

**Question for written answer E-000982/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Putting a stop to the keeping of wild animals in travelling circuses

In the light of the many cases of mistreatment that have been reported, along with the conditions in captivity, which prevent animals from fulfilling their natural needs, many Member States have outright banned travelling circuses from keeping wild animals.

Other countries are imposing partial bans, depending on the type of animal and whether or not they were caught in the wild, or in line with standards in their local communities.

Lastly, some states, such as France, have provided for a transitional period for the implementation of a ban, but do not currently have shelters or sanctuaries in which to house captive animals.

If there are still none at the end of the transition period, states may end up – for want of a solution – having to allow travelling circuses to keep captive animals.

-Given that many Member States would like to gradually ban the keeping of wild animals in travelling circuses¹, does the Commission plan to help them to provide shelters or sanctuaries tailored to the animals' needs?

¹ [https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2021/2999\(RSP\)](https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2021/2999(RSP))