



2018/2110(INI)

4.12.2018

OPINION

of the Committee on Transport and Tourism

for the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

on the implementation report as regards Regulation 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport within and outside the EU
(2018/2110(INI))

Rapporteur for opinion (*): Keith Taylor

(*): Associated committee – Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Transport and Tourism calls on the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Deplores the poor implementation of Regulation 1/2005, leading to persistent severe animal welfare problems during transport; considers that the requirements of the Regulation have not been sufficiently met; asks the Commission to present regular reports to Parliament on the implementation and enforcement of the current Regulation using concrete data;
2. Reiterates that transport is one of the most sensitive moments in the life of an animal and that even the best planned transport causes animals to suffer stress; considers, therefore, that transported animals must be subject to the highest and strictest legal protection;
3. Calls for a ban on all journeys over eight hours irrespective of the mode of transport and for journeys to slaughter to be limited to four hours; believes that unweaned animals should not be transported for longer than four hours;
4. Favours a more efficient, economical and ethical transport system that gives priority to the transport of meat over animals transiting to slaughter;
5. Favours animal slaughter and meat processing as close as possible to the breeding location, and therefore calls on the Commission to promote the development of regional and/or mobile slaughterhouses;
6. Points out that some 70-80 % of journeys involve animals for slaughter, and that the economic losses resulting from poorly carried out or excessively long transport can be very high and significantly reduce the animals' welfare;
7. Recognises that many problems can be detected and remedied before the start of the journey, and therefore urges Member States to inspect all consignments destined for non-EU Member States and at least a minimum number of vehicles during loading in proportion to the number of violations reported by NGOs and Food and Veterinary Office inspections; demands appropriate loading and unloading facilities for animals onto vehicles/vessels and adequately trained personnel;
8. Recognises the current market distortion caused by differing tariffs applied to live animals and to meat, which strongly incentivises the trade in live animals; urges the Commission, alongside its trading partners, to review this distortion with the aim of reducing the trade in live animals and, where necessary, replacing these sales with meat;
9. Deplores the conditions at border controls on third-country frontiers where the severe lack of facilities results in long queues and overheating, causing fatalities and horrific suffering for many animals;
10. Echoes the Court of Justice of the European Union's judgment C-424/13 to the effect that EU traders must comply with the Regulation until the final destination even when a

consignment has left the Union; believes that until compliance can be guaranteed, such live animal transport should not be permitted; asks the Commission to promote animal welfare internationally and to conduct initiatives to increase awareness among non-EU countries;

11. Stresses the need for Member States to ensure that animal transport is properly organised, taking account of weather conditions and the type of transport;
12. Stresses that when animals are required to be unloaded for a 24-hour rest period in third countries, the organiser must identify a place for rest with facilities equivalent to those of an EU control post; calls on the competent authorities to regularly inspect these facilities and not to approve journey logs if the proposed place for rest has not been confirmed to have facilities equivalent to those of an EU control post;
13. Calls on official veterinarians at EU exit points to verify that animals are fit to continue their journey and that vehicles and/or vessels meet the requirements of the Regulation;
14. Highlights the need to improve conditions during maritime transport as established by the current regulation, and calls for:
 - Member States and competent authorities to be more rigorous in certification and approval procedures for vessels and to improve the checks on the animals' fitness for travel before each loading;
 - Member States to provide the Commission with detailed plans of their inspection facilities before using any port as an exit point for animals, and the Commission to draw up a list of ports with adequate animal inspection facilities, based on information from the Member States;
 - a veterinarian (or at least an animal health technician) to be present throughout all sea journeys;
15. Further highlights the poor conditions during road transport and calls on:
 - Member States to be more rigorous both in certification and approval procedures for vehicles and in granting certificates of competence to drivers;
 - competent authorities to ensure that there are no gaps between the bottom of the partition and the vehicle floor or between the outer edge of the partition and the wall of the vehicle, and that there is sufficient clean bedding throughout the journey;
 - operators to ensure the thorough training of drivers which is vital in ensuring the correct treatment of animals in line with Annex IV;
16. Notes that, despite clear recommendations from the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), parts of the Regulation are not in line with current scientific knowledge; reiterates its call for the rules to be updated in relation to the gaps existing between the legislation and the latest scientific evidence as identified by EFSA; emphasises in particular the following:

