



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Petitions

27.6.2014

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Subject: Petition 1248/2013 by Pedro Pozas Terrados (Spanish) representing Projecto Gran Simio

1. Summary of petition

The petitioner is concerned about physical and psychological health of chimpanzees held in Schwaben Park facilities in Kaiserbach, Germany. He alleges that thanks to the work of the research team Animal Equality, from Germany, the attention has been drawn to the terrible conditions in which 44 chimpanzees are held in the facility. They are apparently being ridiculed, bound in chains, wearing human clothes and forced to do humiliating actions when performing before public. After that they are held in conditions that are not in line with standards required for such species. The petitioner is demanding help from the EP to close down these shows and end the physical and psychological abuse of the chimpanzees.

2. Admissibility

Declared admissible on 2 April 2014. Information requested from Commission under Rule 216(6).

3. Commission reply, received on 27 June 2014

The facility referred to in the petition is excluded from the scope of the Council Directive relating to the keeping of wild animals in zoos¹. The issue is therefore a matter for the competent authorities in Germany.

¹ COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 1999/22/EC of 29 March 1999 (OFFICIAL JOURNAL of the European Communities L94/24 of 9.4.1999).

Conclusion

EU legislation does then not apply in this instance, the matter raised by the petitioner falls within the exclusive competence of the national authorities.