

**Question for written answer E-002393/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Trade in animals leaving the EU

According to the new report by the Animal Welfare Foundation, from 2010 to 2014, 1.5 million sheep and cattle were exported from EU to Turkey. Huge numbers of transported animals are being held on the Turkish border for days at a time, stuck on overcrowded livestock trucks with little or no space to move or even lie down comfortably. In the heat of the summer there is no shade at the border zone and animals are left to overheat on the trucks. There are no proper water facilities and dehydration is a frequent problem which sometimes leads to a prolonged and painful death. Sick animals receive no treatment and the dead are often left on board the trucks among the other suffering animals.

According to the Regulation (EC) 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport, animals must be protected from extreme weather conditions and water, feed and rest must be offered to the animals at suitable intervals and must be appropriate in quality and quantity to their species and size.

However, delays at the border are unpredictable and the facilities are very poor and there are no stables where animals can rest.

Can the Commission clarify what measures it is taking in order to end the awful suffering of these animals?