



The Egyptian vulture in the Balkans - story of a dramatic decline

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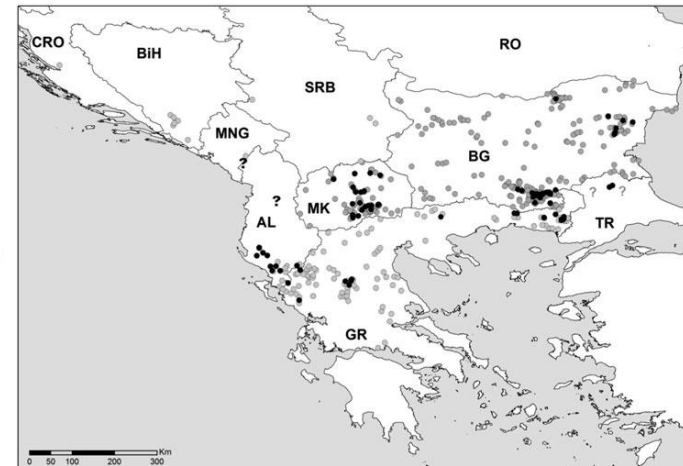
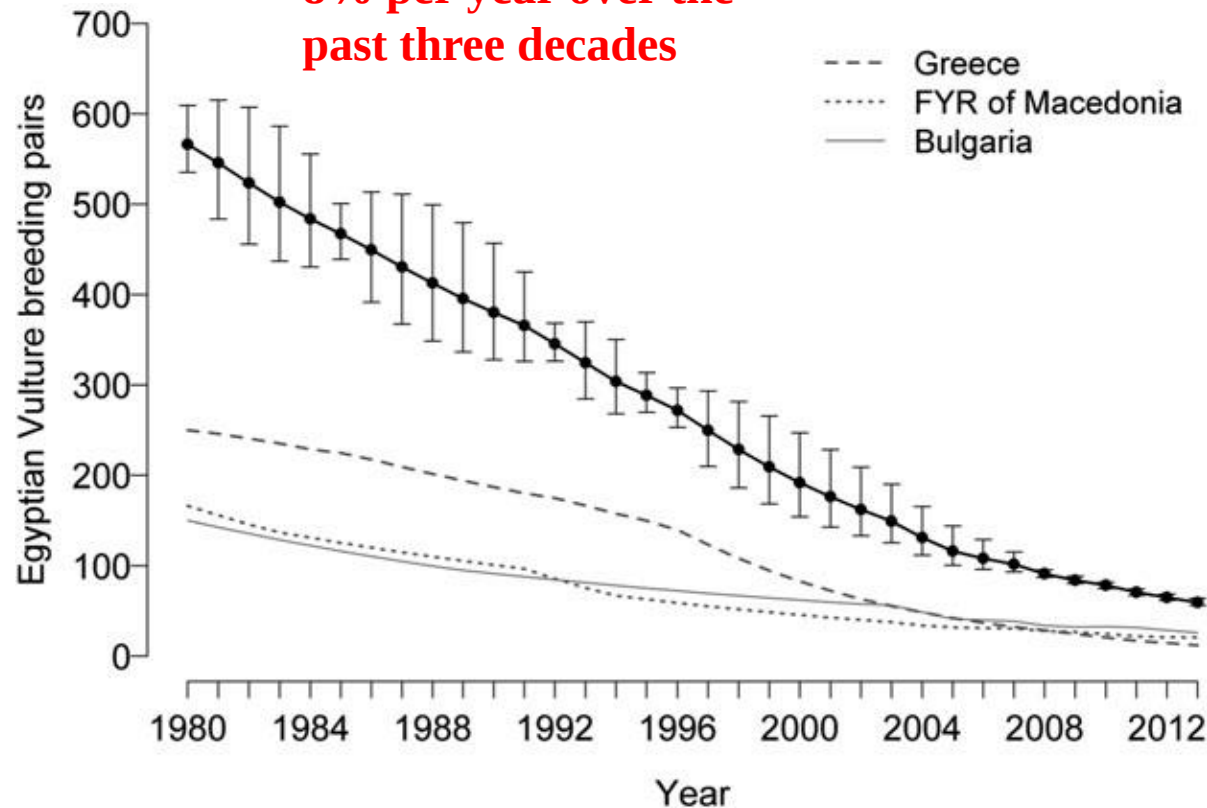
The Egyptian vulture in the Balkans

