

**Priority question for written answer P-006505/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Sarah Wiener (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Animal welfare and minimum standards for turkeys

The 2017 study entitled 'Animal Welfare in the European Union'¹ concluded, among other things, the following: 'There is no EU legislation which prevents poor welfare in turkeys.', and 'If there is no new EU legislation [...], [they] will not be protected for most of their lives in much of the EU.'. This intolerable situation still prevails, with some 200 million turkeys affected every year in the EU.

Does the Commission share the view that, given the extremely high number of animals affected, turkeys should be accorded priority when new legislation in the area of agricultural livestock keeping is created? What specific measures will the Commission take to this end?

Does the Commission share the view that provisions in EU law for turkey rearing should be based on the current state of scientific knowledge concerning the conditions which must prevail in the rearing, keeping and treatment of turkeys if our animal rearing is to comply completely with the welfare requirements of animals as sentient beings as set out in Article 13 TFEU?

¹ Directorate-General for Internal Policies, Policy Department C, Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs: 'Animal Welfare in the European Union' (2017); [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/583114/IPOL_STU\(2017\)583114_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2017/583114/IPOL_STU(2017)583114_EN.pdf)