



ASSOCIAÇÃO PORTUGUESA DE FALCOARIA – THE PORTUGUESE ASSOCIATION FOR FALCONRY  
MEMBER: “THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION for FALCONRY and CONSERVATION OF BIRDS of PREY”

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Dear Sir,

My name is Antonio Carapuço and I'm the president of the Portuguese Association for Falconry organization which represents approximately 100 falconers in Portugal. I realize that Estonian Parliament is considering including the sport of Falconry as a permitted hunting method in the scope of the new hunting legislation currently before the Parliament of Estonia.

We would like to support this request and to inform you of the following facts about our sport:

- Falconry is a completely sustainable hunting method that encourage and embodies conservation of natural environment and biodiversity. **It's a fully permitted hunting method by European Union Birds Directive.** The falconry techniques has also very important uses to protect man activities like the control of pest birds damage on crops and bird hazards at airports;
- Falconry is a legal hunting method in most European Union Countries. It's permitted in all North American nations, and many South American nations. It's also practiced in a world wide range in the Middle East, Asia and Africa;
- In 2010 UNESCO recognized Falconry as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. This recognition by this convention calls on governments to support and promote the practice of Falconry. This was the largest submission ever presented to UNESCE, initially by 11 countries to which 2 more were included in 2012;
- Falconry is currently experiencing an incising in popularity all around the world. This sport is a shared heritage of many nations and Estonia is one of them. A greater number of people are realizing that this is a respectable hunting method that encourages conservation and the strengths the bond between man and nature.

I would like to show my appreciation for your time on this matter. The Portuguese Falconers community trusts you will be able to support this request to permit the practice of Falconry in Estonia.

Yours sincerely,

President