



## **For a peaceful, ecological, and united Europe**

The European Green Belt is an extraordinary ecological network that has developed along the so-called Iron Curtain during the Cold War. Today it constitutes a living memorial landscape and connects habitats, nature and people along its 12.500 km long course across Europe, spanning between the Barents Sea in the North and the Mediterranean and the Black Sea in the South.

Through commitment and dedication, it is a vital symbol for the peaceful overcoming of a four-decade-long division of Europe. People from over 150 organisations from all countries along the European Green Belt are devoted to this task. In a unique way the European Green Belt thus stands for cooperation, building bridges to overcome borders and for peace, freedom, humanity and democracy. The European Green Belt is an expression of and a plea for a thriving, diverse civil society cooperating across and beyond borders.

We - members of the Board of the European Green Belt Association e.V. - are deeply concerned and saddened by the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, which grossly violates international law and the UN Charter, and undermines international security and stability. Our sympathy and solidarity go out to all people who suffer as a result from this terrible military aggression against Ukraine and totalitarian suppression. We call for an end to this suffering and stand united in love for humanity, for nature, and for our shared natural and cultural heritage.

We are also concerned that the current violence will lead to a long-lasting setback for a vision of a peaceful, ecological, and united Europe.

EuroNatur, chair of the Board

Rete Italiana EGB, vice chair of the Board

Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation (BBF)

BUND, Friends of the Earth (FoE) Germany

BUND Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (state branch of FoE Germany)

Federal Agency for Nature Conservation Germany (BfN)

Green Federation "GAJA" (Poland)

Ministry of Environment Finland

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