

**Question for written answer E-004181/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Pavel Poc (S&D)

Subject: Welfare of farm animals exported to third countries

Many farm animals are exported each year from the EU to third countries. New film evidence shows the dreadful slaughter conditions facing EU animals exported to Lebanon, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza and Turkey. These conditions are in breach of the international World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) standards on the welfare of animals at slaughter.

Why is the Commission unwilling to follow Australia's example of requiring that when its animals reach the importing country they are handled and slaughtered in conformity with OIE standards?

Why is the Commission unwilling to take the initiative in offering practical assistance to help importing countries meet OIE standards?

Does the Commission believe that Article 13 TFEU, which requires full regard to be paid to animal welfare, is being complied with when the EU exports animals to countries where it knows that they are likely to be slaughtered in ways that cause extreme suffering and that are in breach of OIE standards?