

**Question for written answer E-001216/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Farm to fork strategy

As part of the farm to fork strategy, the Commission initiated a process to revise EU animal welfare legislation. To this end, it commissioned scientific opinions from EFSA. The results of the studies on the keeping of pigs and on the transport of animals were published in September 2022, and those on the keeping of laying hens and broilers were published in March 2023.

1. EFSA draws on existing studies, some of which are very old and do not take into account recent technological developments. To what extent does the Commission consider these to be suitable for decision-making, and why did it not commission primary studies that provide up-to-date knowledge?
2. The EFSA studies were commissioned with the aim of looking at the issue only in terms of animal welfare. Are there any impact assessments that also consider consumer health and food safety with regard to third country imports, self-sufficiency in terms of animal products, dependence on third countries, the impact on value creation, businesses and jobs as well as consumer prices and inflation?
3. Currently, there are national legislative initiatives in Germany to improve animal welfare, but these risk falling flat in the EU internal market. European legislation is therefore necessary. What is the timeline for the initiated process, when can a legally binding regulation realistically be expected, and how could the process be sped up?

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