

**Question for written answer E-004231/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Transport of live animals

In 2015, almost 1.4 billion live animals were transported within the EU, and 238 million were transported to third countries across the EU's external border. Not all of these animals are slaughtered; some are transported to fattening farms as young animals that have not yet been weaned ¹.

For these animals in particular the journey is an ordeal, particularly as they may be moved when temperatures are very low or very high. In addition, these young animals need a special diet, as they are not yet able to digest solid food and drink cold water.

During transport, breaks must be taken every eight hours, but there is no limit on the overall duration of the journey ². Accidents often occur ³, in particular during transport by ship, leading to the deaths of thousands of animals ⁴.

Animals too deserve dignified treatment.

Is the Commission planning to propose a ban on the transport of live animals within the EU?

Is it planning to propose an absolute limit on the duration of shipments of live animals?

Is it planning to ban shipments of live animals to third countries whose animal welfare laws are not consistent with the values of the EU Member States?

¹ <https://albert-schweitzer-stiftung.de/massentierhaltung/tiertransporte-zahlen-fakten>

² <https://albert-schweitzer-stiftung.de/massentierhaltung/tiertransporte-zahlen-fakten>

³ <https://www.agrarheute.com/tag/tiertransport>

⁴ <https://www.agrarheute.com/tier/14600-schafe-ertrunken-561947>