

# Towards effective conservation and governance of Pontocaspian biodiversity in the Black Sea region

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#### Stellingen

### Behorend bij het proefschrift

"Towards effective conservation and governance of Pontocaspian biodiversity in the Black Sea region"

## van A. Gogaladze

- 1. The unique Pontocaspian biodiversity of the Black Sea region receives too little attention in research and conservation agendas (This thesis).
- 2. Scientific knowledge on species, their ecology and population trends and the habitats they live in is an essential basis for adequate conservation (Chapter 2).
- 3. Ecosystem-based measures (also known as the coarse-filter approach) are suboptimal for the conservation of invertebrate species, which require species-tailored measures (also known as fine-filter approach) (Chapter 3).
- 4. A mix of quantitative and qualitative Social Network Analysis (SNA) methods provides better insights in the social networks governing conservation than either method alone (Chapters 4 and 5).
- 5. FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) scientific data on biodiversity, as well as the necessary infrastructure for integration of various data is paramount for optimal conservation (Heberling et al. 2021; Sutherland et al. 2004).
- 6. Nature conservation is hampered not only by a general lack of ecological knowledge, but also by suboptimal consideration of political and social factors in conservation planning (Ban et al. 2013).
- 7. Diversity of cultures and languages hampers the conservation of biodiversity (Amano and Sutherland 2013).
- 8. Citizen science is a great tool for awareness raising on biodiversity, which can have a positive long-term effects on socio-ecological system resilience (Jordan et al. 2012).
- 9. It is imperative to include heavily armed poachers in your stakeholder research if you really want to save the sturgeons.
- 10. Going out fishing on a boat with the first stakeholder you meet is a recommended start to any stakeholder research in aquatic conservation.
- 11. People appreciate molluscs more when they are on a plate than when they are part of a unique ecosystem.