

UNISMUNC XIII



Committee: United Nations
Environmental Programme

Topic: Poaching of Endangered
Animals in Asia

Committee Type:
General Assembly

December 7, 2026



Image ©Steve Winter/National Geographic, via the Harvard Review of Latin America.

Chair: Anna Wagener

Dias: Sachie Windsor

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Conference Schedule:

<i>Opening Ceremonies</i>	<i>8:00 am - 9:15 am</i>
<i>Committee Session I</i>	<i>9:15 am - 1:00 pm</i>
<i>Lunch Break*</i>	<i>1:00 pm - 2:00 pm</i>
<i>Committee Session II</i>	<i>2:00 pm - 5:30 pm</i>
<i>Closing Ceremonies</i>	<i>5:30 pm - 6:15 pm</i>

All times are in EST.

**Lunch may be staggered*

Conference Policies:

UNISMUNC XII aims to foster debate, bringing students the opportunity to explore a range of topics and encouraging collaboration and teamwork between delegates. Be that as it may, UNIS stresses the importance of respectful language, as UNISMUNC XII will see delegates debating topics that, at times, may be heated or passionate. MUNEX encourages you to remember to stay respectful and mindful of the other students around you. We are so excited about this conference and trust that no issues will arise. The following expectations and policies are designed so that every delegate gets the most out of UNISMUNC.

Attire:

The Dress Code for UNISMUNC is formal Western business attire, and all delegates are expected to comply with this. Exceptions can be made for character purposes in crisis committees at the discretion of the chair. If you have an idea for an outfit for a crisis committee that does not fall into the parameters of traditional Western business attire, please ask your chair for permission before wearing the outfit.

Committee Assignments:

Committee assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis based on preference as communicated by the delegation's advisors (or individual delegates in the case of independent delegates), in order of receipt of preference. Before being assigned to a committee, payment must be received. If payment is not submitted in a timely manner, delegations face the risk of not receiving committee assignments of their choice.

Expectations in Committee:

As you engage in debates, we ask that delegates maintain politeness and respect at all times. While we recognize that you are representing your country's views, it is essential to express these perspectives without crossing the line into disrespectful or confrontational behavior.

Please respect one another when delegates are giving speeches. Only one delegate may speak at a time during moderated caucuses. To speak during a moderated caucus, you must raise your placard and wait to be recognized by the chair. During speeches, no ad hominem attacks will be allowed, should they occur, the subject will have the right to reply. Remember to be cognizant of your words and actions, and to listen to everyone's views and positions.

The Committee Chairs and Secretariat members are responsible for determining disruptive behavior.

Examples of disrespectful behavior may include but are not limited to:

- Speaking without being recognized,
- Use of cell phones,
- Note-passing unrelated to the committee,
- Use of technology when not allowed,
- Verbal, physical, or sexual harassment of other delegates.

The pre-writing of any resolution/directive clauses, crisis notes, or speeches is strictly forbidden and will be penalized. This does not include opening remarks. This does not include any writing during the lunch break, as UNISMUNC committees standardly operate with 'working lunches'.

UNISMUNC has a zero-tolerance policy for any plagiarism. This includes position papers, speeches, and resolutions. Improper citation of quotes and references may result in disqualification from awards or further disciplinary action at the discretion of the chairs.

Pricing:

Please see the registration section for more information. Details on committee assignments are below.

Spectators:

Please be aware that UNISMUNC XII does not allow unregistered spectators. Student spectators are strictly prohibited. All advisors and delegates must be registered and pay the required fee(s). Non-compliance with this policy will result in exclusion from future invitations. We expect all

participating delegations to respect this policy. The Secretariat reserves the right to have any unregistered spectators removed from committee chambers and escorted off of the premises if necessary, as they see fit.

Technology:

All crisis committees are strictly no-tech. Neither laptops nor cell phones will be permitted during committee sessions in crisis committees.

