

EN
E-000018/2015
Answer given by Mr Andriukaitis
on behalf of the Commission
(10.3.2015)

The Honourable Member is invited to refer to the answer to written questions E-007896/2014¹, which address the issues of the trade (sale) in puppies.

The EU competences in animal welfare are limited to the EU policies mentioned in Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).² There is no evidence that pet protection or responsible ownership practices of pet animals would fall within one of those policy areas. Therefore, such activities fall within the competences of the Member States.

In the context of EU animal welfare strategy 2012-2015 the Commission decided to perform a study on the welfare of dogs and cats involved in commercial practices. The study is not yet completed. When available, the Commission will conduct a careful analysis of the data of the study and assess the relevance of its publication.

¹ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/parliamentary-questions.html>

² These are the Union's agriculture, fisheries, transport, internal market, research and technological development and space policies.