Question for written answer E-000291/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Delay in publishing the report on statistical information on the use of animals for scientific purposes

The principle of replacement, reduction and refinement is at the heart of Directive 2010/63/EU and crucial for achieving the final goal of 'full replacement of procedures on live animals for scientific and educational purposes' mentioned in Recital 10 thereof.

In accordance with Article 54(2), Member States have been publishing annual reports with statistical information on the use of animals for scientific purposes since 2015.

In 2012, the Commission established a common format for submitting and referencing the Member States’ statistical information, as laid down in Article 54(4).

The Commission was, however, supposed to publish a report with statistical information from Member States concerning the traceability and number of animals used, the conditions under which tests are conducted and the reasons for the tests by 10 November 2019 (cf. Article 57(2)).

The current lack of data at European Union level considerably delays attainment of the final objective of the total replacement of the use of animals for scientific or educational purposes.

1. Why has the Commission not yet published the statistical report?
2. When does the Commission intend to publish said report?
3. Does the Commission plan to launch a strategy for phasing out the use of animals for scientific or educational purposes?