- sufficient ventilation and adequate temperature control in all vehicles;
 - appropriate drinking systems, particularly for unweaned animals;
 - sufficient and specific minimum headroom;
 - reduced stocking densities;
17. Calls on the Member States to substantially improve compliance with Regulation 1/2005; insists that Member States that detect breaches of the proper implementation of the Regulation use their strong enforcement powers provided for under Article 26 thereof in order to prevent any recurrence of such breaches; calls in particular on Member States to take corrective actions and apply sanctions in order to avoid the suffering of animals and unfair competition, including the suspension or withdrawal of a transporter's certificate of authorisation, and to inform the Commission thereof;
18. Calls on the Commission as guardian of the Treaties to take action against Member States which systematically fail to implement and enforce the Regulation, and to undertake a mapping exercise of sanction systems, in order to ensure that penalties are effective, proportionate and dissuasive;
19. Calls on the Commission to draw up, after consulting the National Contact Points, a list of operators guilty of repetitive and serious breaches of the Regulation based on inspection and implementation reports; calls on the Commission to publish and update this list frequently, and also to promote examples of best practice, both in transport and governance;
20. Calls on the Commission to continue cooperating with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), EFSA and Member States to support the implementation and proper enforcement of Regulation 1/2005 in order to promote an enhanced dialogue on animal welfare during transport issues, with a particular focus on:
- better application of EU rules on animal welfare during transport, through exchanges of information and best practices and the direct involvement of stakeholders;
 - supporting training activities aimed at drivers and transport companies;
 - better dissemination of the Animal Transport Guides and Factsheets, translated into all EU languages;
 - the development and use of voluntary commitments by businesses to further improve animal welfare during transport;
 - increased exchanges of information and best practices among national authorities to reduce the number of infringements caused by transport companies and drivers;
21. Regrets the low and insufficient number of checks and official audits, and believes that the number of yearly inspections conducted by the Food and Veterinary Office should be increased; calls for a more effective and more transparent monitoring system,

including public access to information collected via the Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES); strongly calls on the Commission to support studies on the technical feasibility and financial sustainability of animal geolocation systems to enable tracking of their location and the duration of journeys in transport vehicles, as well as any non-compliance with transport schedules;

22. Urges the Commission to approve and submit a proposal for a review of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations, with a view to setting up enhanced mechanisms for ensuring compliance by Member States with rules to protect live animals during transport.

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	3.12.2018
Result of final vote	+: 27 -: 5 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Daniela Aiuto, Lucy Anderson, Georges Bach, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Deirdre Clune, Michael Cramer, Andor Deli, Isabella De Monte, Ismail Ertug, Tania González Peñas, Dieter-Lebrecht Koch, Merja Kyllönen, Innocenzo Leontini, Peter Lundgren, Gesine Meissner, Renaud Muselier, Markus Pieper, Gabriele Preuß, Christine Revault d'Allonnes Bonnefoy, Dominique Riquet, Massimiliano Salini, Keith Taylor, István Ujhelyi, Marita Ulvskog, Peter van Dalen, Wim van de Camp, Marie-Pierre Vieu, Janusz Zemke, Kosma Złotowski
Substitutes present for the final vote	Jakop Dalunde, Mark Demesmaeker, Evžen Tošenovský
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Lieve Wierinck

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

27	+
ALDE	Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Gesine Meissner, Dominique Riquet, Lieve Wierinck
ECR	Peter van Dalen, Mark Demesmaeker, Peter Lundgren, Evžen Tošenovský, Kosma Złotowski
EFDD	Daniela Aiuto
GUE/NGL	Tania González Peñas, Merja Kyllönen, Marie-Pierre Vieu
PPE	Georges Bach, Dieter-Lebrecht Koch, Markus Pieper
S&D	Lucy Anderson, Isabella De Monte, Ismail Ertug, Gabriele Preuß, Christine Revault d'Allonnes Bonnefoy, István Ujhelyi, Marita Ulvskog, Janusz Zemke
VERTS/ALE	Michael Cramer, Jakop Dalunde, Keith Taylor

5	-
PPE	Wim van de Camp, Deirdre Clune, Andor Deli, Innocenzo Leontini, Renaud Muselier

1	0
PPE	Massimiliano Salini

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention