

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2982/04  
by Henrik Kristensen (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Hip dysplasia screening of German Shepherd dogs

As of 1 January 2005, Dansk Kennel Klub will no longer approve for breeding Danish-registered German Shepherd dogs which have undergone hip dysplasia screening in Germany. Approval was granted in the past but will cease on 1 January 2005, the reason given by Dansk Kennel Klub being that the hip dysplasia X-rays in Germany are of lower quality than those in Denmark and that FCI (Fédération Cynologique Internationale) rules stipulate that dogs must be assessed in their country of registration. Dansk Kennel Klub does, however, approve for breeding in Denmark German-registered dogs which have undergone hip dysplasia screening in Germany.

Can Dansk Kennel Klub discriminate between EU citizens in this manner and refuse to approve Danish-registered German Shepherd dogs which have undergone hip dysplasia screening in Germany? Should this practice be regarded as an obstacle to the free movement of goods and services?