

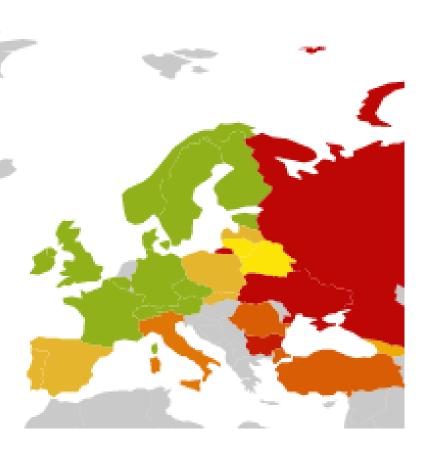
# LOOKING AT RISK IN THE EU & UK: Considerations previously outside the scope of company's due diligence system





## Recap

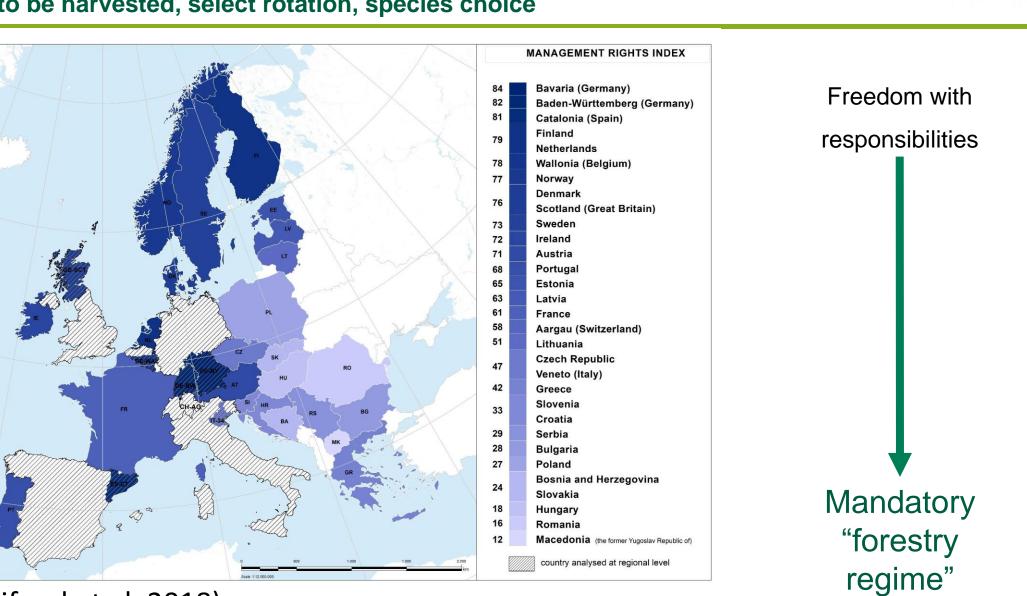




- Operators in the UK must now include timber and timber products harvested in Europe in their due diligence system.
- Europe cannot be considered a homogenous block when considering risk.
- Not all EU countries are considered low risk
- EU Operators must now do due diligence on timber and timber products harvested in the UK.

#### Management rights – 13 indicators: Land use change, FMP, management goals,

#### select trees to be harvested, select rotation, species choice



(Source: Nichiforel et al. 2018)



## **Timber Legality Risk Profiles of UK & EU countries**



LOW RISK
Austria
Belgium
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia,
Finland
France
Germany
Ireland
Luxembourg*
Netherlands*
Sweden
Norway
United Kingdom
Spain*
Portugal*

## SPECIFIED RISK Bulgaria Croatia\* Hungary\* Italy Latvia Lithuania Poland Romania Slovakia Slovenia\*

NOT ASSESSED
Cyprus
Greece
Malta

For further information regarding the risk rating within each country and how to mitigate risks within the country of harvest refer to the <u>Preferred by Nature</u> <u>Sourcing Hub</u> or FSC Document Centre



## **United Kingdom**



Timber Risk Score: 100 / 100 in 2017. The Timber Legality Risk Assessment contains an evaluation of the risk of illegality in United Kingdom for five categories and 21 sub-categories of law. We found:

- Specified risk for 0 sub-categories.
- Low risk for 16 sub-categories.
- No legal requirements for 5 sub-categories.

