

## JOINING CRITERIA

Rescue centres and sanctuaries must meet the following general criteria:

- ✓ Be a legal entity with the necessary national licence and/or permits.
- ✓ Provide humane and responsible care.
- ✓ Must not buy, sell, or trade animals.
- ✓ Work to ensure intake and outplacement helps to reduce reasons why animals need rescue.
- ✓ Work to prevent the need for rescue centres and sanctuaries, e.g. through education and involvement in conservation issues.
- ✓ Allow the public to visit only for educational purposes. Restrict physical contact between the public and animals.
- ✓ Do not conduct research if it compromises animal welfare or conservation.
- ✓ Prevent breeding.
- ✓ Conduct euthanasia only when there is no hope of reasonable recovery and quality of life.

## PROMOTING WELFARE

EARS is a network that supports and represents rescue centres and sanctuaries across Europe, enabling them to work together to achieve mutual animal welfare and conservation goals.

A strong and effective European network, EARS works to promote and achieve continuous improvements in animal welfare, and tackle the very reasons that necessitate the existence of rescue centres and sanctuaries.

THE EUROPEAN ALLIANCE OF RESCUE CENTRES  
AND SANCTUARIES (EARS)

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*EARS is registered as a charitable foundation in the Netherlands*

SUPPORTING AND  
REPRESENTING  
RESCUE CENTRES AND  
SANCTUARIES  
ACROSS EUROPE

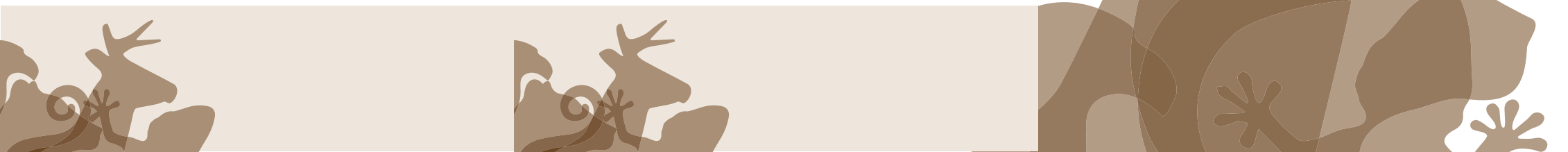




Photo courtesy of AAP

## OBJECTIVES OF EARS

- ✓ Facilitate the exchange of information, knowledge and expertise to promote and advance high standards of captive care and rehabilitation.
- ✓ Operate a membership based system of quality sanctuaries and rescue centres.
- ✓ Facilitate the most appropriate animal placement.
- ✓ Represent rescue centres and sanctuaries on international policy and legislative issues.
- ✓ Work with stakeholders and the public to end commercial trade and exploitation, and the keeping of animals not suited to captivity.
- ✓ Deliver communications to protect animals and strengthen links with wildlife conservation.



Photo courtesy of Natuurhulpcentrum Wildlife Rescue Centre

## BENEFITS OF JOINING EARS

- ✓ Receive official recognition in meeting standards of excellence in animal care, rehabilitation and management.
- ✓ Belong to an elite group of high quality rescue centres and sanctuaries in Europe.
- ✓ Gain access to unique forums to exchange expertise and experience.
- ✓ Benefit from opportunities to publicise your facility and its successes to an international audience.
- ✓ Gain access to resources to support capacity development and operational sustainability.
- ✓ Receive representation by EARS at important regional and international meetings.
- ✓ Receive notifications of relevant conferences, training and funding opportunities, publications, activities and news.
- ✓ Become a member of the EARS Partner Council and actively contribute to the direction and activities of the organisation.
- ✓ Work collectively to increase impact to end the very need for animal rescue and sanctuary.

## SPECIALIST FORUM

Across Europe, exotic and native wildlife species such as primates, big cats, bears, raptors and reptiles are rescued, rehabilitated and cared for within a great variety of captive facilities. EARS recognises and supports professionally managed rescue centres and sanctuaries in Europe.

There is great strength in bringing together like-minded organisations to develop capacity and maximize impact, sharing solutions to shared challenges. EARS creates and delivers opportunities for collaboration and communication across the region.

## REPRESENTATION

Caught up in the day-to-day work of animal rescue and triage, EARS ensures that rescue centres and sanctuaries in the region can contribute to important national and regional issues ensuring their work, voice and concerns are represented at the highest levels.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORK OF THE EARS, OR APPLY TO JOIN, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.EARS.ORG](http://WWW.EARS.ORG) OR CONTACT US AT [INFO@EARS.ORG](mailto:INFO@EARS.ORG).



Photo courtesy of Vier Pforten