



# CAP

CONVERGENCE . ANIMAUX . POLITIQUE

## ACTIVITY REPORT : 8TH YEAR OF POLITICAL ACTIONS FOR ANIMALS

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July 2025



# Editorial

## Resisting backlash and building achievements over time

For its 8th year of activity, our organization has engaged in **coalition building and political advocacy** to resist backlash and keep animal welfare on the agenda, in a context of political instability and growing conservative influence across Europe. We have ramped up our **political monitoring efforts**, providing **24 partner NGOs** with critical insights and legislative texts to act on.

We have significantly stepped up our work **on the Finance Bill**, reinforcing our strategy and equipping our network. For the first time, we have offered dedicated training to our NGO partners, to help them make better use of this all too often under-exploited budgetary lever.

This year, we also managed to **break political taboos** on trophy hunting and bullfighting. These two symbolic victories allow us **to open up the democratic debate** to advance our ideas on all other issues.

One of our major advances came in March 2025, when, in partnership with **Seastemik and Welfarm**, we introduced **a bill to prevent the expansion of industrial salmon farming** - marking the first-ever legislative initiative on this issue in France.

Our **latest political fight** targeted a bill by Senator Laurent Duplomb, aligned with agro-industry lobbies. Article 3 of the text seeks to **ease the expansion of industrial farming** by raising environmental authorization thresholds for poultry and pig farms. While opposing this article, we succeeded in securing **an amendment for a moratorium on industrial salmon farms**, which was adopted nearly unanimously by the Economic Affairs Committee: this achievement proved that it is possible to rally right-wing support on this emerging issue.

Despite our efforts, the bill advanced rapidly through **exceptional parliamentary procedures** and was ultimately adopted in its original form on June 30, without parliamentary debate. Animal welfare and environmental organizations united to **denounce this legislation**, which marks a significant setback for animal welfare, environmental protection, and public health. **A massive public outcry** has followed, with over 2 million signatures collected on a petition against the bill. This **civic awakening** can serve as a springboard for our future political advocacy battles. We will build on this momentum to increase pressure on policymakers ahead of the **upcoming elections** (municipal in 2026, presidential and legislative in 2027).

These key moments will be **valuable opportunities** to put our issues at the center of public debate, **secure new ambitious commitments for animals** from political parties and candidates, reinforce existing support, and **counter any political threats** to these gains.

In this complex landscape, **CAP's mission** remains unchanged : to create the conditions for lasting political change for animals, by drawing on the strength of grassroots association and the support of committed decision-makers.

**Melvin Josse, founder and director of Convergence Animaux Politique**







## What is CAP ?

Convergence Animaux Politique (CAP) is a non-profit organization founded in 2017 that unites and empowers French animal NGOs to influence legislation. Through a strategic and coordinated lobbying approach, **CAP drives political change for animals in France.**

### Our key activities:



**Political Engagement** – Build, expand, and maintain a network of political allies who are receptive to NGO demands. We raise awareness among political decision-makers across the political spectrum about animal issues, through meetings, monthly newsletter and other communications sent to members of Parliament. We engage political parties and candidates to commit to the animal cause during election campaigns.



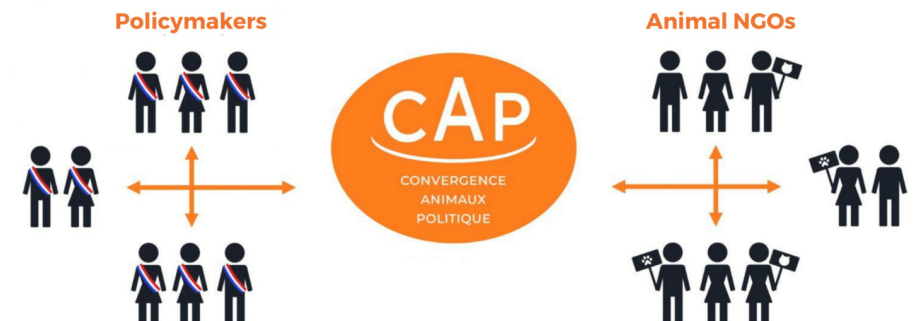
**Legislative Advocacy** – Identify and create legislative opportunities for animals, while anticipating and resisting potential backlash. We mobilize our network of political allies to push for concrete legislative actions (bills, amendments, parliamentary questions...) and pressure the government.