General Assembly (GA) committees allow technology exclusively for the purpose of resolution writing. Delegates will be permitted to use their laptops to work on resolutions during unmoderated caucuses and outside of the committee chamber when allowed by the chair. It is, however, not permitted to use technology when a fellow delegate is speaking or during committee chambers during moderated caucuses. This includes your own speeches, so please write any notes by hand or have your opening remarks printed before the conference.

Awards Criteria:

UNISMUNC Chairs, Dises, and, in the case of crisis committees, Crisis Directors will work together to holistically evaluate delegates based on their performance throughout the entire day of debate. This includes:

- speeches given during moderated caucuses,
- performance during unmoderated caucuses (not only making one's voice heard but also including everyone in the discussion),
- writing/presenting resolutions/directions, especially those that pass,
- in crisis committees, as well as the detail and sophistication of crisis arcs.

Statement on Sustainability:

At UNIS Model UN, we greatly value the spirit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and hope to illuminate their ideas through debate. Developed in 2012 at a United Nations Sustainable Development conference in Rio de Janeiro, the SDGs are a set of 17 different goals that are targeted to create a better life for all by 2030. Ranging from socioeconomic goals to environmental goals, the SDGs provide a balanced agenda for fostering peace universally. As the problem investigated in this conference will be crucial to solve for bettering the lives of many, we strongly encourage you to take the SDGs into account when thinking about possible solutions you will discuss in debate.

As we look into the depths of animal poaching globally and in Asia, it becomes evident that poaching is a crucial problem, creating focus on SDG numbers 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), 13 (Climate Action), 14 (Life Below Water), 15 (Life Above Land), and 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions). As we will investigate throughout the background guide, animal poaching can result from job scarcity and financial needs related to SDGs 8 and 12. It affects species and ecosystems worldwide, creating an association with SDGs 13, 14, and 15, where the need for improved laws regarding poaching relates to SDG 16. Throughout the background guide, we hope you can relate animal poaching to the SDGs and potentially connect unmentioned development goals from the 17.

Letter from the Chair:

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the UNISMUNC XIII United Nations Environmental Programme. I am honored to serve as your chair and to lead this committee in exploring one of the most debated and ethically complex issues facing the global community today: Poaching of Endangered Animals in Asia.

Model UN is, as we all know, a simulation of the real United Nations, a crucial aspect of UNIS, as we are a branch of the United Nations, a catalyst for justice, resolving international issues through international relations and diplomacy. As delegates, your role is to represent your assigned/chosen country's policies and perspectives, even if they differ from your moral/personal beliefs. You will need to balance ethical and legal arguments, weigh human rights concerns, and build consensus across diverse blocs. Our discussions may be complex or even uncomfortable at times, but I am confident that each of you will approach this with maturity, respect, and curiosity. At UNIS, we take pride in the people of various cultures and backgrounds who call UNIS their school, providing students with a diverse daily experience. As we welcome you to UNIS in the upcoming days, we hope we can provide a sense of our cultural diversity, providing you with an enriching international experience that emulates an authentic parallel to the United Nations.

A little about your chair: my name is Anna Wagener. I am a 17-year-old, current senior at UNIS, who is of German and Jewish American descent, although I am a born-and-bred New Yorker. I've been attending UNIS since 6th grade, but I began participating in Model UN in freshman year, and this will be my second time chairing a committee at UNISMUNC; I'm very excited! Growing up in a city like New York, surrounded by diversity and strong differing opinions, has shaped me into who I am: a curious, passionate, and outspoken person. I always aim to create a safe space where every delegate feels empowered to speak with confidence and engage in debate with both empathy and clarity.

I know MUN can feel intimidating at times, especially with such a complex topic like this. But let's remember we're here to learn, to grow, and to represent the voices/opinions of countries around the world. You don't have to have all the answers, but what matters is you come with an open mind, prepared to engage in meaningful dialogue and work together towards creative and realistic solutions.

