

**Question for written answer E-000992/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Harald Vilimsky (ID)

Subject: Transport of unweaned calves

A report by Alexander Rabitsch on transports of unweaned calves highlighted abuses and problems which must be urgently resolved or alleviated, particularly in the case of long-distance transports.

Such transports are considerably worse for unweaned calves than for young animals that have been weaned, as they are much more dependent on the proximity and care of their mothers. Transporting young animals is therefore more dangerous and harmful.

Why is transporting unweaned calves not banned across the board?

If a sucking calf cannot lie down and rest for at least three hours after a milk feed, it is very likely to suffer indigestion. This requires sufficient space and areas designed for them to lie down.

How will the Commission ensure compliance with these conditions for long-distance transports?

If calves do not receive sufficient fodder, they undergo considerable suffering. This can even result in ulcers.

How will the Commission check that calves have sufficient feed for journeys lasting several hours?