



EU Policy on Invasive Alien Species

**European Commission
DG Environment**

**European Workshop on Control and Eradication of
Invasive Alien Plant Species**

Budapest, 19 April 2016

EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy

Target 5 – Combat Invasive Alien Species

- Action 15 – Strengthen the EU Plant and Animal Health Regimes
- Action 16 – Establish a dedicated instrument on Invasive Alien Species



Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species

- **Chapter 1: General provisions**

- Chapter 2:

Prevention

- Chapter 3:

Early Detection and Rapid Eradication

- Chapter 4:

Management of established IAS

- Chapter 5: Horizontal provisions

- Chapter 6: Final provisions



Invasive alien species

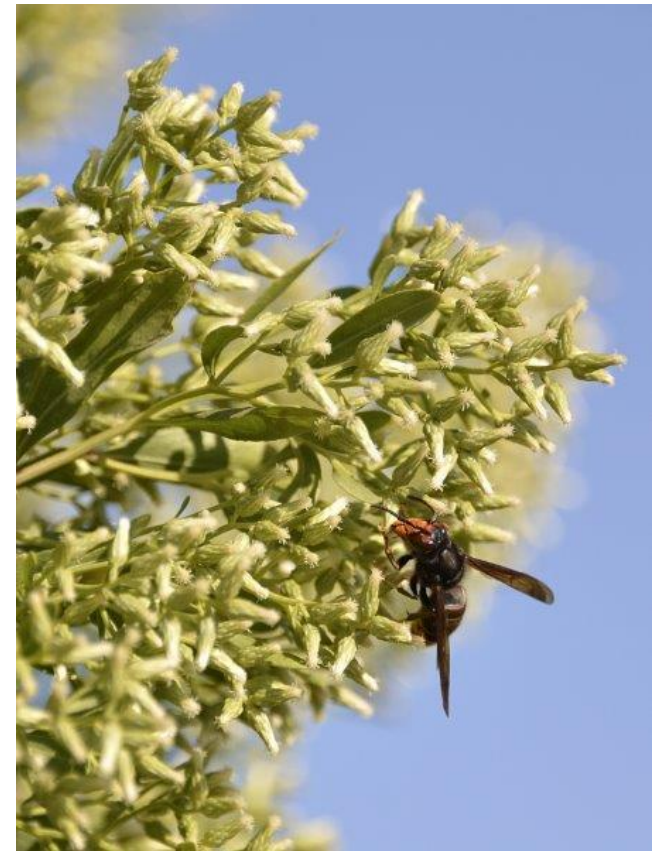
Art 3 Definition

- Live specimen or any part that may reproduce
- Species, subspecies or lower taxon
- Outside its natural range
- Adversely threatening biodiversity and related ecosystem services

Invasive alien terrestrial plant species



Pueraria lobata



Braccharis halimifolia

Invasive alien aquatic plant species



Ludwigia peploides



Cabomba caroliniana



Scope of the Regulation

Any invasive alien species, except:

- Species adapting their natural range to climate change
- Genetically Modified Organisms
- Animal diseases
- Harmful organisms addressed through the EU Plant Health Regime
- Alien species approved for use in Aquaculture and alien micro-organisms approved as plant protection product or biocide through other EU laws