As for my dias, a fellow Model UN member and one of my best friends, Sachie Windsor, will be diasing for me during this year's conference. She, like me, is in her senior year, is 18 years old, and is of Caribbean, Japanese, Jewish descent, but is also a born-and-bred New Yorker. Sachie has been attending UNIS since 5th grade, although sophomore year was Sachie's first time being exposed to Model UN, both at an NYU conference with me, as well as when she was dias for my committee last year! Since then, she has developed an appreciation for discussing important global issues. She will be helping me to run this committee and reading all of the position papers(and checking for AI; please don't have ChatGPT write the whole thing)!

As this conference also provides us all with an opportunity to engage with the cultures, perspectives, and issues of various countries, we urge you as delegates of the world to truly envision yourselves as diplomats, and I am positive that we will all cherish a culturally enriching conference. So I urge you: think of yourself not as just any student, but as an international delegate.

Please submit your position papers by _____ 2025. We cannot wait to meet you in December and see the incredible ideas and perspectives you will bring to the table

Best Regards

Anna Wagener

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A Brief Overview of Committee:

Established on June 5th, 1972 in Nairobi, Kenya, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) is one of the leaders in environmental issues, where its mission focuses on sustainable development, preserving natural resources, and protecting the Earth. It works with all 193 member states and its 18 international offices, promoting its mission through discovering solutions, producing science, and campaigns. In the midst of trying to reinforce the Earth's natural environment, UNEP was created after a UN General Assembly resolution, in order to, "monitor the state of the environment and coordinate responses to the world's greatest environmental challenges." UNEP has long been a catalyst for opposing human-related disruptions in nature, crafting six divisions combatting various environmental problems. These six areas of concentration include Climate Change, Post-Conflict and Disaster Management, Ecosystem Management, Environmental Governance, Harmful Substances, and Resource Efficiency/Sustainable Consumption and Production. While each division focuses on ulterior motives, the objective of each division stands parallel to the goals of UNEP, advocating to, "encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations."

In terms of the underlying problem we will investigate throughout this conference, the Ecosystem Management area of UNEP focuses most on advocating against animal cruelty and the preservation of endangered animals. UNEP advocates for an end to illegal wildlife trade globally. It works to improve the enactment of national legislation and helps countries partner up to address transboundary issues of trafficked products at ports of entry. In addition, UNEP is

centered on hindering the poaching of endangered animals in general, attempting to protect against the extinction of species.

Committee Procedure:

Moderated Caucuses are structured discussions where delegates sign themselves up to give short, regulated speeches. The speaking time and topic of discussion are set when the motion is proposed, and delegates take turns to speak.

Unmoderated Caucuses are divided between a regular unmoderated caucus and a gentleman's unmoderated caucus where everybody remains seated. A regular unmod entails a period free of structured, regulated debate, where delegates can mill about the committee and work with their blocs.

Some actions that are carried over from the usual committee procedure:

- Point of Order
- Point of Information
- Appeal to the Chair
- Suspension of Debate
- Adjournment of Debate
- Closure of Debate
- Roll Call Vote
- Set the Speaker's Time

Written Papers:

Resolutions: A piece of writing that outlines possible solutions to a problem and allows the committee to take action. Hopefully towards the end of the committee blocs will work together to write a resolution that can be debated and possibly passed.

Working Papers: The drafts of resolutions, i.e. resolutions before they are voted on by the committee – committee blocs work together to write these, brainstorming and fully outlining detailed solutions to the issues at hand. Then, they are voted on and formally become resolutions.

Topic Background:

Introduction

Since the beginning of time, animals have either gone extinct or evolved. *This* is an inevitable process of life. However, the recent ways in which many animals have been driven to extinction are far from natural. In other words, the United States Geological Survey states that “extinctions occur naturally, [but] the current rate of plant and animal extinctions is much higher than the natural or historical rates.” While many reasons such as habitat loss or climate change are driving animals to the brink of extinction, poaching of animals has certainly been a benefactor in further pushing the lines of eradication.

