

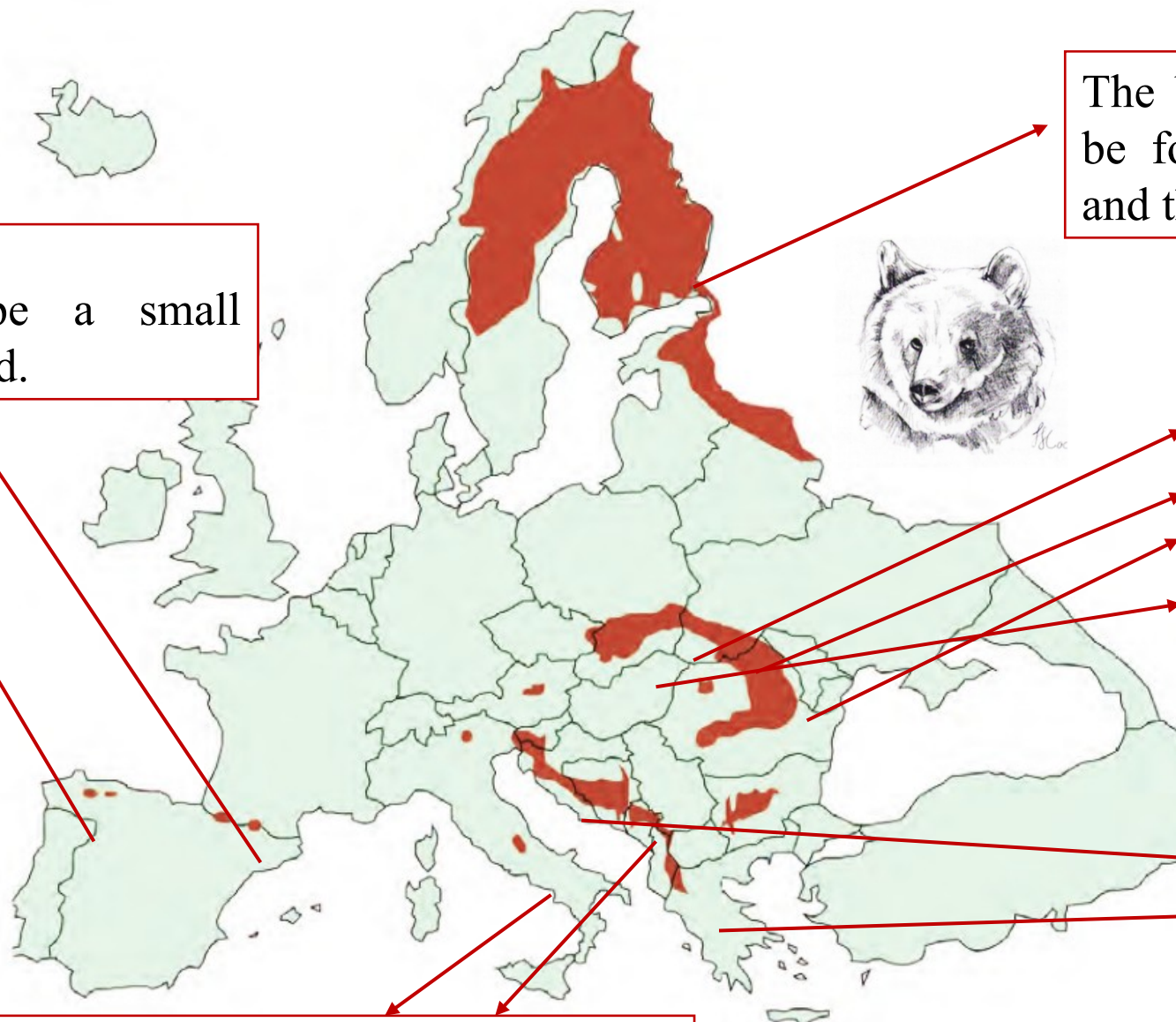
# THE BROWN BEAR – GENERAL FACTS





Erasmus+

# BROWN BEAR THROUGHOUT EUROPE



In western Europe a small number can be found.

