

Policy paper: Ivory Bill 2018

Updated: Added factsheets for Illegal Wildlife Trade, Ivory Seizures, Existing Regulations and Compliance.

The number of elephants has declined by almost a third in the last decade and around 20,000 a year are still being slaughtered due to the global demand for ivory.

The UK's ivory ban will be one of the toughest in the world and builds on government work at home and overseas to deal with poaching and the illegal ivory trade.

The [measures in the Bill](#) will:

- introduce a ban on commercial activities concerning ivory (it will ban buying and selling ivory)
- set out five categories of items exempted from the ban
- detail what actions those wishing to sell exempt items will need to take to be compliant with the ban
- introduce new offences that could be applied to breaches of the ban
- include necessary power for enforcement, such as powers of entry, search and seizure

The Bill follows a [consultation](#) that attracted more than 70,000 responses from the public – with 88 per cent backing the ban.