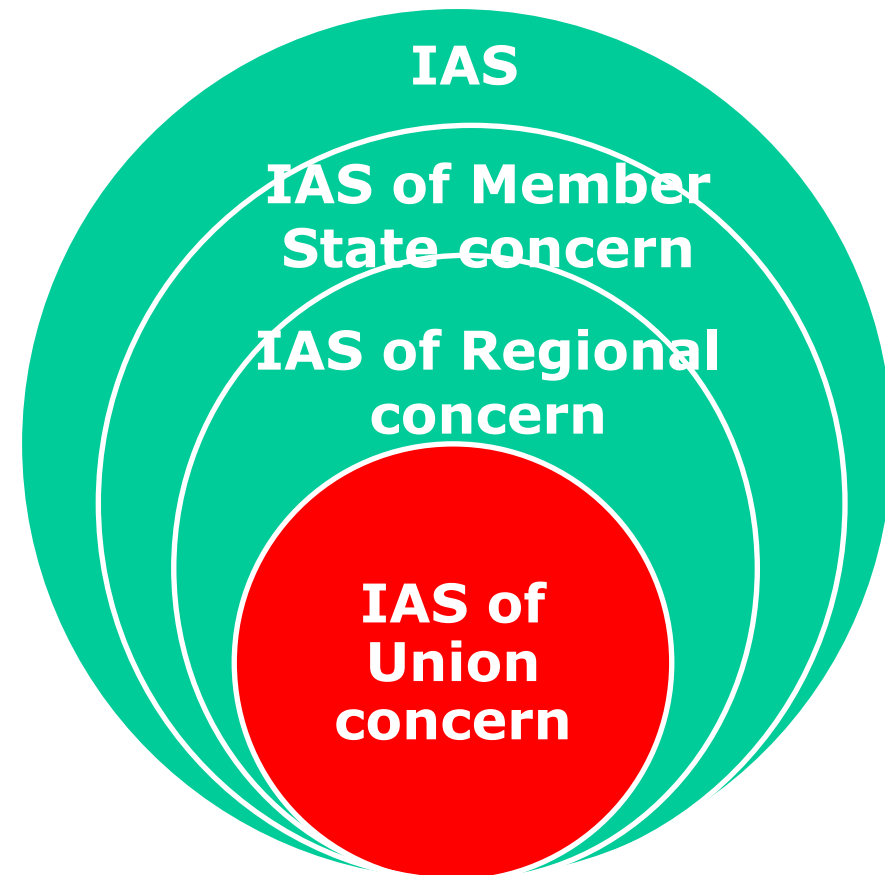
Prioritise on list of IAS of Union concern

List development

- **Based on risk assessment and criteria for listing**
- **Consultation of Scientific Forum**
- **Discussion and voting in Committee**

List of IAS of Union concern

- **First list: 37 species, ready for adoption**
- **First update: in preparation**



Plants on the first list of IAS of Union concern

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	Eastern baccharis
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Fanwort
<i>Eichornia crassipes</i>	Water hyacinth
<i>Heracleum persicum</i>	Persian hogweed
<i>Heracleum sosnowskyi</i>	Sosnowski's hogweed
<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	Floating pennywort
<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	Curly waterweed
<i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i>	Water-primrose
<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>	Floating primrose-willow
<i>Lysichiton americanus</i>	American skunk cabbage
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrot's feather
<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Whitetop weed
<i>Persicaria perfoliata</i>	Asiatic tearthumb
<i>Pueraria lobata</i>	Kudzu vine



Selecting IAS of Union concern – **step 1**

Art 5.1: **Risk assessments**, having regard to following elements:

- a) Description of species
- b) Description of reproduction and spread
- c) Description of potential pathways of introduction and spread
- d) Thorough assessment of the risk of introduction and spread
- e) Description of current and likely future distribution
- f) Description of **adverse impact** on biodiversity, related ecosystem services, human health, safety and the economy
- g) Assessment of potential costs of damage
- h) Description of known uses and **social and economic benefits**



Selecting IAS of Union concern – **step 2**

Art 4.3: IAS only to be **listed if they meet all following criteria**

- a) Alien to the territory
- b) Capable of establishing and spreading
- c) Likely to have significant adverse impacts on biodiversity, and possibly also on human health and the economy
- d) Demonstrated by risk assessment that action at Union level is required
- e) Likely that inclusion on list will prevent, minimise or mitigate the adverse impacts

Art 4.6: Commission to apply criteria with due consideration to **implementation cost for Member States**, cost of inaction, **cost-effectiveness** and socio-economic aspects.