A story of a dramatic decline



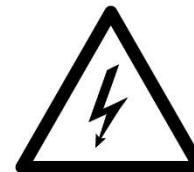
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declined by about 4–8% per year over the past three decades



Velevski et. al 2015

Threats



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A photograph showing several birds, possibly kestrels or falcons, perched on a wooden utility pole. The birds are positioned on cross-arms of the pole, which are equipped with insulators. The background is a clear, light blue sky. The birds have light-colored plumage on their heads and backs, with darker feathers on their wings and tails. They are facing different directions, some looking towards the camera and others away.

The Egyptian culture in the Balkans

Conservation efforts



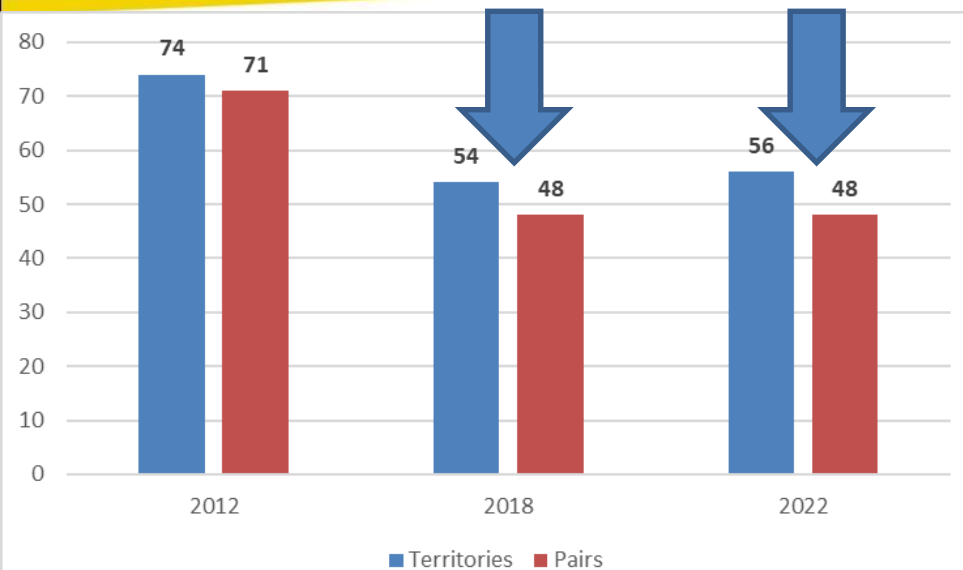
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2012 vs 2022

- 24% decline in the number of occupied territories between;
- 31% decline in the number of pairs;
- Very good breeding parameters;
- The decline is observed until 2017 and since then **for the first time** the Balkan population has reversed the trend