**Movement Building** – Support and coordinate our 25 partner NGOs in their advocacy strategies, fostering collective initiatives and the development of shared, coherent, and impactful political demands. With our institutional and political expertise, we provide our partner NGOs with a range of targeted resources tailored to their strategic objectives (weekly legislative monitoring, mapping of political interlocutors, training sessions on legislative tools and institutional processes...)



**Political-NGO Bridge** – Establish and strengthen connections between political and non-governmental actors, creating regular opportunities of meeting, dialogue and collaboration. We organise thematic events three times a year to bring together partner NGOs and members of Parliament.



## What we advocate for

CAP does not have political demands of its own, it carries those of its partner NGOs, covering all issues related to the animal cause :

-  **Farmed animals and food transition - 40% of our lobbying effort**
-  **Wild animals - 20% of our lobbying effort**
-  **Animal testing - 15% of our lobbying effort**
-  **Captivity and animals exploited in entertainments - 10% of our lobbying effort**
-  **Companion animals - 10% of our lobbying effort**
-  **Education, law and governance - 5% of our lobbying effort**

Our expertise lies in our advocacy strategy for defending these claims, based on our knowledge of the institutional environment and our relationship-building work.

## Testimonials

“As an NGO, we really need to meet with MPs to propose new bills, vote on them, advocate for our demands in the political debate, and question the government. Politicians, on the other hand, need arguments and our expertise. CAP provides us with the approach to engage with these politicians, exchange ideas with them, and also offers us many tools and opportunities. It provides a framework, such as during CAP meetings, where we can effectively have discussions with them.”

Sophie Maffre-Baugé - President of COLBAC (partner NGO)

“I think there’s an important dimension to which CAP contributes, and that’s to ensure that politicians have this permanent link with NGOs, with their arguments, and above all, their experience.”

Olivier Falorni - Member of Parliament

## Our Team



**Melvin Josse**  
Executive Director



**Milton Federici**  
Public Affairs Officer



**Hugo Marro-Menotti**  
Advocacy and Legal Affairs Officer



**Malou Longo**  
Advocacy officer



**Charlotte Clabaut**  
Finance and Development Officer



**Juliette Parade**  
Operations and Engagement Officer





## Our 8th year in key figures



57

sensitive meetings



15

bills supported



21

questions to  
the government



88

amendments tabled



24

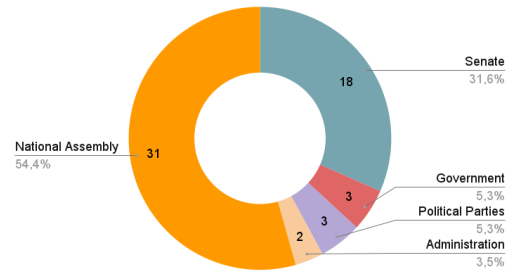
partner NGOs



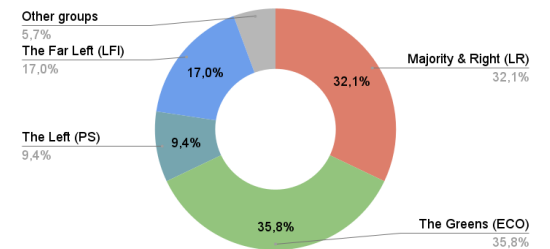
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events

Number of meetings with decision-makers by institution



Number of meetings with MPs by political groups



### A look back at our 10 most impactful actions of the year:

1. Obtaining a bill against salmon factory farms
2. Moving the budget forward by tabling 43 amendments
3. Opening a democratic debate on bullfighting in the Senate
4. Adding trophy hunting to the agenda of the Conference of Presidents
5. Calling on the government to enforce the law on captivity
6. Including plant-based food in the Social Security Food Law
7. Strengthening our political alliances at the summer universities
8. Asking the Prime Minister to create a Ministry for Animal Welfare
9. Strengthening ties between NGOs and members of Parliament
10. Encouraging political decision-makers to support the development of alternative methods to animal experimentation



## 1. Obtaining a bill against salmon factory farms

CAP supported its partner Seastemik in submitting a bill to the French National Assembly aimed at banning closed-circuit salmon farms in France. To bring this political issue to the fore, our team carried out extensive work to raise awareness among MPs beforehand, highlighting the harmful impacts of this emerging industry on animal welfare, biodiversity and the climate. We mobilised our political network to help Seastemik obtain the signatures of over 100 MPs from 8 different parliamentary groups, a key first step in setting the legislative process in motion on this cross-party text.

