

**Question for written answer E-003801/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Stefan Eck (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Transport of live animals from EU to Turkey

Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 lays down rules on the protection of animals during transport. European Court of Justice judgment C-424/13 states that protection for animals under EU law does not stop at the outer borders of the EU. This month, four trucks loaded with EU calves were stuck at the veterinary border control station in Turkey, two of them for as long as 11 days. This caused immense suffering to the calves trapped inside the vehicles, as they were not able to be unloaded or properly supplied with food and water. The rules concerning maximum travelling time and the mandatory unloading of animals for food, water and rest were repeatedly violated, putting the calves' lives at risk. The Member States of dispatch (Bulgaria and the Czech Republic) did not take any measures to limit the enormous distress to the animals (return or slaughter, for instance).

How will the Commission ensure that, after what happened to the aforementioned animals, there will be no recurrence of these serious violations of Council Regulation No 1/2005?

What measures are envisaged, especially given that the outbreak of lumpy skin disease in Bulgaria means that animals cannot be unloaded there before reaching their destination in Turkey and also complicates their re-importation, which may be necessary?