The biggest number ( 37, 500) can be found between Ural Mountains and the West coast of Finland.

The second biggest number of brown bears can be found in the Carpathians (Poland, Romania, Ukraine, Slovakia). This means about 8, 100. Romania has the biggest number .(6,300)

About 2,800 brown bears live between the East part of the Alps and the Pindus Mountains in Greece.

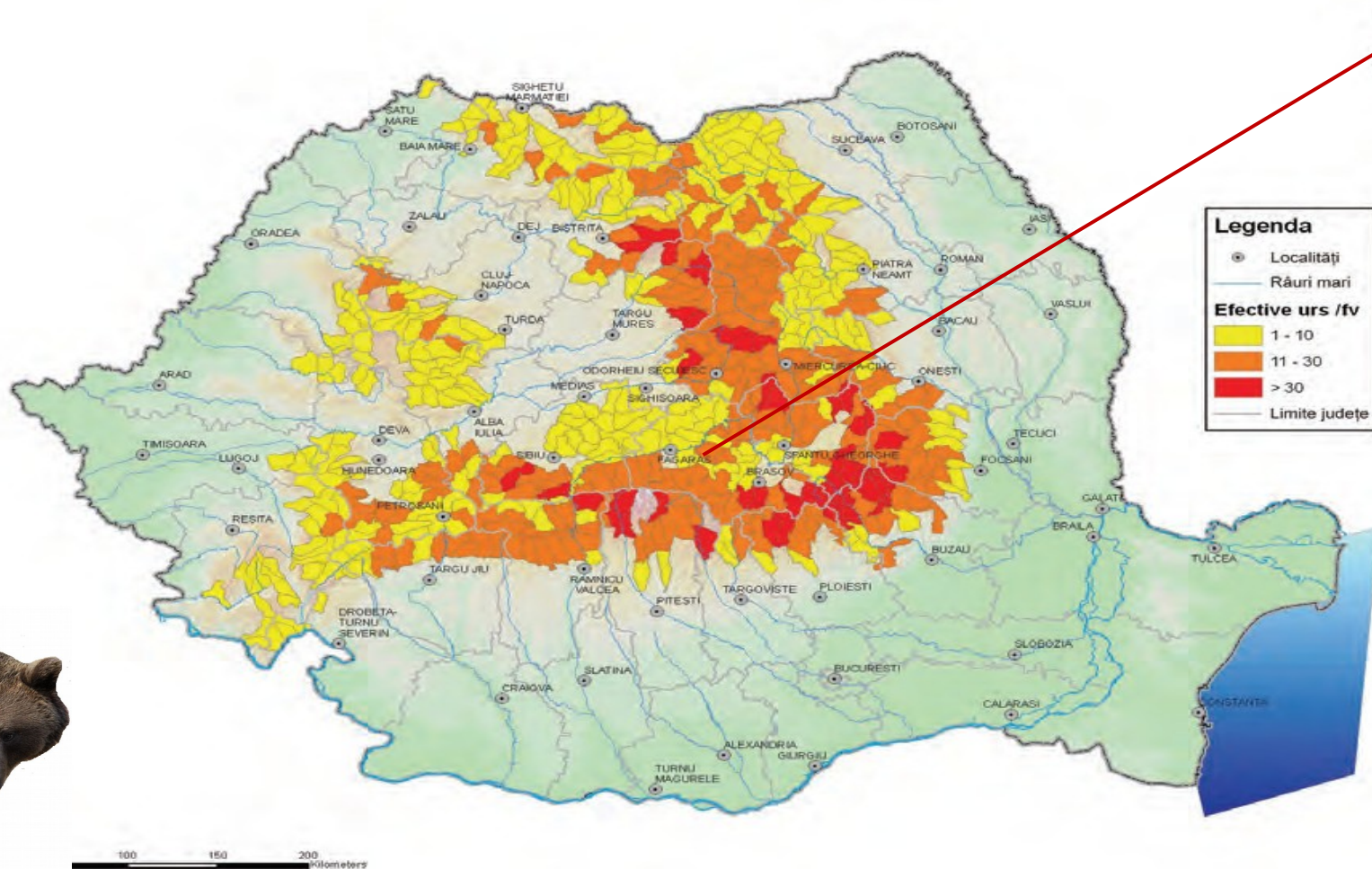
In the southern part also a small number.



