

A Concise Checklist and Bibliography of the
Reptiles of
Ukraine



 **Rune Midtgaard**

2026

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Inset image (cover):

Eurasian Glass Lizard (*Pseudopus apodus*)








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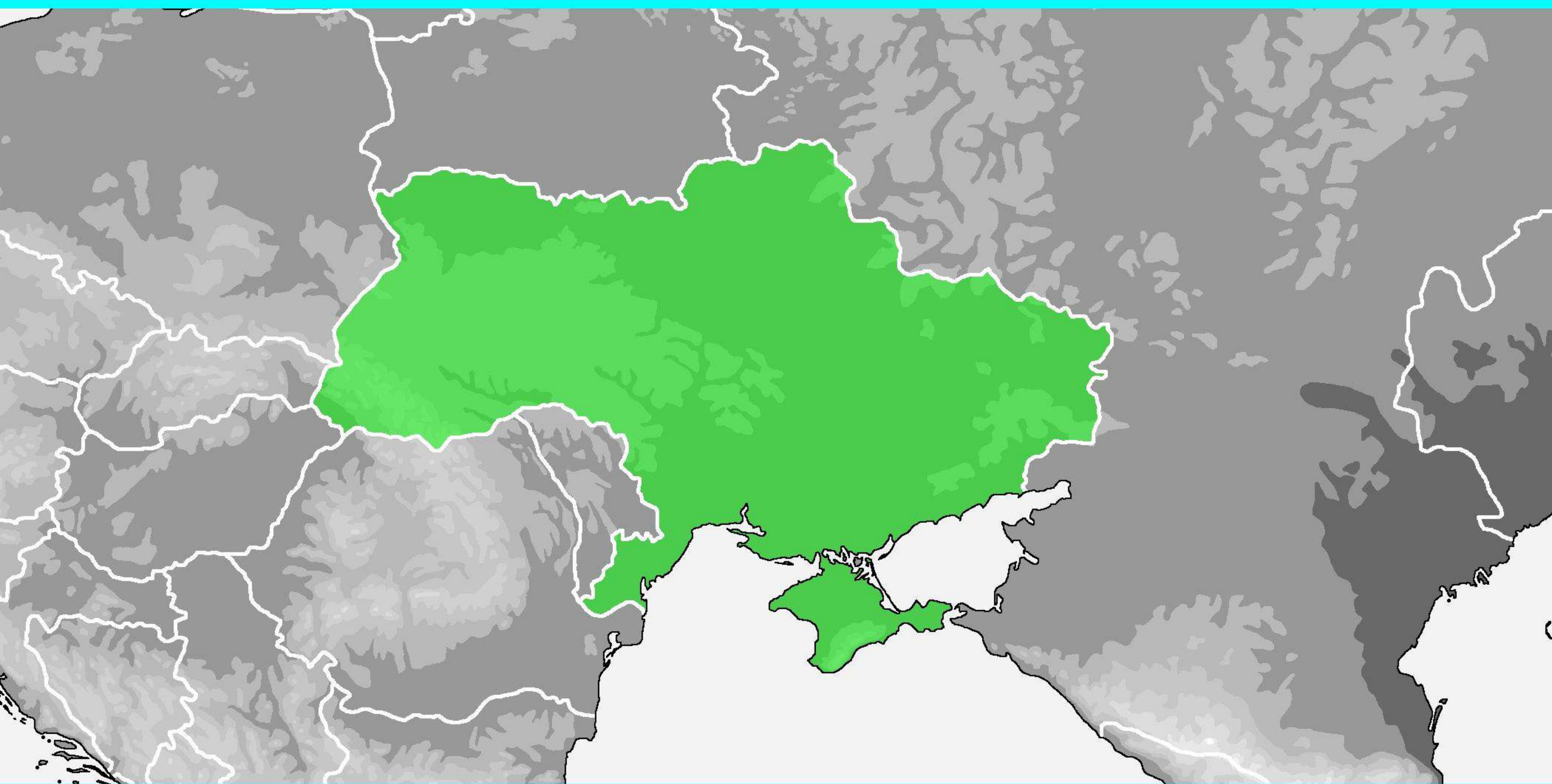
Background image (cover and colophon):

Common European Pond Turtle (*Emys orbicularis*)

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IUCN Red List categories



Extinct



Endangered



Least Concern



Extinct in the Wild



Vulnerable



Data Deficient



Critically Endangered



Near Threatened



Not Assessed

Lizards (Sauria)

Family **Anguidae**

2 species

Slowworms, etc.