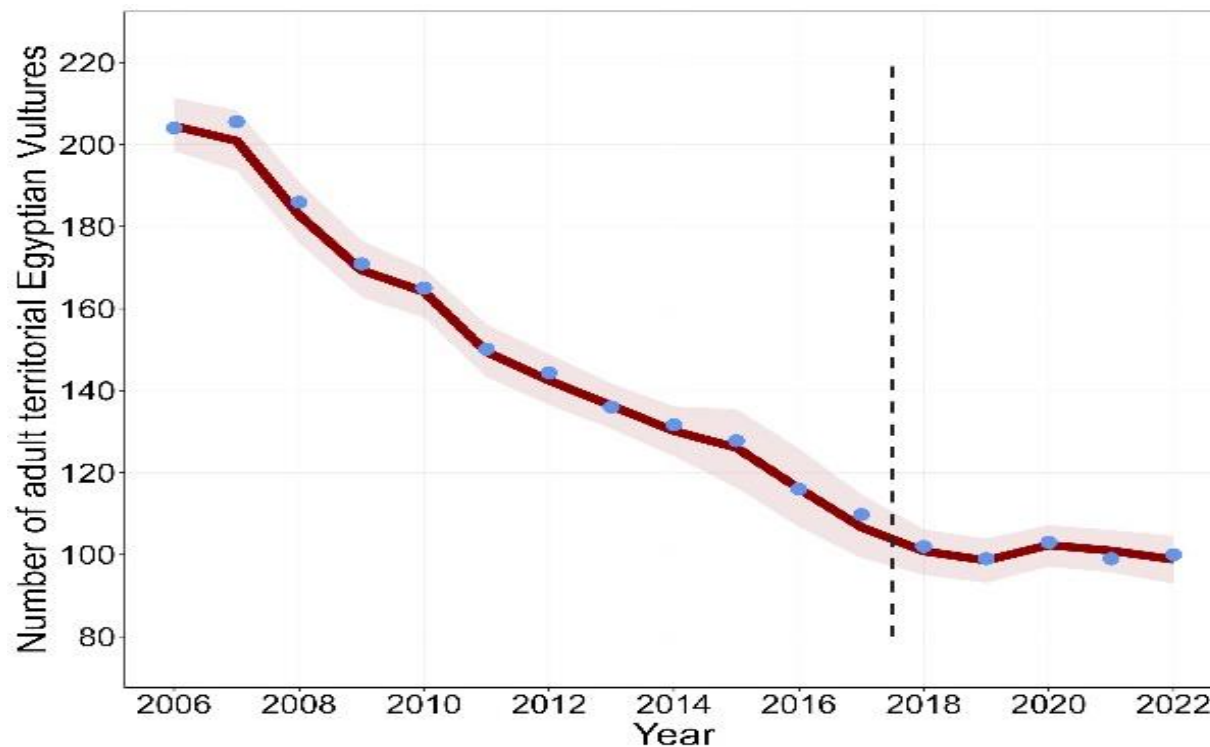


Breeding parameters	Albania	Bulgaria	Greece	North Macedonia	Balkans
Productivity	0,83	0,96	0,79	0,77	0.91
Breeding success	1	1,13	1,22	1	1.13
Ratio of laying pairs	0,83	0,85	0,65	0,77	0.80
Ratio of successful pairs	0,9	0,86	0,85	0,75	0.85

Dobrev *et al.* 2021

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A story of a dramatic decline but...

