

EU Platform on Animal Welfare
7th meeting
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The illegal trade of pet animals

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Why the illegal trade of pet animals as the priority?

- A complex issue with very hard support from the public, consumers and NGOs
- Many different areas to be touched:
 - health and welfare of animals
 - public health (rabies, COVID 19)
 - criminal activities (consumer fraudulent practices, breaking EU rules/legislation not in animal welfare area only)



Legislation requirements

- Croatian Legislation:
 - Animal Protection Act
 - Act implementing EU animal welfare protection regulations
 - Veterinary Act
 - Ministry of Agriculture is competent authority
 - State Directorate Law – from 2018



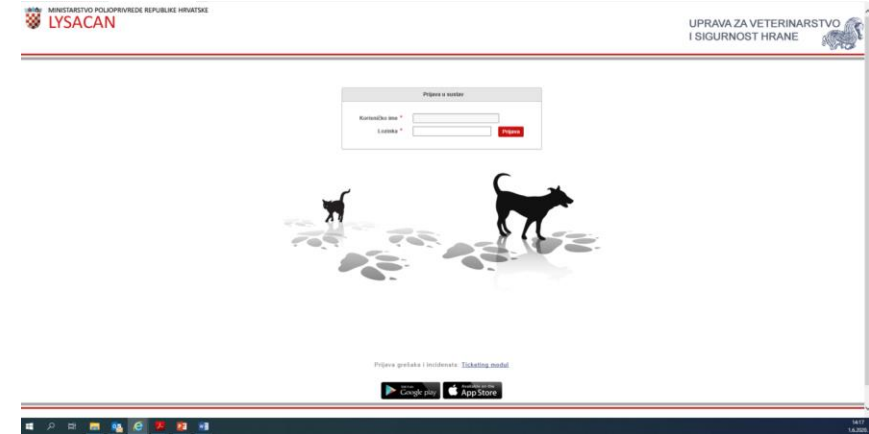
Identification of dogs, cats and ferrets

- Dogs shall be tagged with a microchip no later than 90 days from the day of whelping.
- All identified dogs, cats, and ferrets shall be entered into central Pet Register kept by the Ministry - Lysacan.



- A dog owner shall have a Pet Passport in accordance with the EU regulations establishing a model passport for the intra-Community movements of dogs, cats, and ferrets.

- Details on non-commercial pet movement of dogs, cats and ferrets are published on website: <http://www.veterinarstvo.hr/default.aspx?id=1084>



Breeding of pet animals intended for sale

- The breeding of pet animals intended for sale:
 - have to be registered by the CA
 - animal breeders must keep animals in accordance with their needs, take care on them and fulfill the requirements for the facility where animals are kept.
- Breeders must be qualified for their keeping and breeding in accordance with the programme prescribed by the minister.
- Institutions which provide qualifications have to be registered by CA and published on the CA website.
- Dogs and cats can be sold from the breedings only.
- The CA keeps a register of breeders and publishes it on its website:

<http://www.veterinarstvo.hr/default.aspx?id=54> .



The sale of pet animals

- **Outside the facilities**, premises and places determined by the Veterinary Act - only on the basis of the prior veterinary health consent of the competent veterinary office.
- **In pet shops** – in accordance with Animal Protection Act and Ordinance prescribed by minister.



Requirements for the sale of pet animals in pet shops

- **Pet shops** have to be approved and registered by CA in accordance with the Ordinance: https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2019_07_69_1432.html.
- **Competent authority** keeps a register of shops and publishes it on its website: <http://www.veterinarstvo.hr/default.aspx?id=4563>
- Pet animals offered for sale in pet shops must originate from:
 - registered breeding or
 - from legal or natural persons authorised for the sale of pet animals by the competent authority in EU MS or third countries.
- Pet shops must ensure the written instructions on the characteristics of the animal species, and on the appropriate manner of keeping the animal that is for sale and give them to the consumer.
- The staff working with animals in pet shops must be qualified to care for animals.



Prohibition of sale of animals, advertisement and education

- The sale of dogs, cats and ferrets is prohibited in pet shops.
- The sale of animals still dependent on their mother, or which cannot independently feed, and sick or injured animals is prohibited.
- In the advertisement of dogs for the purpose of sale or change of ownership, the seller must ensure, and the advertiser **must publish**, the **number of the dog's microchip**, and the **number of the dog's mother's microchip**.
- The sale of pet animals to minors is prohibited.
- There is an obligation, prescribed by Animal Protection Act, to raise awareness of the public, particularly youth, on animal protection that have to be performed by:
 - competent authority and
 - the local or regional self-government units.
- The regional self-government unit is required to organise coordination work groups with the tasks:
 - coordination of the application of requirements of animal welfare legislation
 - development of good practices and
 - raising public awareness and awareness of owners of the responsible ownership of animals.



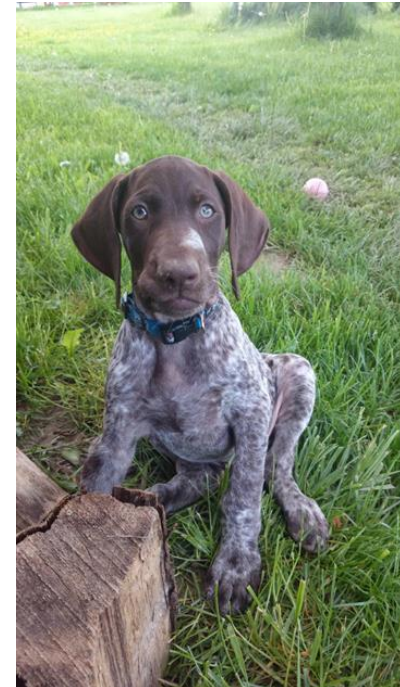
Activities

National level

- Ensure better implementation of the requirements regarding:
 - identification of pet animals
 - registration of breeders
 - control of identification of dogs at local level performed by the municipality
 - control of on line advertiser (publishing the number of dogs microchip and his/her mother microchip)
 - education on animal protection requirements

- Better communication with:
 - other CA – Ministry of Finance - Tax Administration, Police
 - other institutions
 - local and regional government units

- Cooperation with:
 - other EU member states authorities
 - EU institutions
 - NGOs.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!