

**Question for written answer E-002983/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Anja Hazekamp (The Left)

Subject: Ukrainian refugees entering the EU with their pets

After the start of Russia's war of aggression, the Commission strongly advised Member States to allow Ukrainian refugees to enter the EU with their pets under special conditions, as provided for in Article 32 of Regulation No 576/2013¹².

Over the last few months, several Member States have reinstated the original entry conditions. For a pet to enter the EU, a rabies antibody test must have been carried out at least 30 days after the date of vaccination and not less than three months before the date of entry.

People fleeing war are not able to plan their exit in a way that is compatible with this requirement. Ukrainian refugees with pets have to choose between abandoning their animals or staying in a dangerous environment. For the sake of human rights and animal welfare, it is crucial to relax the entry requirements for refugees with pets.

1. Is the derogation under Article 32 of Regulation No 576/2013 still applicable for Ukrainian refugees?
2. Did the Commission have contact with the Member States before they decided to reinstate the original entry conditions?
3. Will the Commission advise the Member States to reinstate the special entry conditions for Ukrainian refugees?

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¹ Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 June 2013 on the non-commercial movement of pet animals and repealing Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 (OJ L 178, 28.6.2013, p. 1).

² <https://www.euractiv.com/section/health-consumers/news/eu-relaxes-entry-paperwork-for-pets-travelling-with-ukrainian-refugees/>.