

**Question for written answer E-003008/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Local authority assistance for animal protection associations

The AnimAlcázar Association for the Protection of Animals and Plants plans to set up a shelter for abandoned animals in Alcázar de San Juan (Ciudad Real province, Spain). The local authorities have given the association, which has a policy of not putting any animals down, an enclosed piece of land for this purpose.

The association is a non-profit organisation and its only income comes from members' contributions and private donations, which do not cover its operating costs.

The Alcázar de San Juan local authorities currently have a contract with a kennels in which the animals are not well treated and which puts some animals down without good grounds for doing so.

Are there any EU rules requiring local authorities to provide assistance to associations which have a policy of not putting animals down, rather than concluding contracts with organisations that do not provide the same level of protection and welfare?