NA ***Anguis colchica*** (Nordmann, 1840)

Eastern Slowworm

Distribution: E. Europe, Middle East.

LC ***Pseudopus apodus*** (Pallas, 1775)

Eurasian Glass Lizard

Distribution: SE. Europe, Middle East, C. and SW: Asia.

Family **Gekkonidae**

1 species

Typical Geckos

NA ***Mediodactylus danilewskii*** (Strauch, 1887)

Northern Bent-toed Gecko

Distribution: Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Ukraine.

Family **Lacertidae**

6 species

Typical Lizards

LC ***Darevskia lindholmi*** (Lantz & Cyren, 1936)

Crimean Rock Lizard

Distribution: Ukraine.

LC ***Eremias arguta*** (Pallas, 1773)

Kazakhstan Steppe Runner

Distribution: SE. Europe, C. and SW. Asia.

LC ***Lacerta agilis*** Linnaeus, 1758

Northern Eurasian Sand Lizard

Distribution: Scandinavia, England, C. and E. Europe, C. Asia, south to Turkey.

LC ***Lacerta viridis*** (Laurenti, 1768)

Eastern Green Lizard

Distribution: C. and SE. Europe, Turkey.

LC ***Podarcis tauricus*** (Pallas, 1814)

Balkan Wall Lizard

Distribution: SE. Europe, Turkey.

LC ***Zootoca vivipara*** (Lichtenstein, 1823)

Northern Eurasian Forest Lizard

Distribution: N. and C. Europe, N. and C. Asia.

Snakes (Serpentes)

Family Colubridae

8 species

Typical Snakes

- LC** *Coronella austriaca* Laurenti, 1768
Northern Smooth Snake
Distribution: Europe, N. Middle East.
- LC** *Dolichophis caspius* (Gmelin, 1789)
Caspian Whip Snake
Distribution: SE. Europe, Turkey.
- LC** *Elaphe dione* (Pallas, 1773)
Dione Rat Snake
Distribution: SE. Europe, C. and E. Asia.
- LC** *Elaphe sauromates* (Pallas, 1814)
Sarmatian Rat Snake
Distribution: Bulgaria, Greece, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine.
- LC** *Natrix natrix* (Linnaeus, 1758)
Common European Grass Snake
Distribution: N., C. and E. Europe, Middle East, C. Asia.
- LC** *Natrix tessellata* (Laurenti, 1768)
Dice Snake
Distribution: C., S. and E. Europe, C. and SW. Asia, Middle East, Egypt.
- LC** *Zamenis longissimus* (Laurenti, 1768)
Common Aesculapian Snake
Distribution: C. and S. Europe, Middle East.
- LC** *Zamenis situla* (Linnaeus, 1758)
Leopard Snake
Distribution: S. and SE. Europe, Turkey.

Family Viperidae

3 species

Vipers

- LC** *Vipera berus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
Northern Eurasian Viper
Distribution: N., C. and E. Europe, Turkey, C. and E. Asia.
- NA** *Vipera nikolskii* Vedmederya & Grubant, 1986
Russian Black Viper
Distribution: Moldova, Romania, Russia, Ukraine.
- NT** *Vipera renardi* (Christoph, 1861)
Eastern Steppe Viper
Distribution: China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Turtles (Testudines)

Family **Emydidae**

Western Pond Turtles

1 species

NT ***Emys orbicularis*** (Linnaeus, 1758)

Common European Pond Turtle

Distribution: C. and S. Europe, C. and SW. Asia, NW. Africa.

Family **Lacertidae**

Typical Lizards

LC ***Darevskia armeniaca*** (Méhely, 1909)

Armenian Rock Lizard

Distribution: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey.

LC ***Podarcis muralis*** (Laurenti, 1768)

Common European Wall Lizard

Distribution: C. and S. Europe, Turkey.

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Links

At the time of writing, a more detailed description of the distribution of each species along with references can be seen at the RepFocus webpage:

www.repfocus.dk/GEO/Ukraine.html

The website is updated continuously and includes distribution maps of most (eventually all) of the world's reptile species. To the best of the author's knowledge and ability, the information presented in this publication reflects the state of knowledge current to January 1st, 2026. Comments are welcomed and can be sent to the author:

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Other recommended websites include:

The Reptile Database:

www.reptile-database.org

The IUCN Redlist of Threatened Species:

www.iucnredlist.org

NHBS - Wildlife, Ecology & Conservation (internet book store):

www.nhbs.com/en/

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