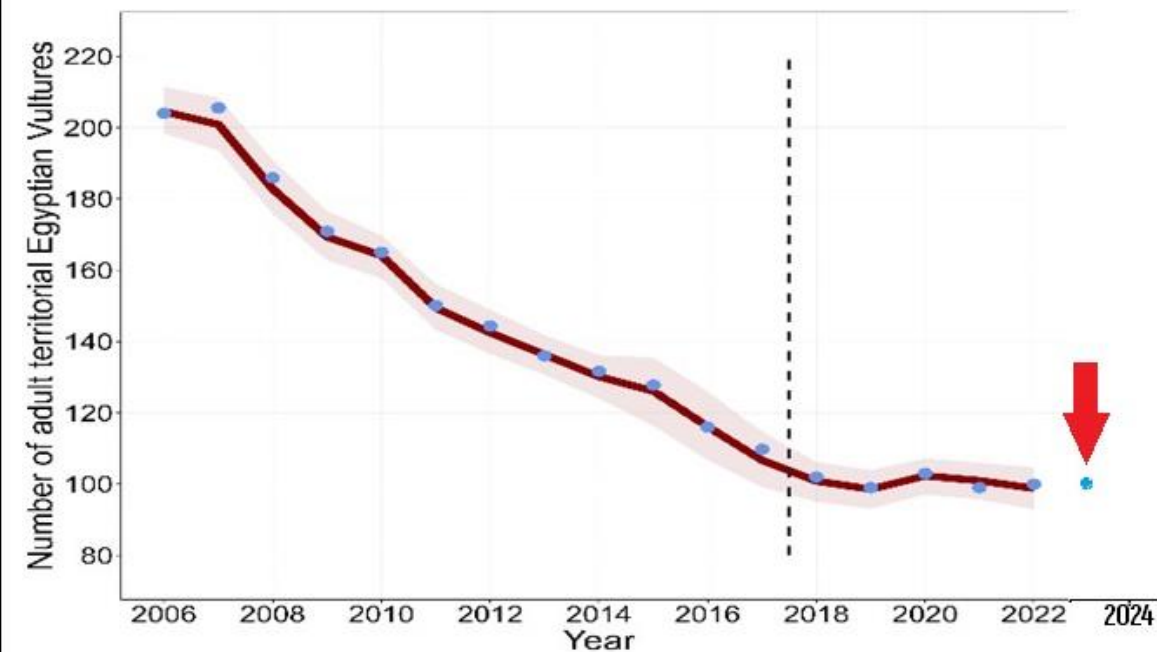


The Egyptian vulture in the Balkans

Signs of stabilization



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The Egyptian vulture in the Balkans

Signs of stabilization



- New occupied territories
- Reoccupied old territories
- First pairs with released birds

