

Ban Veterinary Diclofenac Now!

Title



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Veterinary *diclofenac* is extremely toxic to vultures and eagles. Its use on cattle almost wiped out the South Asian populations of vultures in the 90?s and [has recently been found to affect eagles too](#). An EU ban on veterinary *diclofenac* is urgently needed to avoid disaster in Europe. [Support our call for a ban now!](#)

Diclofenac is a non-steroid anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) whose veterinary use has been the main cause of the catastrophic 99% decline of several species of vultures in South Asia.

In a recently published paper in the journal *Bird Conservation International*, scientists found *diclofenac* residue in tissues of [steppe eagles](#) found dead in Rajasthan, India. These birds of prey are closely related to the [golden eagles](#) found in the UK, the vulnerable [Spanish Imperial Eagle](#) and other globally vulnerable or declining Eurasian eagles. Scientists now fear that all species in this genus, known as *Aquila*, are susceptible to *diclofenac* too.

Despite the tragic experience in South Asia and the availability of safe drug alternatives, we have confirmed that veterinary *diclofenac* is now commercially available in at least two EU countries: Spain and Italy.

Spain and Italy are key to vulture and eagle conservation in Europe and protecting European populations requires a coordinated campaign. BirdLife Europe, its Partners in Italy ([LIPU](#)) and Spain ([SEO/BirdLife](#)) and the [Vulture Conservation Foundation](#) call the EU to ban veterinary *diclofenac* to avoid the repetition of the South Asian ecological catastrophe. [Support our call!](#)

Watch this!

We are currently fundraising to stop vulture poisoning across Europe and Africa. Together we can make a difference. [Support our appeal here!](#)

Frequently asked questions

- [What is *diclofenac*?](#)
- [Which species are affected by the use of *diclofenac*?](#)
- [What is the conservation status of the species affected by *diclofenac*?](#)
- [Is *diclofenac* legally sold in Europe?](#)
- [Are there safe alternatives to *diclofenac*?](#)
- [Where is *diclofenac* being produced?](#)

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