Examples of plant species under examination for first update of the list



Acer negundo



Gunnera tinctoria



Lupinus polyphyllus



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Preventing IAS of Union concern – **intentional** introductions



Eichornia crassipes



Lysichiton americanus



Preventing IAS of Union concern – **intentional** introductions

Art 7: IAS of Union concern shall **not be intentionally:**

- a) Brought into or transited through the Union
- b) Kept, including in contained holding
- c) Bred, including in contained holding
- d) Transported, except in context of eradication
- e) Placed on the market
- f) Used or exchanged
- g) Permitted to reproduce
- h) Released into the environment

Art 8: MS can issue permits for **research, ex-situ conservation or medicinal use**, under conditions

Art 9: Commission can authorise **other activities**, under conditions



Preventing IAS of Union concern – **unintentional** introductions



Persicaria perfoliata



Parthenium hysterophorus

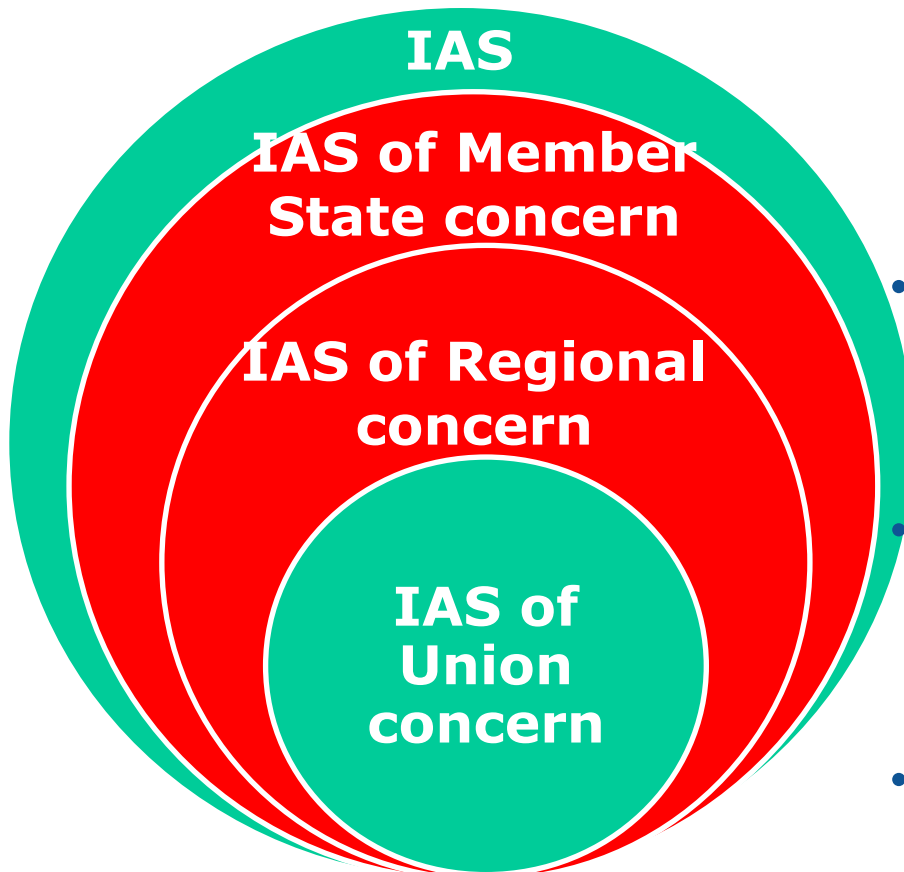


Preventing IAS of Union concern – **unintentional** introductions

Art 13:

- Within 18 months after adoption of list: analysis of pathways of IAS of Union concern + priority pathways
- Within 36 months after adoption of list: action plan(s) to address priority pathways