According to National Geographic, an endangered species is defined as, “a type of organism that is threatened by extinction,” and is officially classified as endangered, “when its population has declined between 50 and 70 percent.” As a result, species such as rhinos, elephants, sharks, lemurs, polar bears, and more are on the verge of extinction. One historical example of human-driven extinction includes the Dodo or Woolly Mammoth species that went extinct due to overhunting in 1681 CE and approximately 5500 BCE respectively. While in today’s world, the killings of such species would presumably be prohibited, the concept of extinction was thought false until 1796, creating a lack of understanding to illegalize the killings of animals; dissuading them from protection. Yet, even without knowing that species could go extinct, the human race has proved capable of driving the Dodo, Woolly Mammoth, and 868

more species (if not more) into extinction. Where more than one million known species are close to extinction because of humans, it becomes evermore crucial to protect these species from one of the catalysts of animal endangerment: animal poaching, “the illegal trafficking and killing of wildlife.”

Significance of Species for Ecosystems and Biodiversity

A species that has been a long victim of animal poaching is the Elephant. Falling from a population of 12 million to 400,000 in a century, meeting a population decline of 62% between 2002-2011, and losing a minimum of 20,000 elephants per year to poaching, the modern elephant population is in peril. While losing elephants might mean losing a familiar charismatic megafauna, (a term highlighting species with aesthetic qualities and strong public appeal), survival for all living animals within an ecosystem can be jeopardized if elephants are lost.

National Geographic defines an ecosystem as, “a geographic area where plants, animals, and other organisms...work together to form a bubble of life.” As Pilanesberg National Park analogizes, an ecosystem is comparable to architecture. Where each species is a fundamental part of a building’s structure, including the pillars, foundation, or floors, the weakening or eradication of any part can lead to a frail building. So when a species becomes endangered, the entire structure of the ecosystem has the potential to collapse.

Closely related, biodiversity is defined as, “the variety of life on Earth at all its levels, from genes to ecosystems, [that] can encompass the evolutionary, ecological, and cultural processes that sustain life.” And, as biodiversity is harmed by the extinction of species, many plights can affect humans and the environment. Some examples that follow with the loss of biodiversity and a fracture in an ecosystem can be: fortifications of climate change, increased food scarcity, chances of surplus diseases, less natural water purifications, losses of potential

medicines, lack of pollination (thus leading to less growth of vegetation), and additional species extinction risks. Moreover, the loss of biodiversity can affect communities that rely on ecosystems for religious, spiritual, or survival needs. While other factors such as climate change have been driving animals to endangerment; with poaching's effect on biodiversity and ecosystemic loss, it becomes evermore crucial to address this persistent problem. However, in order to attack the problem, it is essential to first discuss why animal poaching occurs.

Motives for Animal Poaching

There are instances where endangered animals have been killed for reasons such as self-defense. However, compared to the total number of annually poached endangered animals, self-defense accounts for a small fraction.

The most common rationale for animal poaching is financial benefit. Today, poaching continues to be a persistent issue and factor that annually fuels 10 billion dollars for the Black Market's revenue. Though illegal to hunt in the U.S., one of the most commonly trafficked animals are pangolins. Often favored to consume as a delicacy, cure ailments with their tails, or utilize its skin fashionably, the pangolin is an example of an endangered animal being exploited for resources and finances. According to CNN, a pangolin can be sold for anywhere between \$250-\$350 per kilogram, creating the potential for financial success in poaching such endangered animals. Another recurring example of poaching for financial benefit includes the tusks of elephants or the horns of rhinos that are frequently trafficked. At least 1,000 rhinos of the 27,000 remaining rhinos are poached per year, where as the aforementioned, 20,000 elephants are illegally killed annually.

