

**Question for written answer E-009039/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Bart Staes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Banning horsemeat on animal welfare grounds

It emerged from the answer to Question E-4546/2011¹ that:

'The Commission was made aware in 2010 of cases of mistreatment of horses slaughtered in some Latin American countries for meat exports to the EU. The Commission brought this subject to the attention of the responsible competent authorities in order to investigate those practices and the official checks put in place to verify compliance with the EU legislation.' Since a 2014 audit by the Food and Veterinary Office found that there were still such abuses, the conclusion is that the above actions are achieving little.

- Does the Commission know whether such actions have indeed taken place, and, if so, what specifically has been done?
- At the same time, have other, tougher measures been taken to promote the welfare of animals in such situations?
- Will the Commission bar all exports of unethically produced meat, from some Latin American countries, from entering the EU?

¹ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-%2f%2fEP%2f%2fTEXT%2bWQ%2bE-2011-004546%2b0%2bDOC%2bXML%2bV0%2f%2fEN&language=EN>