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Answer given by Ms Kyriakides
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.5.2023)

As announced in the Commission's answer¹ to the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) 'End the Cage age', the Commission intends to include in its legislative proposals to revise the EU animal welfare legislation provisions to phase out and finally prohibit the use of individual calves' pens, as well as cages for a number of other farm animals.

The Commission announced under the Farm to Fork Strategy its intention to revise the EU animal welfare legislation. The enforcement issues due to the formulation of provisions and the lack of agreed indicators to measure 'animal welfare', were highlighted by the Commission's evaluation ('fitness check') of the current EU animal welfare legislation.

The impact assessment that precedes the Commission's legislative proposals covers several policy options, including more use – and reporting – of animal welfare indicators to better protect the animals. Additionally, when revising the legislation, the Commission will pay particular attention to the clarity of provisions to avoid any possible legal loopholes that could prevent effective enforcement.

¹ [https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=C\(2021\)4747&lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-register/detail?ref=C(2021)4747&lang=en)