

**Question for written answer E-002455/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Francisco Guerreiro (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Treatment of horses at an event in Galicia

Every year in Galicia, the Rapa das Bestas¹ is held. This violent event sees horses mounted, manhandled and restrained² so that their mane and tail hair can be cut and medicine to kill parasites administered without a vet being present to check the horses' physique, weight or condition. Some of these drugs are dangerous for the environment and no precautionary measures are taken.

This event has become a show³, which spectators pay to watch in some Galician municipalities, and is wholly unsuitable, given the poor treatment that the animals receive, some of which are sold to slaughterhouses for their meat and so that money can be made from the sale of entrance tickets and from equine-associated products.

What view does the Commission take of the treatment of horses during the Rapa das Bestas?

Has any economic aid been granted to the associations that promote these activities in Galicia?

In the Commission's view, does this activity comply with EU directives on horse welfare?

¹ <https://machbel.com/fotos/2017/07/Aloitador-saltando-sobre-un-caballo-salvaje-Rapa-das-bestas-de-Sabucedo-by-machbel.jpg>

² https://telemarinas.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/curro_valga_2018.jpg

³ https://cflvdg.avoz.es/sc/mFI3-eKJTAnYSN0U4lrRrA0hJ_Q=/x/2018/06/30/00121530385747631761688/Foto/XJ27C4F2_21618.jpg