Legal Category	Sub-Category	Risk conclusion
	1.1 Land tenure and management rights	Low
Legal rights to	1.2 Concession licenses	N/A
harvest	1.3 Management and harvesting planning	Low
	1.4 Harvesting permits	Low
	1.5 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees	N/A
Taxes and fees	1.6 Value added taxes and other sales taxes	Low
	1.7 Income and profit taxes	Low
	1.8 Timber harvesting regulations	N/A
Timber	1.9 Protected sites and species	Low
harvesting	1.10 Environmental requirements	Low
activities	1.11 Health and safety	Low
	1.12 Legal employment	Low
	1.13 Customary rights	Low
Third parties' rights	1.14 Free prior and informed consent	Low
ingites	1.15 Indigenous/traditional peoples rights	N/A
	1.16 Classification of species, quantities, qualities	Low
	1.17 Trade and transport	N/A
Trada and	1.18 Offshore trading and transfer pricing	Low
Trade and transport	1.19 Custom regulations	Low
-	1.20 CITES	Low
	1.21 Legislation requiring due diligence/due care procedures	Low





		Lithuania L			Latv	atvia		Poland				Slovakia			
		Risk conclusion		Risk conclusion			Risk conclusion				Risk conclusion				
Legal Category	Sub-Category	State Forest	Private Forest	State Forest	Private Forest	Protection /conservation forest	State Forest	Private Forest	Protecti on /conser vation forest	Protecti on /conser vation forest	Planne d harvest	Sanitar Y logging	Extra logging	Non- forest land	
	1.1 Land tenure and management rights	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
Legal rights to harvest	1.2 Concession licenses	Low	Low	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Legal rights to harvest	1.3 Management and harvesting planning	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
	1.4 Harvesting permits	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Specified	Low	Low	
	1.5 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Low	Specified	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
Taxes and fees	1.6 Value added taxes and other sales taxes	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
	1.7 Income and profit taxes	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
	1.8 Timber harvesting regulations	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
	1.9 Protected sites and species	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	
Timber harvesting activities	1.10 Environmental requirements	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
Γ	1.11 Health and safety	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
	1.12 Legal employment	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
	1.13 Customary rights	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
Third parties' rights	1.14 Free prior and informed consent	Low	Low	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Ī	1.15 Indigenous/traditional peoples' rights	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	1.16 Classification of species, quantities, qualities	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
Ī	1.17 Trade and transport	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
	1.18 Offshore trading and transfer pricing	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
Trade and transport	1.19 Custom regulations	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
Ī	1.20 CITES	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
	1.21 Legislation requiring due diligence/due care procedures	Low	Specified	Low	Specified	Specified	Low	Specified	Low	Low	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	

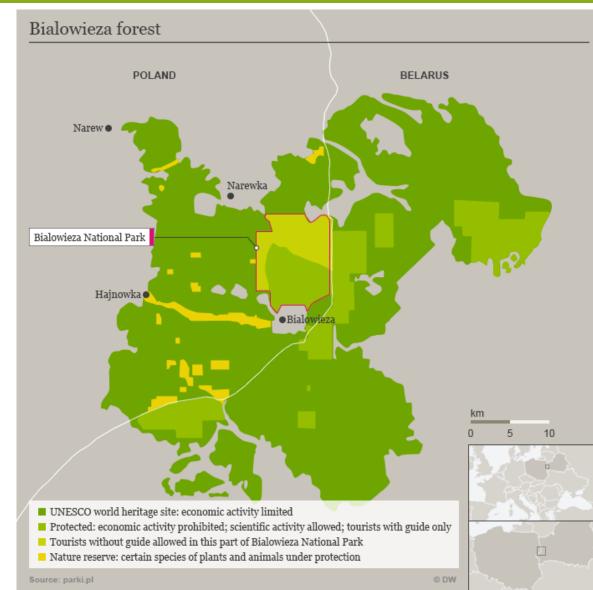


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#### Białowieża Forest

Preferred by Nature

- In 2017, the European Commission introduced an emergency logging ban in UNESCO protected Browsk, Białowieża, and Hajnówka Forest Districts within the Podlaskie County (in Polish, Vojvodoship), Region of Poland.
- In April 2018, the European Court of Justice ruled logging within this area as illegal. There have been concerns that the logging ban has not be observed and therefore the precautionary approach should be taken to ensure material from these regions are excluded





