

**Question for written answer E-006995/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ashley Fox (ECR)

Subject: Angora fur farming

Some constituents of mine have raised the issue of the Angora wool trade with me. They are concerned about the conditions in which Angora rabbits are raised and the brutal process that some of them undergo when their fur is removed. One common practise is to pluck the rabbits when they are alive, rather than to shave them, so as to ensure a longer hair thread which fetches a better price.

Can the Commission please answer the following questions:

1. Can it reassure me that no such practice is permitted within the EU?
2. What steps have been taken to ensure that Angora fur imported into the EU has been 'harvested' in a humane manner?
3. Is the Commission considering toughening up the regulations to ensure that animal welfare obligations are met throughout this industry?