Boyana & Wild partner



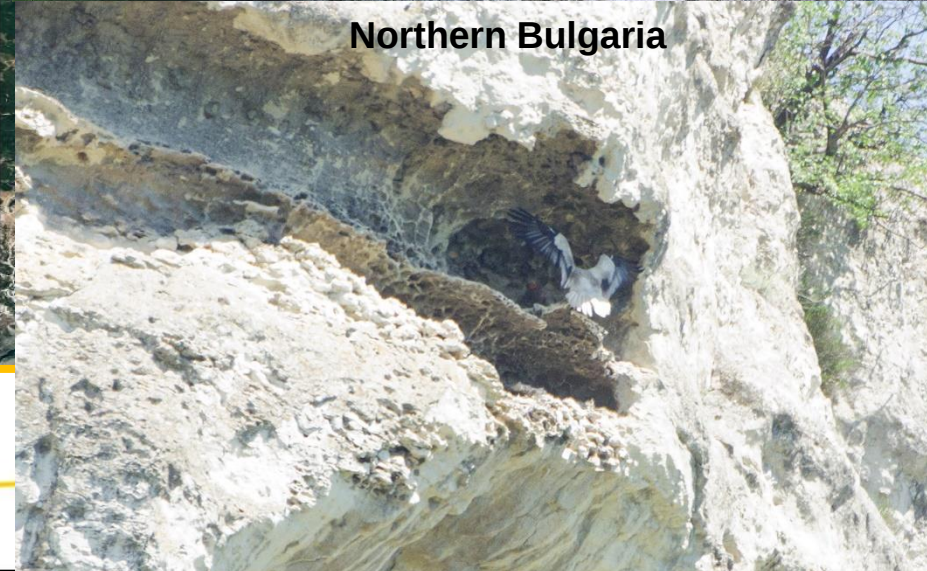
Izi & Lucky

2022



— Изи ♀
— Лъки ♂

Northern Bulgaria



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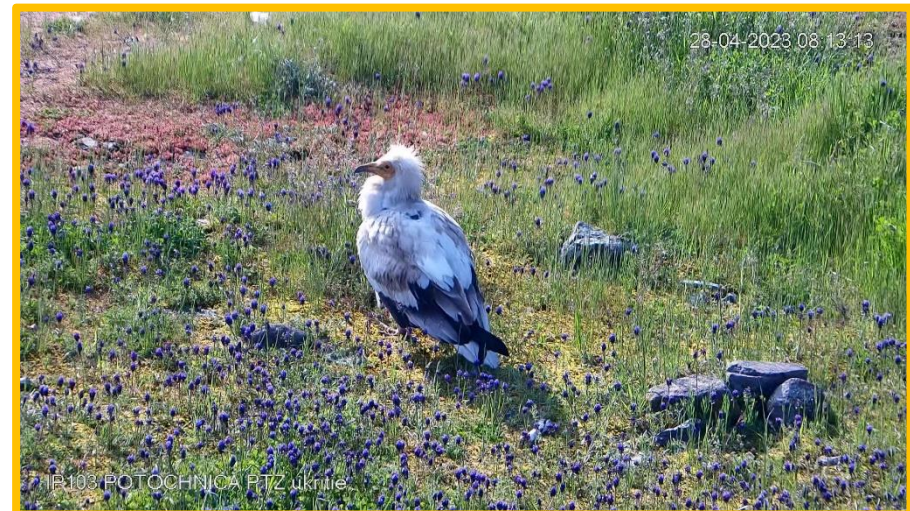
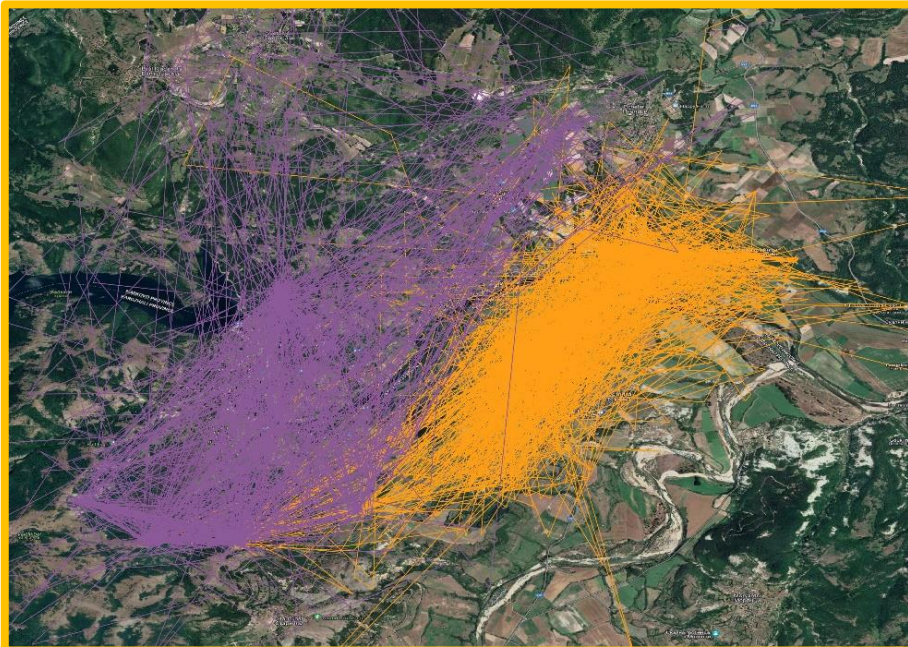
Signs of stabilization



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2023



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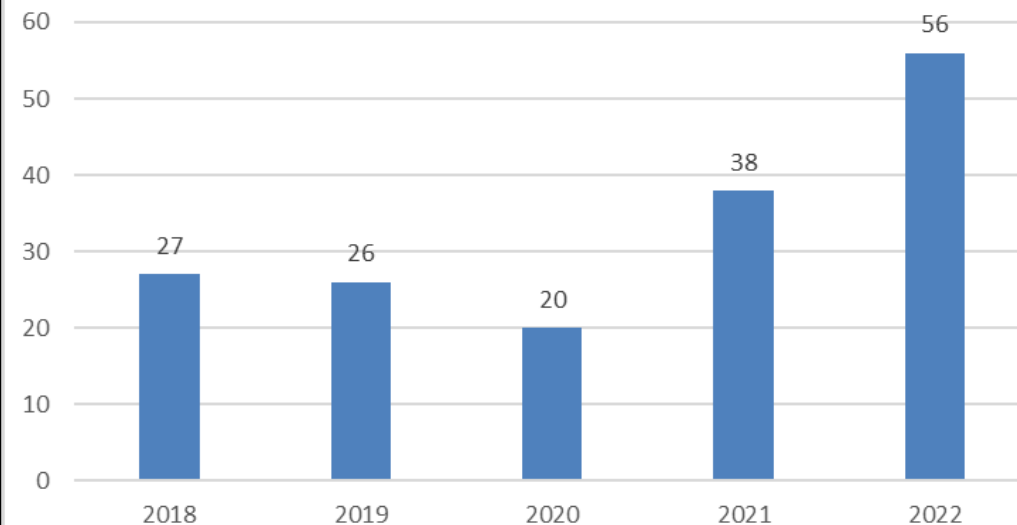
Signs of stabilization



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- The number of EVs counted during the annual pre-migration counts is increasing

Egyptian vultures



Thanks for Your attention!



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