# THE BROWN BEAR IN ROMANIA



In Romania the brown bear can be found all over the Carpathians. The most populated areas are the red ones on the map. Our county, Brasov, is included in these areas.







Romania has the largest bear population in Europe 6, 000 specimens. This means about 60% of Europe's bear population. The brown bear lives along the entire chain of the Carpathians. They prefer the vast and rich forests where they can find quiet areas, not touched by men's presence.



# HABITUARY BEARS AND HOUSEHOLD WASTE





Slowly, Braşov becomes the city that people and bears share. The first ones master the day, the others master the night. But lately, bears can be seen in the daylight, studying the menu in a dumpster.



# HABITUARY BEARS OR GARBAGE BEARS OF BRASOV

For years now, Braşov has been known as the town where the "garbage bears" reach up to the entrance stairs of apartment buildings (especially in the neighborhood called Racadau) , they sometimes walk on the boulevard or even enter the courtyards in the old part of the town. The dumpsters are a permanent temptation for the bears.





Unfortunately, these bears became a tourist attraction.







## WHAT IS AN HABITUARY BEAR?

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-  An habituary bear is a bear that has learnt to accept human presence due to repeated encounters.
  -  An habituary bear will not avoid **human presence**, although he will keep a certain “safe” distance for protection.
  -  Their eating habits are changed. They no longer look for food in the woods, instead they prefer “easy food” – household waste and food offered by people in urban areas.









During the last few years, the local authorities together with the Local Forest Authority, realized how serious the problem was and their efforts decreased the number of bears that have evening walks around dumpsters.







# Why do bears come so close to the city or in it?

**Massive deforestation** has pushed the animals to the foot of the mountains and towards urban areas where they try to find food.





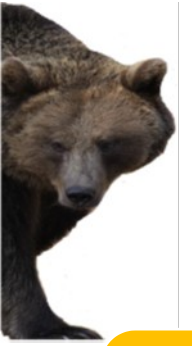
## How can we fix the "Problem"?

Shooting them? That's not a solution.

- We can develop projects with the Hunters' Associations in order to move a part of the bears to areas especially created for them.
- Keep our forests clean. Bears sometimes mistake plastic for food so they keep coming out of the forest.
- Set up buffer zones.







**EXPANDING OF URBAN AREAS**

**LACK OF INVOLVEMENT FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

**BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS**

**IRRESPONSIBLE TOURISTS**

**DECREASING HABITAT BECAUSE OF DEFORESTATION**

**FAULTY WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**INTERACTION WITH DOMESTIC ANIMALS**

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PROPER CONDITIONS FOR STORING HOUSEHOLD WASTE

SUPPLYING ENOUGH FOOD TO KEEP THEM AWAY FROM URBAN AREAS

EDUCATING PEOPLE AND TOURISTS TO ADOPT A CORRECT ATTITUDE TOWARDS WILD ANIMALS

MONITORING BEAR AREAS

DAYLY PICK UP OF DUMPSTERS OR USING BEAR PROOF DUMPSTERS

CREAREATING "LIBERTY" SANCTUARY

OPTIMIZE WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR REDUCING CONFLICTS MAN-BEAR

RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

ELECTRIC FENCES TO PROTECT BEEHIVES OR SHEEP FARMS)