While it is crucial to understand the impact of poachers, it is also important to understand their perspectives and given situations. Though motives of greed can drive animal poaching, poachers who may live in states such as poverty could seek poaching as a source of income despite illegality. In addition to trafficking wildlife such as pangolins, the trophies and statues of dead animals obtained through "Trophy Hunting" or "Recreational Poaching" can include the

hunting of both illegal and legal hunting, potentially harming ecosystems. With consumption desires such as housing decorations fueling the demands for animal corpses, trophy hunting can provide salaries that certain poachers depend on. If better opportunities for occupations surfaced, perhaps such poachers would alter their professions.

In contrast, certain poachers solely hunt animals for recreation and boasting. While the action of hunting may amuse some; trophies can be used as “bragging rights,” providing recreational benefits in such situations. However, recreational and financially-driven trophy hunting has created at least 100,000 animal deaths per year. Regardless of a poacher’s motive for committing such acts, understanding why poaching occurs, can better reinforce the knowledge necessary to hinder poaching from the poachers themselves. But to further understand the global wildlife trading system, understanding specific regional cases can be necessary.

Asian Case Studies

One of the continental hotspots for illegal wildlife trading has long been Asia. Within this section, cases in which poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking have been persistently present in the continent of Asia will be discussed.

Pangolin Trafficking

The trafficking of Pangolins from African to Asian countries has become a threat to the Pangolin population within the past few decades. Pangolins have been extremely popular in Asia for a while. As previously mentioned, they are both hunted for cuisine and used for medicinal purposes. With this in mind, their worth has significantly increased and the demand for them as well. However, after having been targeted by Asian hunters, two of the four Asian pangolin species have been marked “endangered” with the other two “critically” so. As a result, traffickers are resorting to targeting the only four other types of Pangolin species. Those exist in Africa. Even though international Pangolin trade has been deemed illegal by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Nigeria has grown

significantly as a hub for international Pangolin trade. According to Mongabay, “Chinese buyers will pay anywhere between \$3 and \$20 for a singular pangolin — a relative fortune for local [Nigerian] bushmeat traders. Traffickers can then get as much as \$250 for the scales from one pangolin in markets in Asia.” It should be noted that this difference in financial worth has to do with Nigeria’s “high levels of corruption and poor law enforcement.”

As a result of Asia’s high demand for Pangolins and its connection to Africa, the four species of African Pangolins are at “risk” of becoming endangered species. Hunters say that they are becoming more and more difficult to find in the wild. “In less than a year, more than 25 tonnes of pangolin scales and 2.5 tonnes of ivory have been seized by customs officials in Japan, Vietnam, Hong Kong, and Singapore in shipments originating from Lagos, Nigeria’s biggest commercial city. “A further 13 tonnes of pangolin scales have been seized inside Nigeria,” says Mongabay. It is clear that while more interceptions are being made – “120 tonnes of pangolin parts and scales were seized by authorities worldwide between 2010 and 2015” – new smuggling routes are emerging across 67 countries – if not more. African Pangolin endangerment is not the only issue arising from Asia’s high demand for this animal. The role that Nigeria is playing is also influencing poaching across different parts of Africa. Seizures of trade and sale are occurring locally and internationally, hoping to fight this problem.

Rhino Trafficking

Rhino poaching has been and still is an issue worldwide, but especially in Asian countries. The reason for this has to do with rhino horns. In some Asian beliefs, rhino horns display a status of wealth. However, another common use for the horns; “according to traditional Chinese texts, such as Li Shih-chen’s 1597 medical text “Pen Ts’ ao Kang Mu,” state that rhino horns have been used in Chinese medicine for more than 2,000 years.” Traditionally, it is believed that with the use of the rhino horn, various illnesses, disorders, injuries, and spiritual possessions can be treated, causing a high demand for rhino poaching. Similarly in Vietnam, there are supposed “emotional benefit[s]” associated with rhino horns. Specialists argue, contrary to what is believed, that rhino horns are not effective in treatments.

