

# Naturewatch

CAMPAIGNING AGAINST ANIMAL CRUELTY

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PE - COURRIER
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Jerzy Buzek MEP  
European Parliament  
Rue Wiertz  
PHS 11B011  
B-1047  
Brussels

22 September 2011

Dear Jerzy Buzek MEP , *Dear President,*

Subject: The issue of Ukraine and the EU association agreement

For the past fourteen years, Naturewatch has been working in Ukraine on animal welfare issues and, I am pleased to present to you, our briefing document outlining the work undertaken and the challenges ahead.

Currently, despite enormous efforts from many international welfare societies, Ukraine remains a barbaric and cruel country in respect of animal welfare. The extent of animal abuse is overwhelming with Ukraine showing no signs of attaining even basic EU regulations on animal welfare.

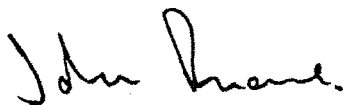
Naturewatch was successful in putting the first ever Ukrainian law on animal welfare onto the statute books. The law, however, is not enforced, despite enormous evidence of barbaric cruelty.

In the Naturewatch briefing document you will find solid evidence of a culture of illegal abuse to animals, which is contrary to the values of EU citizens. In this respect, we suggest that Ukraine is simply not ready for EU concessions of agreements and that the country must embrace and abide by basic animal protection policies before gaining any privileges.

We urge you to please use your influence to allow Ukraine no concessions until it adopts humane welfare policies in line with the basic expectations of EU citizens, who are appalled by the cruelty to animals encountered throughout Ukraine on a daily basis. Despite strong media support within Ukraine, the authorities consistently refuse to stop their dreadful treatment of animals. Ukraine should and must be taken to task on this important issue and, until it embraces EU values and openness, it should not receive any EU concessions.

I hope that you will give your support to this matter, and trust you will find the compelling evidence within the enclosed briefing document sufficient to propose that Ukraine is not ready for European Union privileges.

Yours sincerely



John Ruane  
Director