

Please personalize your letter by including your own comments

Please send one email to Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdóttir with **CC** to the two Ministers below. Please include the cc information (can be copy & pasted) after your sender information.

NOTE: email address is provided for reference, but please copy & paste name only.

TO: <bjarkeyg@althingi.is>

Bjarkey Olsen Gunnarsdóttir, Minister for Food, Agriculture, and Fisheries

CC:

<bjarniben@althingi.is>

Bjarni Benediktsson, Prime Minister of Iceland

Dear MAST Minister Bjarkey Olsen Gunnarsdóttir,

In December 2023 Hvalur hf's 5 year license to hunt Fin Whales in Iceland expired.

As an application has been submitted for renewal, I politely ask that you consider former Prime Minister Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdóttir's statement:

An assessment of the environmental impact and animal welfare considerations, but also the social impact and the impact on the Icelandic economy, must be carried out before whaling licenses are re-allocated.

This is an important moment for the rights of whales, the health of oceans, biodiversity, and climate crisis. I urge the Icelandic government not to renew the whaling license, and for Parliament to pass the bill to ban whaling for good. The bill would bring whales under the protection of Iceland's wildlife laws. The bill proposes making whaling illegal by repealing the Act on whaling, no. 26/1949.

I support the decision last summer by now former MAST Minister Svandís Svavarsdóttir to pause whaling in recognition of animal welfare. In 2023, Iceland showed the world that the majority of Icelanders are against whaling. Many have been actively expressing the need put an end to this obsolete industry which has undeniably been proven as extremely cruel. Beyond the economic aspect, whales play a vital role in maintaining the health of marine ecosystems.

I stand by the more than 60 organizations and many influential figures in the multi-billion-dollar film industry, politicians who have signed a joint statement supporting the decision of Svandís of pausing whaling and asking the Icelandic government not to reissue a new 5 year permit.

It is my hope to celebrate Iceland for demonstrating leadership in truly caring for and acknowledging the magnificent whales through your actions. Please support a permanent end to Icelandic whaling. Please protect whales and our future.

Sincerely,

[INSERT name,
country
& date]

cc: Bjarni Benediktsson, Prime Minister of Iceland