Yet, whether or not the use of rhino horns in Chinese medicine is viable does not change the fact that the rhino population worldwide is declining. Today, South Africa is the country most prevalent in rhino hunting. Since it is the most rhino-dense nation in the world, hunting is easily conducted in South Africa and is often trafficked worldwide to regions such as Asia. International criminal gangs are often sent by poachers to hunt rhinos in South Africa. The rhinos commonly face painful, slow, and inhumane deaths. In Africa, since 2008, 11,690 rhinos have been poached according to Save the Rhino. It is a necessity to recognize that this is a problem and that almost all rhino species are in danger. CITES banned trading rhinos internationally, but unfortunately, it still occurs.

India's Tigers

India is home to half of the global wild tiger population. Unfortunately, because of this, it is also very prone to tiger poaching and trafficking. Countries worldwide often rely on India to supply them with tiger bones - a commonly traded and trafficked product. Between the years 2000 and 2022, 3,330 tigers that were being illegally trafficked worldwide, were confiscated. 893 of these were found in India. Tiger poaching is the biggest threat to the survival of this species, and even though tigers are consistently being found, the rates are still concerningly high. The biggest reason for tiger poaching is common to the reasons for poaching other animals. Tiger parts, such as bones, tails, claws, teeth, and whiskers are often used in Chinese Medicine. However, similar to the case of the rhino horns, there is no evidence that tiger resources can play a valuable role in medicine.

Not only do tigers die for the sake of medicine, they suffer while doing so. Poaching methods include; poison, steel traps, firearms, and electrocution. These are all cruel and harsh strategies. As a poacher, it is fairly simple to kill a tiger, as the tigers can be killed at a low cost. In most areas, a sufficient amount of poison costs from 1 to 2 USD, and a steel trap costs around 9. As a result, the government of India has been under criticism. One wildlife conservationist suggests in a DW article, that the "Indian government needs to bolster their field enforcement and impart special training programs for wildlife rangers who protect tiger reserves."

Barriers and Potential Solutions

While laws concerning the prevention of hunting and trading wildlife vary from country to country, it is presumed that they are generally on the weaker side. Furthermore, they are not always implemented due to various difficulties and often lack appropriate penalties if they are not obeyed. This is especially the case in Southeast and East Asian countries. With fewer and fewer laws protecting wildlife and endangered animals, it creates ease for illegal poaching to occur. However, this does not always mean it is impossible to alter laws.

In 1969, 3,600 tons of Japanese eel, an adored delicacy, were caught in Japan. This catch, followed by Japan's economic incline, marked the beginning of the decline of the eel population in the 1970s. Where according to Dimensions the average Japanese eel weighs 7 pounds, nearly more than one million eels could have been caught in the span of a year. As a result, the species was classified as endangered in 2014, creating a longtime endangerment concern for Japan. Today, conservation efforts have been made. Japan had only caught 120 pounds of eel in 2019, and has turned from wildlife farming of eels, but has turned to farming an alternative species of eel, without disrupting the environment. However, farmed eels are less valuable than wild eels, creating the desire for poachers to seek the endangered eel. As a result, laws have been altered in Japan, increasing the formerly 925-dollar fine for eel poaching to a whopping 8.4 million dollars in 2023.

In such ways, laws can be implemented to protect endangered animals. The example of increasing fines to astronomical numbers can be a good solution, as it further discourages the desire to poach. While conditions may vary from country to country, policies and laws can still be difficult to alter at times. With international laws needing to be considered, implementing similar laws in multiple countries can often be a difficult and lengthy process. Though campaigns or advocacy may be effective, passing laws can often be time-consuming: a luxury unavailable to the marginally extinct animals. Yet, the law can still be an effective tool, in addition to the other methods available to aid endangered animals.

Previous efforts have been made to solve wildlife trading through CITES. It is an agreement made in 1973 between over 184 countries that aims to, "ensure that international trade

in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species.” Parties have progressively joined this organization over the past 51 years and relentless efforts have been made. CITES has regulated “international trade in flora and fauna through use of import and export permits,” and has provided, “a framework to combat trade.”