- FSC has recommended material from Browsk, Białowieża, and Hajnówka Forest Districts should not be sourced as controlled material
- Therefore, wood (both certified and uncertified) should not be sourced from:
- Podlaskie County (*Vojvodoship*) (including Browsk, Hajnówka, Białowieża Forest Management Units).
- For wood harvested in Poland a supplier declaration should be provided ensuring wood in the supply chain is not harvested from Podlaskie County (*Vojvodoship*).
- If harvested from Podlaskie County (Vojvodoship) then Forest transport documents are required to ensure the wood is sourced from low risk or certified areas (excluding FMUs Browsk, Hajnówka, Białowieża).



## Bulgaria, Romania, Italy



	Bulgaria			Italy				
		Risk conclusion	Risk conclusion	Risk conclusion				
Legal Category	Sub-Category	All sources	All sources	State/ Public	Private	Firewo d (Coppi e forest)		
	<ol> <li>1.1 Land tenure and management rights</li> </ol>	Specified	Specified	Low	Low	Low		
Legal rights to harvest	1.2 Concession licenses	Specified N/A for private forests	Low	Low	Low	Low		
	1.3 Management and harvesting planning	Specified	Low	Specified	Low	Low		
	1.4 Harvesting permits	Specified	Specified	Specified	Low	Low		
	1.5 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees	Specified N/A for private forests	Specified	Low	Low	Low		
Taxes and fees	<ol> <li>1.6 Value added taxes and other sales taxes</li> </ol>	Specified	Low	Low	Low	Specifie		
	1.7 Income and profit taxes	Specified	Low	Specified	Specified	Specifie		
	1.8 Timber harvesting regulations	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specifie		
	1.9 Protected sites and species	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specifie		
Timber harvesting activities	1.10 Environmental requirements	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specifie		
activities	1.11 Health and safety	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specifie		
	1.12 Legal employment	Specified	Specified	Low	Specified	Specifie		
	1.13 Customary rights	Specified	N/A	Low	Low	Low		
Third parties' rights	1.14 Free prior and informed consent	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
	1.15 Indigenous/traditional peoples' rights	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
	1.16 Classification of species, quantities, qualities	Specified	Specified	Low	Low	Specifie		
	1.17 Trade and transport	Specified	Specified	Low	Low	Specifie		
Trade and transport	1.18 Offshore trading and transfer pricing	Specified	Low	Low	Low	Low		
	1.19 Custom regulations	Specified	Low	Low	Low	Low		
	1.20 CITES	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low		
	1.21 Legislation requiring due diligence/due care procedures	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specified	Specifie		



