

**Question for written answer E-003182/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Mick Wallace** (The Left), **Clare Daly** (The Left)

Subject: Absence of legislative proposal re End the Cage Age ECI initiative in 2024 Work Programme

In response to the European Citizens End the Cage Age Initiative<sup>1</sup> the Commission committed to publish, by the end of 2023, a legislative proposal to phase out, and finally prohibit, the use of cage systems for all animals mentioned in the initiative.

However, as we quickly approach the year's end, no such legislative proposal has been published. Furthermore, the recently published Commission Work Programme for 2024 contains no reference to such a legislative proposal.

1. Will the Commission explain in detail why it has decided not to present this promised legislation or does it still intend to present such a legislative proposal in the future? In which case could it specify a timeframe for the delivery of such a proposal?
2. Is the Commission concerned about recent reports by The Guardian<sup>2</sup> and Lighthouse Reports<sup>3</sup> alleging that vested interests and aggressive lobbying have managed to derail the publication of animal welfare proposals.
3. Will the President of the Commission seek the advice of the Independent Ethical Committee to investigate possible breaches the Code of Conduct for the Members of the European Commission?

Submitted: 26.10.2023

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<sup>1</sup> [https://citizens-initiative.europa.eu/initiatives/details/2018/000004/end-cage-age\\_en](https://citizens-initiative.europa.eu/initiatives/details/2018/000004/end-cage-age_en).

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/oct/23/lobby-groups-fought-hard-and-dirty-against-eu-ban-on-caged-farm-animals>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.lighthousereports.com/investigation/animal-welfare-wrecked/>.