

**Question for written answer E-004030/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU subsidies and animal transport in non-EU countries

Every year, millions of animals are transported across Europe to North Africa and the Middle East. Unspeakable suffering is caused to the animals by being transported thousands of kilometres in the name of profit. It is an approach which was initially keenly supported by the EU, and this has led to a dramatic rise in animal transport. In 2005 alone, around EUR 77 million was allocated to export refunds.

1. Is the export of live animals to non-EU countries still subsidised by the EU? If so, how much are the subsidies, and what criteria need to be fulfilled in order to be a recipient?
2. Breaches of animal welfare provisions are constantly being reported in the course of transport to non-EU countries. Is there a list of such countries which are excluded from exports and from the subsidies? If not, what action will the Commission take in future to ensure that animals arrive safely?
3. Why does the Commission not consider an EU-wide ban on animal transport to non-EU countries and instead promote the transport of embryos and meat in order to put an end to this unspeakable suffering?