# ROMANIA

## **Technical silviculture**

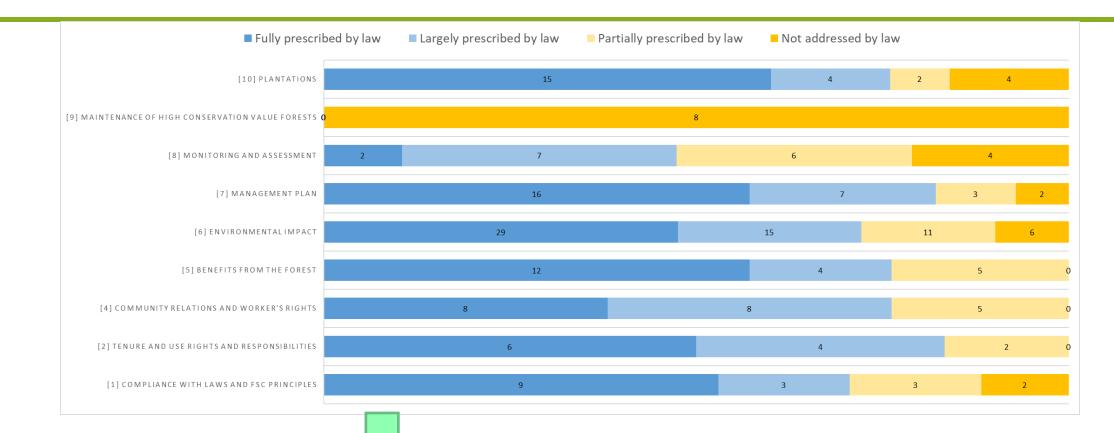


- Multi-functional forestry introduced since 1954 functional zoning system
- Mandatory forest management planning: each forest plot has a function assigned – protection or production
  - 52% forests are assigned with regulating ecosystem services: water, soil, climate, recreation and for biodiversity protection
  - 4% of forests are strictly protected
  - Current efforts to integrate old-growth forests as strictly protected areas
- Long production cycles rotation of 90-140 years (Picea, Fagus, Abies, Quercus)
- Long regeneration periods (15-30 years)



## Legal coverage of FSC<sup>®</sup> principles in Romania





69 % of the FSC<sup>®</sup> FM Standard in Romania is covered by the regulatory framework

V.S.

(Source: Buliga and Nichiforel 2018)

## Brazilian FSC standard for natural forests

65 indicators reproducing legislation/202 32% of the indicators (Piketty and Drigo, 2018)



- Risk of the Civil Code being broken when private land is passed on through inheritance. In particular, there's a risk that an inheritance certificate or other legal documents certifying the right to the property are not provided.
- Risk of harvest volumes exceeding those that are recorded in legal documents
- Risk of harvesting without the relevant permit, including harvested in areas outside of those for which permits do exist
- Risk of harvesting permits being issued for areas outside the boundaries of the relevant property
- Risk of harvesting permits for "accidental cuts" being illegally issued to mask illegal logging



- Risk of violating harvesting requirements as a consequence harvest certificates being issued without verification that harvesting contractors possess the prescribed equipment, machinery and adequately trained staff
- Risk of harvesting from high conservation value forests due to either a lack of/poor quality management plan for such areas and/or insufficient integration of conservation management plans with forest management plans
- Risk of breach of environmental requirements, including but not limited to:
  - Harvesting without the required environmental approval/permit being in place
  - Violation of the environmental legislations stipulated as condition of an environmental authorisation
  - Environmental authorisations issued post-harvesting
  - Environmental authorisations issued without consultation of the relevant conservation authorities
- Risk of inadequate implementation and oversight of health and safety regulations
- Risk of harvesting staff being employed without a formal employment contract and its associated safeguards on minimum salary, minimum age and required competences.



- Risk of inaccurate classification of timber origin
- Risk that volume is under-estimated in the field
- Risk of incorrect information on the origin and volume of timber being transmitted along the supply chain due to a lack of verification between Volume Estimation Documents (VED) and actual harvesting results
- Risk of transport of timber with delivery documents that do not indicate the true information due to inherent weaknesses and lack of compliance monitoring with the WOOD tracking system
- Risk of contravention of legislation requiring due diligence/duty of care given that these have only recently been adopted by the Romanian government





✓ Conduct desk assessments

AND

 Purchasing FSC 100% products and check the reports to see if are CARs related to illegal issues