## 2. Moving the budget forward by tabling 43 amendments

Every year, discussions on the State budget provide NGOs with a strategic opportunity to fund animal and environmental protection. During the Finance Bill 2025, CAP tabled 43 amendments on behalf of its NGO partners, in the National Assembly and the Senate, on subjects such as animal transport, hunting and captivity. A number of these proposals were adopted, including the VAT exemption for veterinary expenses incurred by shelters, which was voted for in the public session, and a budget of €10 million to step up health checks on the transport of live animals by sea, which was adopted in committee. Although recourse to the 49.3 cancelled these advances, they testify to our ability to bring essential priorities to the fore in the budget debate. CAP has also been campaigning for several years against the so-called 'gagging' amendments, which aim to weaken associations by suspending their tax benefits.





### 3. Opening a democratic debate on bullfighting in the Senate

In November 2024, we secured a debate on this subject in Parliament for the first time. The placing on the agenda of a bill aimed at banning the presence of minors under the age of 16 at bullfights is the result of a long political journey, in collaboration with our historic allies, Senator Samantha Cazebonne (RDPI) and Senator Arnaud Bazin (LR). Although the text was not adopted, it has enabled us to identify our supporters and opponents more clearly, to lift a deep-rooted political taboo and to secure several parliamentary meetings. This represents a symbolic victory that has opened the way for a broader democratic debate and will help advance the animal cause as a whole within the political sphere.

### 4. Adding trophy hunting to the agenda of the Conference of Presidents

As part of the campaign we have been running for over two years with Humane World for Animals Europe, we succeeded in getting our bill banning the import of trophies of endangered species into France tabled both in the National Assembly - for a 4th time by MP Sandra Regol - and in the Senate - by Senator Yannick Jadot. We secured 82 co-signatures for the bill in the Assembly by actively engaging our network. We also succeeded in getting the bill included on the agenda of the Assembly's Conference of Presidents and are now working to ensure it is brought forward for debate.



### 5. Calling on the government to enforce the law on captivity

This year, we have carried out several actions to question the government on the application of the law against animal cruelty, particularly with regard to captivity. In December 2024, we secured a meeting at the Ministry of Ecological Transition with the LFDA, Quatre Pattes, AVES France and Code Animal, following the publication of our collective open letter to the government, signed by these 5 NGOs and 25 members of parliament. Given the urgency of the situation for the hundreds of animals concerned and the persistent shortcomings in the application of the text, raised by the ten written questions to the government tabled this year by our political allies, the Minister's team undertook to publish several implementing texts by 2025. As the high point of our collective mobilisation, in June 2025 we organised a CAP meeting between NGOs and members of parliament to give impetus to new actions on this subject, such as the creation of a mission to evaluate the law or work on a bill to ban the use of wild animals in films.





## 6. Including plant-based food in the Social Security Food Law

In summer 2024, CAP supported a bill to introduce social security for food in the French National Assembly. Our team worked alongside its NGO partners to include provisions to promote the development of plant-based food. This text was put on the agenda as part of the Ecologiste et Social group's parliamentary niche in February 2025, but could not be examined within the given timeframe.

## 7. Strengthening our political alliances at the summer universities

Every year, the political parties' summer universities offer a valuable opportunity to meet many political decision-makers, such as MPs, senators, ministers and local mayors, all in one place. In an uncertain political climate, it is essential to strengthen our ties with these players in order to mobilise them in support of our campaigns. In 2024, CAP took part in the Ecologists' Summer Days, the Socialist Party's Summer Campus, the MoDem's Universités de rentrée and the France Insoumise's AMFIS. During these events, CAP distinguished itself as a key interlocutor with the new Prime Minister's team, notably by taking part for the first time in the MoDem's Universités de rentrée. Our team met 33 MPs, 9 senators, 3 MEPs and other officials were met, including Minister Jean-Noël Barrot (MoDEM) and Prime Minister François Bayrou (MoDEM).

*Marine Tondelier - EELV Summer Universities.*

## 8. Asking the Prime Minister to create a Ministry for Animal Welfare

Each time a new Prime Minister is appointed, CAP engages in dialogue from the very first days of his or her term of office. In 2024, we coordinated two collective approaches with our NGO partners, first to Michel Barnier (LR) and then to François Bayrou (MoDEM), to ask for the creation of a Ministry for the Animal Welfare within their government. These letters and requests for meetings are an opportunity to point out that the animal issue is dealt with in a fragmented way, with no cross-cutting coordination. While this request has not yet received a favourable response, it has nevertheless served to reaffirm the collective mobilisation of NGOs in favour of autonomous and coherent governance of animal protection.