Beyond list of IAS of Union concern



- Art 10: Emergency measures
 - **IAS likely to meet criteria IAS of Union concern**
 - **24 months for risk assessment**
- Art 11: IAS of Regional concern
 - **IAS of MS concern that require regional cooperation**
- Art 12: IAS of Member State concern
 - **National list**
- Condition: compatible with Treaty and notified to Commission

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Border control and surveillance for IAS of Union concern

Art 14: Surveillance

- Within 18 months after adoption of the first list, MS shall establish surveillance system
- Building upon existing systems

Art 15: Official controls

- By 2 January 2016, MS shall put border control structures in place
- To prevent intentional introductions
- Building upon existing systems



Early detection and rapid eradication of IAS of Union concern

Art 16: Early detection notification

- Confirm early detection of IAS of Union concern
- Notify Commission and inform other Member States

Art 17: Rapid eradication

- Within 3 months after notification, MS shall apply eradication measures
- With due regard to human health and the environment + spare animals any avoidable suffering

Art 18: Derogation from rapid eradication obligation

- Within 2 months after the notification, MS may decide not to apply eradication measures, if conditions are met, and inform Commission with evidence, Commission may reject



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Management of widely spread IAS of Union concern

Art 19.1

- Within 18 months after adoption of list MS have in place effective management measures
- Proportionate to impact and appropriate to specific circumstances
- Based on analysis of costs and benefits
- Prioritised based on risk evaluation and cost-effectiveness

Art 19.2

- Lethal or non-lethal actions, aimed at eradication, population control or containment
- Commercial use may be temporarily allowed as part of management measures, under conditions

Art 19.3

- Due regard to human health and environment + spare animals any avoidable suffering

Management of widely spread IAS of Union concern

Plants in gardens, botanical gardens,...



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European Alien Species Information Network



EASIN aims to facilitate the exploration of existing alien species information in Europe to assist the implementation of european policies on biological invasions

EASIN at a Glance

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Financial support

- LIFE



- Regional Development



- Rural Development



- Research funding



LIFE-projects

Table 1 – Invasive alien plant species most frequently targeted by LIFE management measures

	Species	Nr. LIFE projects	Member States
1	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	56	BE(13), DE, HU, IT, NL, SK
2	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	52	AT, BE, CZ, DE, ES, FR, HU(7), IT, PT, PL, I
3	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	24	AT, BE, ES, HU, IT(7), MT, RO, SK
4	<i>Fallopia japonica</i> / <i>F.sachal.</i> / <i>F. spec.</i>	15	AT, BE, CZ, DE, FR, IE, PL,
5	<i>Solidago canadensis</i> , <i>S. Gigantea</i>	13	AT, DE,

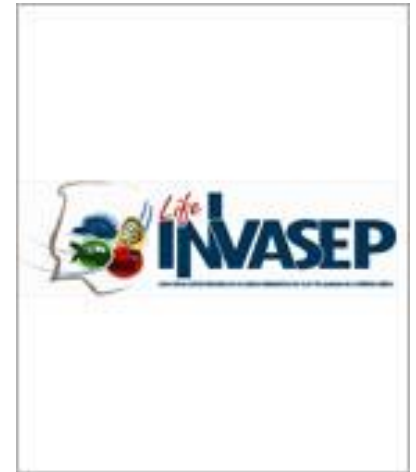
MORAVKA - Preservation of alluvial forest habitats in the Morávka river Basin (CZ)

- Preservation of alluvial forest habitat in Site of Community Interest
- Removal of Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam





INVASEP - Combating invasive species within the Tagus and Guadiana river basins in the Iberian peninsula (ES and PT)



- First transboundary project on IAS
- Addressing invasions of *Acacia dealbata*, *Allianthus altissima*, *Azolla filiculoides*, *Nymphaea mexicana* and certain invasive alien animals

ALTERIAS - Preventing the spread of invasive ornamental plants (BE)

- Partnership with horticulture sector
- Voluntary Code of Conduct
- Awareness campaign



Thank you for your attention!

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http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/invasivealien/index_en.htm