Or

• Conduct field visits



# **SPECIFIED RISK – GROUP 3**

## Croatia, Hungary, Slovenia



		Risk des	ignations in finalized risk assessments for Hungary		
		Indicator	Risk designation (including functional scale when relevant)	1	
			Controlled wood category 1: Illegally harvested wood	1	
		1.1	Low risk	1	
		1.2	NA	1	
Risk des	signations in finalized risk assessments for Croatia	1.3	Low risk	1	
Indicator	Risk designation (including functional scale when relevant)	1.4	Specified risk	1	
	Controlled wood category 1: Illegally harvested wood	1.5	NA	Risk desid	nations in finalized risk assessments for Slovenia
1.1	Low risk	1.6	Low risk	Indicator	Risk designation (including functional scale when relevant)
1.2	N/A	1.7	Low risk		Controlled wood category 1: Illegally harvested wood
1.3	Low risk	1.8	Low risk	1.1	Low risk
1.4	Specified risk for private forests.	1.9	Low risk	1.2	Low risk
	Low risk for the rest of the country.	1.10	Specified risk	1.3	Low risk
1.5	N/A	1.11	Specified risk	1.4	Specified risk
1.6	Low risk	1.12	Specified risk	1.5	N/A
1.7	Low risk	1.13	Low risk	1.6	Low risk
1.8	Specified risk for private forests.	1.14	NA	1.7	Low risk
- 10	Low risk for the rest of the country.	1.15	NA	1.8	Low risk
1.9	Specified risk for private forests without a Forest Management Plan. Low risk for the rest of the country.	1.16	Low risk	1.9	Low risk
1.10	Specified risk for private forests without a Forest Management Plan.	1.17	Low risk	1.10	Low risk
1.10	Low risk for the rest of the country.	1.18	Low risk	1.11	Low risk
1.11	Specified risk for private forests.	1.19	Low risk	1.12	Low risk
	Low risk for the rest of the country.	1.20	Low risk	1.13	Low risk
1.12	Specified risk for private forests. Low risk for the rest of the country.	1.21	Low risk	1.14	Low risk
1.13	N/A			1.15	N/A
1.14	N/A			1.16	Low risk
1.15	N/A			1.17	Low risk
1.16	Low risk			1.18	Low risk
1.17	Low risk			1.19	Low risk
1.18	Low risk			1.20	Low risk
1.19	Low risk			1.21	Low risk
1.20	Low risk				
1.21	Low risk				



## COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR YOUR PRODUCTS



## Ukraine is close to

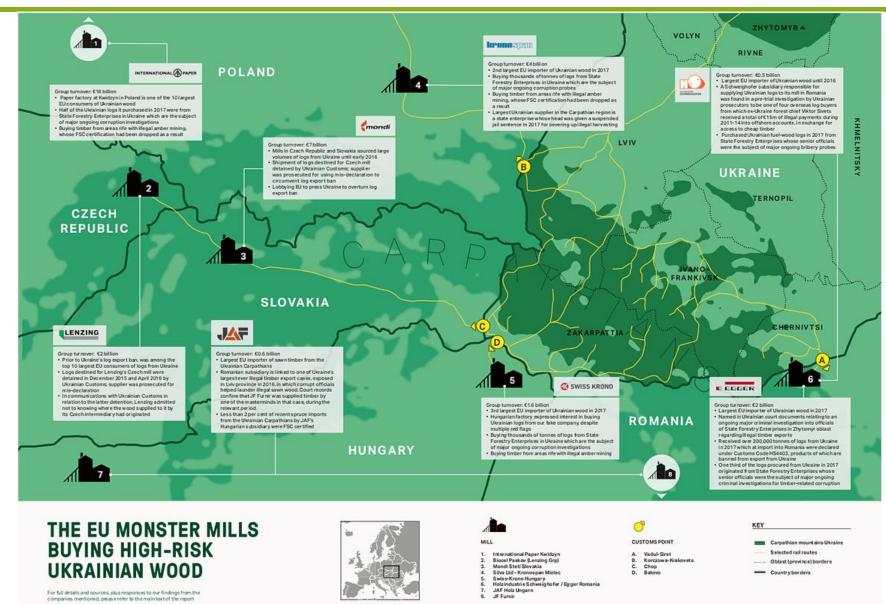
- Romania
- Hungary
- Slovakia
- Poland



### Complicit in Corruption: How billion-dollar firms and EU governments are failing



#### **Ukraine's forests**



8 companies from Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania are sourcing from Ukraine

## (Source: Earthsight, 2018)



# CONCERNS ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUTR



"While the COVID-19 pandemic has reduced European imports of timber, imports of teak sawnwood from

Myanmar remain on the rise. According to a Forest Trends analysis, in the first six months of 2020, they were 10 percent higher than the same period in 2019.

While some Member States are enforcing the EUTR and effectively stopping imports of Myanmar teak, it appears from the analysis that the timber is finding its way into the EU market through entry points in Poland, Italy, Croatia, Greece, Portugal, Spain and Sweden. Of these countries, Poland has recorded the biggest increase in imports (385 percent compared to the first six months of 2019). Additionally, Forest Trends analysis states that one of the Italian importing companies is under investigation by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) since March 2020."

## (Source: ClientEarth, 2020)

## Questions?