## 9. Strengthening ties between NGOs and members of Parliament

On 30 October 2024, a CAP meeting brought together thirty members of parliament, staff, local elected representatives and ministerial representatives to meet 18 partner NGOs. Thanks to direct exchanges with decision-makers, this event helped to identify concrete political courses of action on all issues relating to animal protection : farmed animals, food transition, wild animals, captivity and entertainment, animal experimentation, companion animals, governance and education.





## 10. Support the development of alternative methods to animal experimentation

On 5 February 2025, a CAP meeting brought together around twenty members of parliament, staff and local elected representatives to discuss a subject that is still little debated: animal experimentation. This meeting, which focused on alternative methods, highlighted the importance of ethical, innovative and competitive research. For the first time, scientists and industry representatives were invited to testify alongside partner NGOs, in order to review current practices and identify the political levers for accelerating the transition to animal-free research. At the end of the event, CAP and its NGO partners proposed that members of parliament table 15 written questions to encourage the government to take up the issue.



## Our partner NGOs

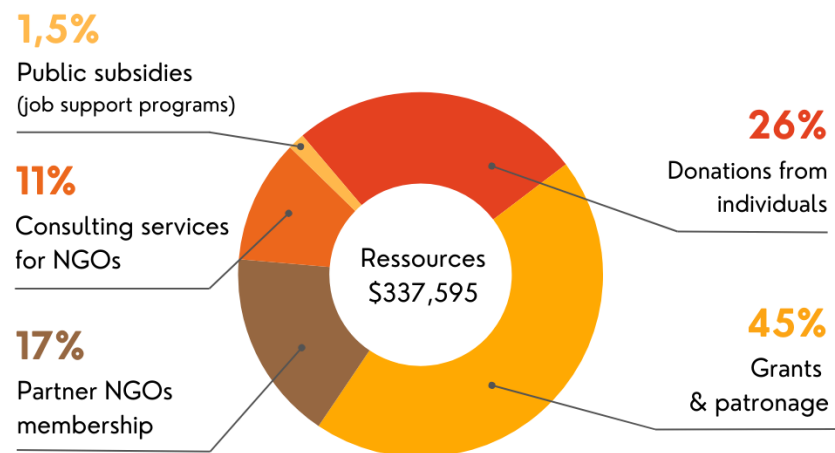
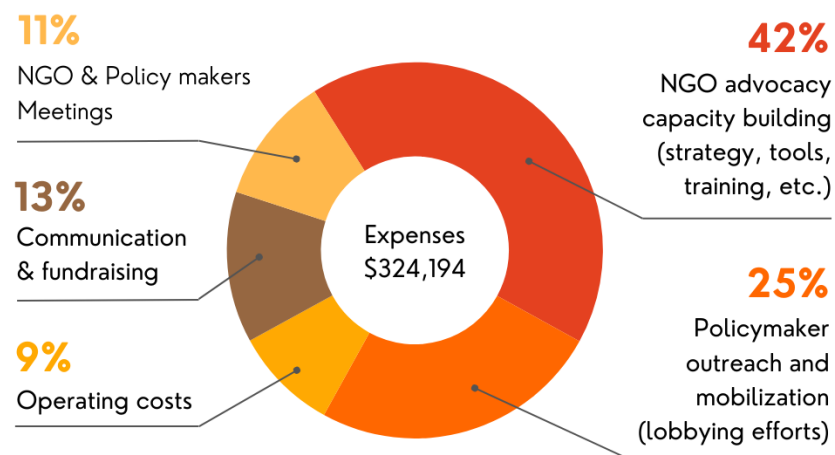


**Humane  
World for  
Animals**



## Our annual budget

Here is an overview of the budget for our 8th year of operations, which ended on June 30, 2025. You will find more details in our annual financial statement, presented at our Annual General Meeting at the end of the year



## Support our work

Most animal suffering is rooted in **institutionalized systems**, whether in farming conditions, wildlife management, or regulations on animal testing. Advocating for animals goes beyond individual ethics: it is a matter of collective, **political responsibility**.

By supporting our work, you help counter the powerful influence of agro-industry lobbies, rebalance the political power dynamic, and defend the interests of animals wherever they are threatened, to ultimately **reduce animal suffering in France**.

France is one of Europe's largest producers of animal products and wields significant influence within the European Union. Achieving progress in France is therefore critical, not only for the millions of animals within its borders, but for the **ripple effect** such changes can have **across Europe**.



These advancements are made possible thanks to the generous support of our funders and donors. We sincerely thank everyone who stands by our side!



PROUD GRANT 2024 RECIPIENT





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