MEASURES



# BEAR SANCTUARY IN ZARNEȘTI

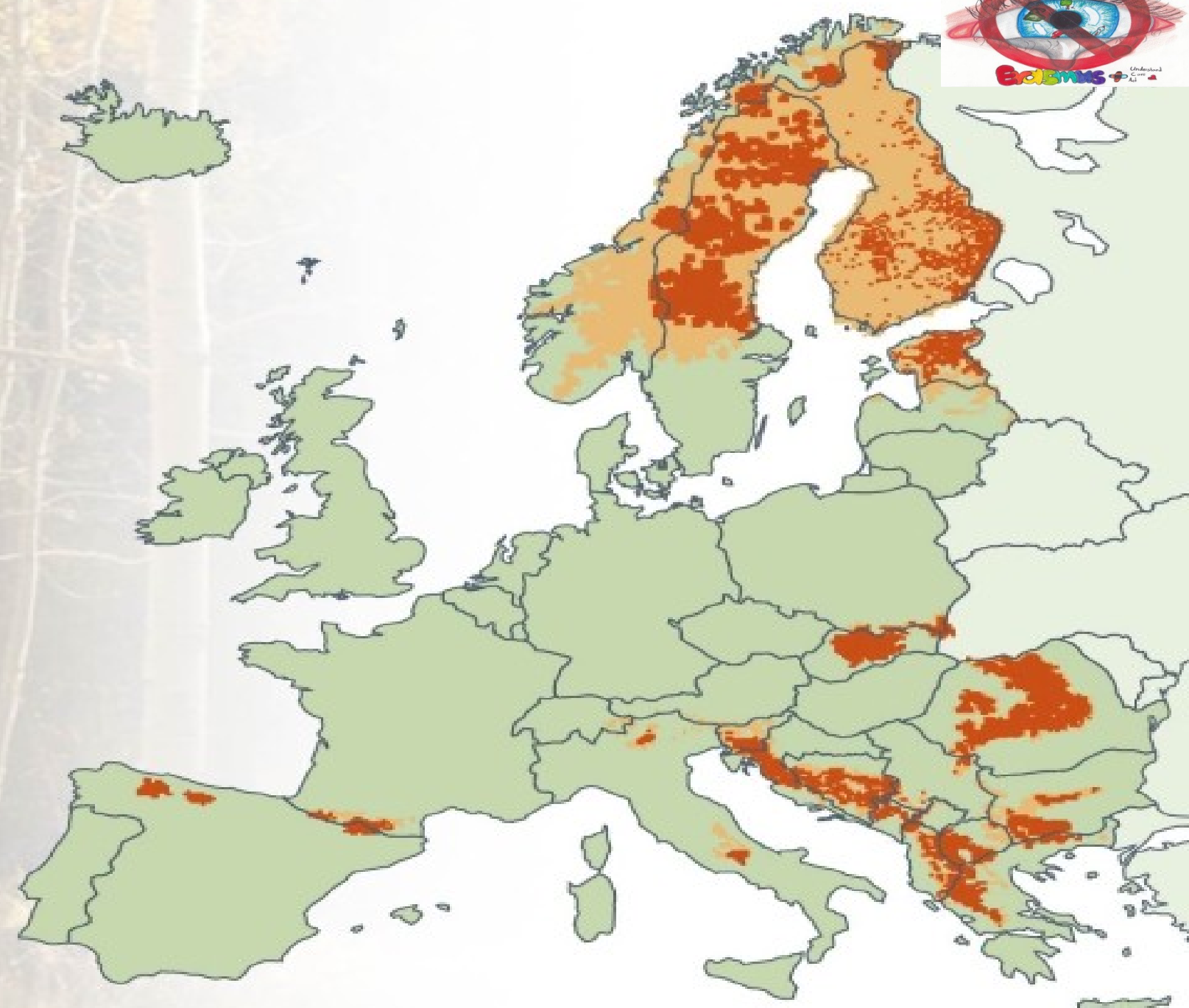


LiBEARty Sanctuary is the largest brown bear reservation in the world. It covers an area of 69 hectares of oak forest. The Sanctuary is proud of saving a lot of bears that lived in terrible conditions in different countries. Maria and Marko were brought from Albania. Others came from Georgia and even from Texas or Armenia.



**Maria și Marko**







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