Another advocate has been the Unity Environment University which has done a significant amount of research regarding the issue of the poaching of animals. The institution encourages enforcing laws and limits concerning the purchasing and selling of animal products and animals. These laws vary depending on the country at hand but can generally be improved and implemented.

Another suggestion is to improve border control to decrease the risk of the animals being trafficked from country to country. Oftentimes, there are hotspots for animal poaching that act as trading centers for wildlife trade. Such hotspots are often close to the borders of various countries. Specifically targeting and protecting animals in such areas could prove beneficial.

Despite efforts made in the past to better border policies, animal trafficking still occurs. For example, in mid-2023 it was reported that, within Southeast Asia, over the Sulu-Celebes sea, “over 120,000 tonnes of wildlife, parts, and plants seized from illegal trade” from 2003 to 2021. Alongside these solutions, the Unity Environment University also declared that limiting tourism in areas with endangered species or updating laws that allow tourism in those places could be beneficial, seeing that tourism is often linked to the harming of wildlife.

Asia Wild, a charity dedicated to, “rescuing and protecting the welfare of animals worldwide,” brought up an interesting point of view. Given that many cases of animal abuse have been reported across various social media platforms, the website said that fighting for social media trends, especially on TikTok, could have an impact on the poaching and harming of endangered animals. As well, it is suggested that education about animal poaching should be spread all around the world. Oftentimes, the topic of animal poaching and endangered animals are often overlooked or undiscussed. Endangered animal poaching must be recognized as an issue of importance so that it can be avoided, and education could have a large role in shaping change.

Finally, to combat the problem of animal exploitation to Trophy Hunting, there are far more environmentally friendly forms of recreational shooting. Where some animal poachers may enjoy the thrill of hunting a moving target, shooting ranges can often offer live targets such as pieces of clay. This alternative would be sustainable and prevent the unnecessary poaching of endangered animals. Additionally, for those who seek animal trophies as decorations, replicas of animals made with materials such as paper or wood can often be realistic and create wonderful housing decorations.

Conclusion

Today, we know it is necessary to understand that simply put, animal poaching kills endangered animals. As a human race, we are further pushing the line to the extinction of species the longer we take to hinder this dilemma. However, while the human race has the capacity to kill, we also can protect the species of our ecosystems. Thus, we can prevent endangered animal species from never walking the face of the Earth again.

Though this guide is meant to help you in your journey to help endangered animals and prevent any more species from going extinct, further research can prove beneficial for the conference. As there are so many more species of animals and so many more cases that could be covered in terms of this topic, there is potential for much more learning!

Best of luck at UNISMUNCX!

Bloc Positions:

Western Bloc

In regions of the West including North America and Europe, attempts to protect endangered animals are often through designating and reinforcing certain habitats or developing recovery plans for certain species. Yet, these regions are still victims of animal poaching, with 27% of all illegal killings occurring in Europe.

African and Middle Eastern Bloc

As aforementioned, Africa has found itself caught in the middle of illegal wildlife trading. Similarly, the Middle Eastern region acts as a transit hotspot for trafficked wildlife. Such regions are often favorable for wildlife trade for their cheaper prices which can be considered a fortune to traders within this region.

Latin American Bloc

One of the most persistent issues with animal trafficking in the Latin American region has included the poaching of animals such as turtles, parrots, and monkeys. Despite long jail times for poaching certain animals, the Latin American region has one of the highest poverty rates in the world, trailing only 5% behind Africa's 34% poverty rate.

Questions to Consider:

- How can animal poaching be prevented in the first place? In the case of those who rely financially on animal poaching, how can better jobs and qualifications be created to prevent animal exploitation?
- Given that wildlife trading is a form of business, relying on the concepts of supply and demand, how can the demand for illegal wildlife produce be reduced or eradicated?
- How can border control and laws in nations be modified to adapt to the ever-changing trafficking system?

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