma@mma.es
 Minister of fisheries and Agriculture Spain, Elena Espinosa Mangana informac@mapa.es
 Minister for Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development Portugal, Francisco Nunes Corria gmaotdr@maotdr.gov.pt
 Ireland John Gormley minister@environ.ie (Environment)
 Minister Micheal Martin minister@dfa.ie (Foreign Affairs)
 Mary Coughland tanaiste@entemp.ie (Trade)
 Minister Brendan Smith info@agriculture.gov.ie (Agriculture)
 Affari Esteri (Foreign Affairs) Italy, Ministro Franco Frattini cdr@esteri.it, webmaster@esteri.it
relazioni.pubblico@esteri.it,
 French Ministère de l'Écologie, de l'Énergie du Développement durable
 et de l'Aménagement du territoire, Jean-Louis BORLOO <http://contacts.application.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/contact/contacts.jsp>
 Bernard KOUCHNER Minister of Foreign and European Affairs France,
<https://pastel.diplomatie.gouv.fr/bacou/default.asp?lang=gb>, Michel BARNIER Minister for Agriculture
 and Fisheries France, <http://agriculture.gouv.fr/sections/outils/contactubblico@esteri.it>
 Minister of State: Bill Rammell bill.rammell@fco.gov.uk
 MPf State (Europe): The Rt Hon Caroline Flint MP caroline.flint@fco.gov.uk
 Minister of Environment of Luxemburg, Lucien Lux ministere-environnement@mev.etat.lu ,
<http://www.gouvernement.lu/functions/contact/index.php> or info@sip.etat.lu
 Minister of Foreign Affairs Luxemburg, Jean Asselborn boite.officielle@mae.etat.lu
 Minister of Foreign Affairs Belgium, Minister Karel De Gucht
<http://www.diplomatie.be/en/contact/Default.asp>, <http://diplomatie.fgov.be/en/contact>

Contact at the Directorate-General for Environment, Federal Public Service for Public Health, Food-Chain Safety and Environment International Affairs Service Belgium, environment@health.fgov.be

6) To these Swedish, Finnish and Danish Ministers, please in a very politely way ask them to *re-consider* their position regarding the ban on the trade of seal products at the European Parliament and Council and consider supporting the Total Ban on the trade of seal products at the EU.

It is worth it to remember them that Canada has been sending delegations to the EU and on purpose they have been trying to mislead the decision makers of the EU governments regarding the Canadian seal hunt, trying to confuse the aboriginal hunt with the commercial seal hunt, claiming that the sealers “depend” on this income and that the seal hunt is done in a humane way and with promises that they will monitor it to make it not cruel (it is just impossible to do so).

FYI, to the Swedish and Finnish only, you can mention that this ban would NOT affect their countries at all. Their small control/incidental seal hunt has no relation with cruelly slaughtering baby seals from 12 days to 3 months old for their fur and skinning alive about a 42% of them, just for a little bit of profit and for political reasons.

Minister of Agriculture Eskil Erlandsson Email: use this form:

<http://www.sweden.gov.se/pub/road/Classic/article/117/jsp/Render.jsp?a=70261&m=popup&l=en>

Minister for EU Affairs - Cecilia Malmström Email: use this form:

<http://www.sweden.gov.se/pub/road/Classic/article/117/jsp/Render.jsp?a=70249&m=popup&l=en>

Minister for Foreign Affairs Email: use this form:

<http://www.sweden.gov.se/pub/road/Classic/article/117/jsp/Render.jsp?a=70298&m=popup&l=en>

Minister for the Environment Andreas Carlgren, Email: use this form:

<http://www.sweden.gov.se/pub/road/Classic/article/117/jsp/Render.jsp?a=70269&m=popup&l=en>

Ministry for Foreign Affairs Finland, kirjaamo.um@formin.fi
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Finland, kirjaamo.mmm@mmm.fi
Ministry of the Environment Finland, kirjaamo.ym@ymparisto.fi
Minister for the Environment Minister Troels Lund Poulsen, Denmark
<http://www.denmark.dk/CMS.Web/Misc/TipAFriend.aspx?postingguid={76625EBA-881C-422E-9E64-95C07F68A518}&language=en> or frontlinien@frontlinien.dk
Eva Kjer Hansen, Minister for Food, Agriculture & Fisheries Denmark fvm@fvm.dk
Per Stig Møller, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Denmark um@um.dk

Pls, write to these MEP's urging them to support the Total Ban on the trade of seal products at the EU

Jens Holm jens.holm@europarl.europa.eu
Mrs Drcar Murko mojca.drcarmurko@europarl.europa.eu
Glenys Willmott glenis.willmott@europarl.europa.eu

(I didn't get the entire list due that the European Parliament has been closed for the holidays up to the 5th of January, so please check this webpage for the last two MEP's names and e-mails).

