



30.6.2015

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Subject: Petition 2028/2013 by A.M. (German), on the practice of putting stray dogs to sleep in Romania

Petition 2113/2013 by Pia Berrend (Luxembourgish) on the ill-treatment of stray dogs in Romania

Petition 2128/2013 by Eva Johansson (Swedish) on the situation of stray animals in the European Union and the problem of children witnessing the ill-treatment of stray animals

1. Summary of petition

Petition 2028/2013

The petitioner objects to the policy adopted by the Romanian authorities of putting stray dogs to sleep and is seeking the support of the European Parliament to end such wrongful practices.

Petition 2113/2013

The petitioner writes that the Romanian Government has approved a law providing for the euthanasia of stray dogs, in the face of strong protests at national and international level. This law will incite young people to hatred and violence and project a negative image of Romania across the world. The petitioner is asking the European institutions to take a stand on the ill-treatment of animals in Romania and guarantee that Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union is complied with, without using the concepts of subsidiarity and proportionality as a pretext for inaction.

Petition 2128/2013

The petitioner draws attention to the need to protect children's rights as enshrined in the

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Stray animals are badly treated in some countries in southern and eastern Europe, and children are brutally exposed to these atrocities. The petitioner is calling on the European Union to draw up common guidelines on how to deal with stray dogs in the Member States as a matter of urgency. She is also calling for economic sanctions to be imposed on Member States which violate animal rights and – indirectly – the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

2. Admissibility

Petition 2028/2013 declared admissible on 7 August 2014.

Petitions 2113/2013 and 2128/2013 declared admissible on 5 September 2014.

Information requested from Commission under Rule 216(6).

3. Commission reply, received on 16 December 2014

Petitions 2028/2013, 2113/2013 and 2128/2013

The Commission would like to refer to its reply to Petition 694/2013 and 1024/2013 which contained similar requests.

As previously explained, most of the issues raised in these petitions are not under EU competences and the Commission therefore cannot investigate a Member State on these grounds.

Conclusion

The Commission can only act within the framework of its competences, and most of the issues raised by the petitioners are beyond them.

Issues which fall within the remit of the EU have been addressed in part or are in process of being addressed.

4. Commission reply (REV), received on 30 June 2015

Petitions 2028/2013, 2113/2013 and 2128/2013

The Commission would like to refer to its replies to Petitions 694/2013 and 251/2014 which contained similar requests.

As previously explained, most of the issues raised in this petition are not under EU competences and the Commission therefore cannot investigate a Member State on these grounds.

Conclusion

The Commission can only act within the framework of its competences which do not cover the welfare of stray dogs in the Member States.