



**Eyes on
Animals**

Watching
out for their
welfare

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HELP END THE EU'S CRUEL LIVE ANIMAL EXPORT TRADE



The EU exports over two million cattle & sheep a year to the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey. Slaughter practices in this region impose immense suffering on these animals.

Slaughter in Lebanon

The Five Infringements

EU's live export trade ignores:

1. Regulation 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport
2. A Court of Justice ruling on live exports
3. The OIE international standards on welfare at slaughter
4. The EU Treaty which requires agriculture policy to pay "full regard" to animal welfare
5. The EU's trade strategy which requires trade to be "responsible" and consistent with "broader European values"

1

Ignoring EU law on the protection of animals during transport

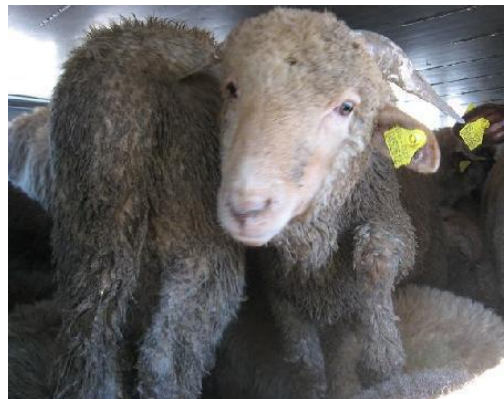
The long journeys to the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey regularly entail multiple breaches of Regulation 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport.

Packed into overcrowded trucks, the animals often have insufficient headroom meaning that they have to stand in a stooped position sometimes for days on end. The heat inside the trucks can be unbearable with animals desperately panting for air. Often there is insufficient water and animals become so hungry that they resort to eating their filthy bedding. Animals collapse onto the floor of the truck where they risk being trampled by their companions. Recently investigators saw cattle giving birth on the trucks while nearby others lay dying overwhelmed by the rigours of the journey.



Bull suffering from heat and panting

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Overcrowding - sheep stepping on lying animals

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2

Ignoring Court of Justice ruling in *Zuchtvieh* case

The Commission, the Member States and the exporters regularly ignore the Court of Justice ruling that - in the case of live animal exports - EU law on welfare during transport applies right through to the third country destination.

Please watch our short film at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBa1iz0U-bU&feature=youtu.be>

Ignoring international standards on welfare during slaughter

The EU is exporting animals to countries where it knows they will be slaughtered in cruel ways that breach the international standards on welfare at slaughter of the OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health)



A particularly cruel practice to which EU animals are subjected in the Middle East arises because many slaughtermen are too frightened to get close enough to cattle to perform one deep throat cut. Instead the slaughterman stays at arm's length and simply stabs the knife into the neck. Even after several such stabs, the animal remains standing on all four legs while it slowly bleeds from the neck.

On visiting Beirut's main slaughterhouse, Lebanon's Agriculture Minister denounces the "cruelty with which the animals are killed".

Reaction of Commission, the Member States and the industry: an increase in cattle and sheep exported to Lebanon's cruel slaughterhouses.



4

Ignoring the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU

A trade that breaches EU law on welfare during transport and international standards on welfare at slaughter contravenes Article 13 TFEU which requires the EU & the Member States to pay full regard to welfare in the formulation & implementation of agriculture policies.



In Gaza a cow whose throat has been cut open stands as long as she can. As the blood pours from her throat her back legs become weak and she struggles to keep them together. All her legs begin to shake before she finally collapses onto the concrete.

5

Ignoring EU trade policy

A trade that causes great suffering is in breach of the EU's new trade strategy which requires trade to be "responsible" and consistent with "European values".

EU live cattle exports to the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey more than doubled in 2016 compared with 2014. Despite having been informed of the massive suffering involved, the Trade and Agriculture Commissioners welcome increases in the trade. And Commissioner Andriukaitis fails to take any effective action.

Please write to Commissioners Hogan, Malmström & Andriukaitis. Urge them to bring live animal exports to the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey to an end. In the meantime urge them to ensure that animals are transported in compliance with Regulation 1/2005 and slaughtered in the importing countries in accordance with the OIE international standards on welfare at slaughter.



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