Thank you!

Ericka Ceballos
Coordinator of the International Campaign for a Total Ban on
The Trade of Canadian Seal Products at the European Union

EN ESPAÑOL:

Canada anuncia que matara 275,000 focas Arpa en unos días

El Departamento de Pescaderías y Océanos, anuncio en Marzo 10 que la nueva cuota de focas Arpa va a ser de 275,000 (5,000 mas que el año pasado!). Todavía no se anuncia la cuota de focas grises y encapuchadas.

Debido a presión de la Unión Europea, ahora van a tener tres pasos para matar las focas.

1) golpear 2) checar que no tenga reflejos la foca 3) desangrar a las focas bebés cortando debajo de las aletas. Según esto este último paso va a hacer la caza "más humana" según ellos.

El paso # 2, supuestamente se ha debido de usar pero los cazadores no se molestan en hacerlo, arrancándole a menudo la piel a casi la mitad de las focas.

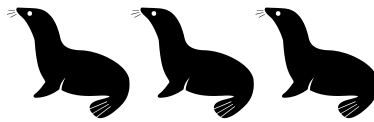
El gobierno federal de Canada, apoya y mantiene esta brutal caza de focas bebés cada año por los votos que consigue de las pescaderías en las provincias del Atlántico (Este de Canada).

**Please check these links about the seal hunt in February in Hay Island in Nova Scotia! /
Chequen estos enlaces a la caza de focas en Nova Scotia Canada (y la temporada no ha empezado!)**

http://www.antisealingcoalition.ca/GreySeals/slaughter_hayisland2008.php
http://video.hsus.org/index.jsp?fr_story=ca76815dc5e8f1e8ce9ab4484d9da9ae4ca88410

Interesting news links / Interesantes enlaces de las noticias:

http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/media/statem/2008/20080315_e.htm
<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/environment/article3542189.ece>
<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/newfoundland-labrador/story/2008/03/10/seal-quota.html>



Queridos amigos y colegas (MUY IMPORTANTE),

Hace dos meses, CATCA en colaboración con Friends of Animals, Croacia, la Coalición Escandinava Anti Caza de Focas y la Coalición del Atlántico Canadiense Anti Caza de Focas, lanzamos una campana de correos internacionales a la Unión Europea. Todavía necesitamos que nos ayudes escribiendo a los gobiernos que están a la lista, **pero excluye a Latvia y Hungría**, que ellos ya han pasado unas leyes prohibiendo productos de focas arpa, grises y encapuchadas.

Por favor copien y peguen estas direcciones de correos electrónicos de estos parlamentarios y Ministros y demás gente toma decisiones de los países de la Unión Europea, que no han dado el paso para pasar la prohibición de todos los productos de focas Canadienses.

Esta prohibición nacional de estos productos (que mejor todavía seria de todos los productos de focas, no solo de Canada), es muy importante. Por favor escribe una carta breve y cortes a estos políticos urgiéndoles que consideren esta prohibición en sus países **YA!** Si lo prefieres, también puedes enviarles correo normal (más efectivo).pero no excluyas a ningún país que todos son importantes.

Marzo-Abril 2008 es crucial para ver si se para la prohibición en el Parlamento Europeo, así que los mas países, la mayor oportunidad para las focas! Pero ayúdenos a acabar de una vez por todas con esta matanza!

SI RECIBES RESPUESTA ,FAVOR RE-ENVIARLA A: ericka@catcahelpanimals.org

Por las Focas: **Ericka**

En estos "enlaces" están los contactos.

<http://catcahelpanimals.org/listsealban2008.html>, <http://catcahelpanimals.org/sealban2.html>,
<http://catcahelpanimals.org/lban3.html>, <http://catcahelpanimals.org/sbeu4.html>,
<http://catcahelpanimals.org/sbleu5.html>, <http://catcahelpanimals.org/EUSB6.html>,
<http://catcahelpanimals.org/EUSBL7.html>, <http://catcahelpanimals.org/EUSbl8.html>



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