## Mountainous Greece and its nature as a "Whole"

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Greece is the only country in Europe that doesn't have a strategy for its mountainous part which represents 42.3 % of the territory (according to the 268/75/EC directive)

A special strategy that should consider Greek mountainous areas, not as many separate and distinctive places where different and often contradictory policies are implemented, but as a "whole", is necessary. Specifically:

- a) this national strategy should consider mountainous areas as a "whole" through the creation of an over-local network,
- b) 10% of the Greek territory should be considered as protected (today the protected territory represents only 0.53%) through the creation of 12 new National Parks (today whole geographical regions such as Peloponnisos, Thesally, Central and Eastern Macedonia, Thraki and the Aegean islands don't even have a single protected area) and
- c) a national and interdisciplinary secretariat (according to EUROMONTANA standards) should be in charge for the implementation of European and national policies in Greece which is the most mountainous country in the Mediterranean and the Balkans!