

## Trophy collection

Increasingly, more and more endangered animals are facing a new threat, which is not their natural enemies or climate change. This new threat is greed and discontent. Humans always want more. To always be the best in a certain field, to appear rich to others, or have a new sense of achievement. These aspects fit perfectly to the hobby of trophy hunting. Simply explained, it is the hunting of endangered animals (mostly in Africa), either to get hold of certain body parts and then preserve them by taxidermy or stuffing. Such a hobby, however, at least in my eyes, is a defiance of the laws of nature. You are merely demonstrating that you are more powerful than a few defenceless animals that must fight for their habitat or food without any external influence. Motives could be the "good" image because hunting was already a sport for nobles/rich people in the Middle Ages. If you now look at the professions of the hunters, you'll only left speechlessness. because one would have expected these people to think about what they are doing or consequences of their actions and stand up for environmental/climate protection. Most of them are hedge fund managers, doctors, or lawyers. A very big disappointment, as these are very well-paid jobs, but people still care more about their status than about the welfare of the animals and would rather spend their money on killing them rather than protecting them. This also brings us to our next aspect: Hunting tourism as a solution for the local economy and locals. Often tourism is offered with the argument, that money should go to nature conservation and local people, which is contradictory. Trophy hunting often does not work, since the regulation systems do not function as planned, or people don't follow the rules, or the hoped-for effects of the measures do not materialise. Also, other problems occur, e.g., with lions. Have you ever thought about what would happen if the males of a pride of lions died because they were particularly attractive to a hunter? A new lion would take over the pride but would also kill the cubs of the previous leader to produce his own offspring. As a result, more lions die. There is a problem not only with lions, but also with antlered and horned animals, because only those with the strongest antlers/horns are killed. which in the long run changes the genetic composition of the population, and then there are no more animals with large antlers.

All this shows how important it is to think about such things, as these activities may also one day influence our lives. In addition, one must that after the Americans, German hunters are the leaders in hunting endangered and protected animals.

<https://www.prowildlife.de/aktuelles/hintergrund/grosswildjagd-trophaenjagd/>

<https://herz-fuer-tiere.de/wildlife/wissen/tiere-toeten-fuer-die-trophaee-trophaeenjagd-und-ihre-folgen>

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The fragile paradise – Essays on issues of selected photographs

