RELATION OF NATURE CONSERVATION AND AGRICULTURE - A CASE STUDY FROM KISKUNSÁG NATIONAL PARK

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National parks play a pivotal role in safeguarding ecological integrity; however, many of these sanctuaries are subject to agricultural exploitation. Consequently, the interplay between these two sectors has manifested as a longstanding and intricate dynamic. In our investigation, we scrutinize these conflicts within the Sand Ridge region (Homokhátság), especially in the Kiskunság National Park (KNP). We elucidate the primary factors contributing to the antagonistic relationship between agriculture and conservation through a meticulous analysis involving in-depth interviews with local experts. Our findings underscore the paramount influence of agricultural subsidies on preserving natural habitats. Sustainable land use management is problematic, even in national parks, and the effectiveness of nature conservation is influenced by agriculture. Prominent experts posit a recent diminution in the conservation domain's influence, attributing a newfound determinative role to agriculture. The KNP, as an institutional entity, witnesses a waning impact on managing landscapes within protected regions. The scrutinized conflicts provide nuanced insights into landscape management and contribute novel perspectives to the broader discourse on society's interconnection with the environment. Joining other authors, we support the principle of cross- and multisectoral policy coordination, which allows for optimal land use and ecosystem services. As the case of KNP demonstrates, European eco- and agricultural policy need to be more collaborative and flexible to consider regional characteristics.