



Summary of feedback from citizens and stakeholders on the Commission proposal on the welfare of dogs and cats and their traceability

Blue Book Trainee, Unit 'Animal Welfare',
15th meeting of EU Platform on animal welfare,
18 June 2024



The Commission proposal

- Minimum welfare standards for dogs and cats kept/bred in **establishments**
- **Traceability** of dogs and cats supplied in the EU (including online)
- Additional rules for **entry into the EU**
- Competence of **animal caretakers**

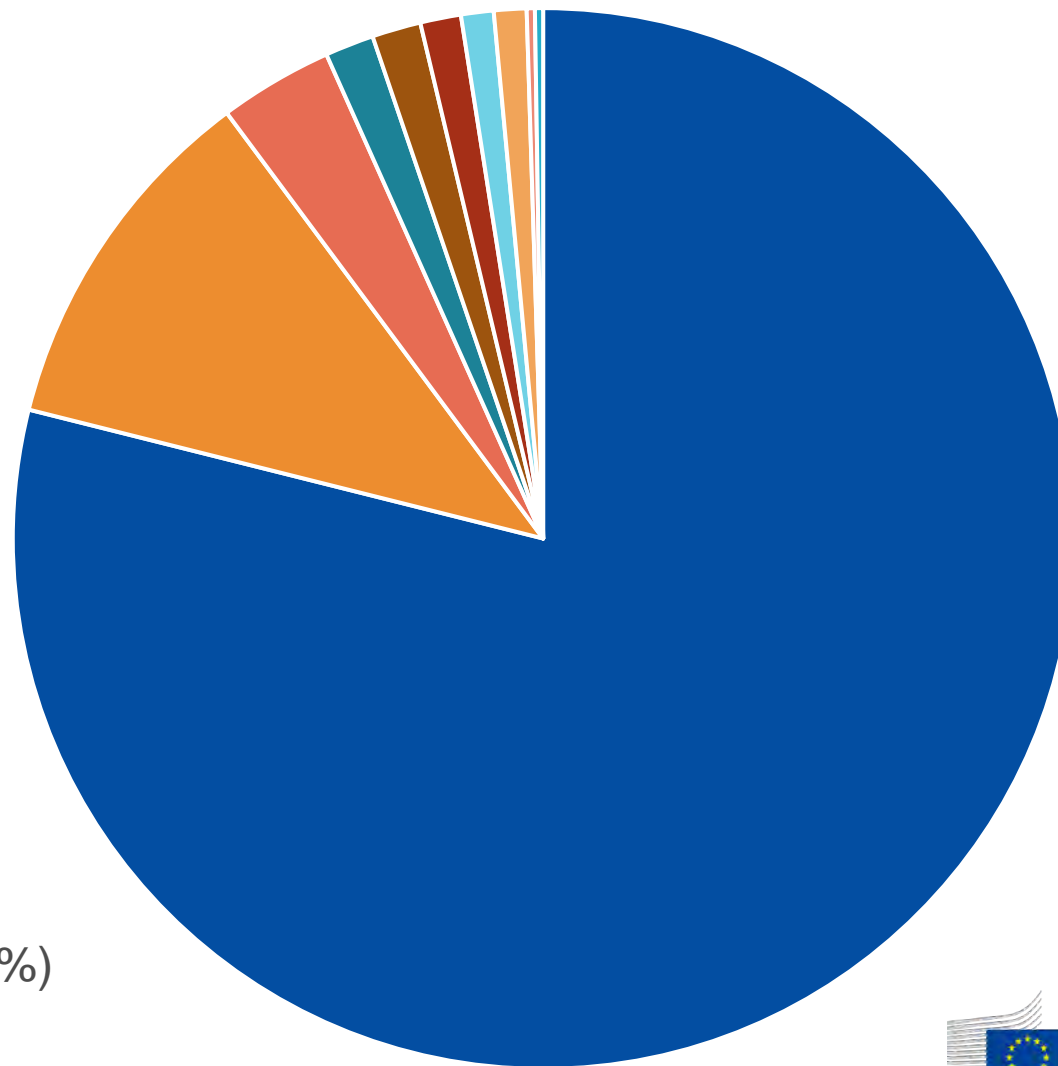


Respondents providing feedback

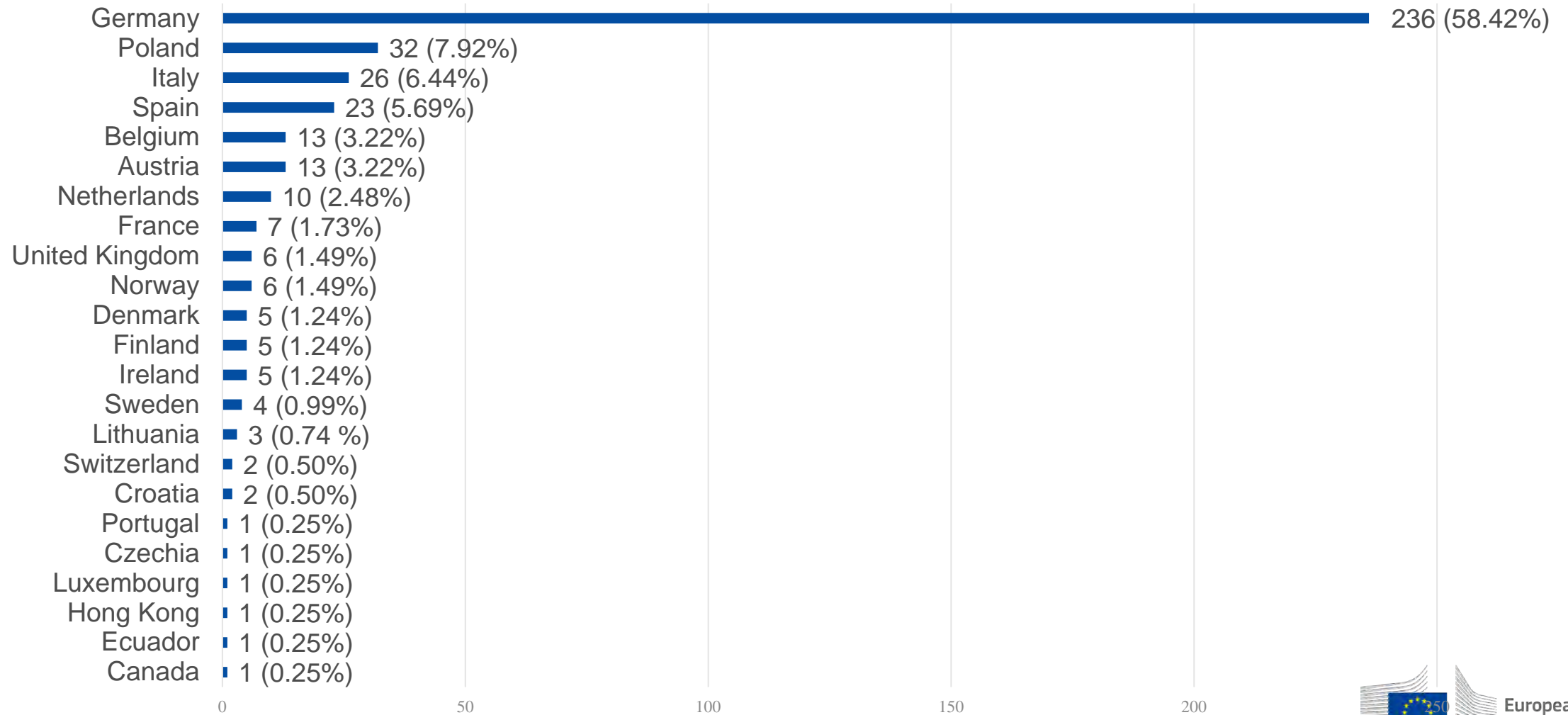
- **532** contributions received > **404** retained for the analysis
- **2 campaigns** identified (117 contributions)
- Contributions from a variety of respondents, but mostly from **EU citizens** (79.86%) and **NGOs** (10.89%)

Category of respondents

- EU Citizen 319 (78.96%)
- NGO 44 (10.89%)
- Other 14 (3.47%)
- Company/Business 6 (1.49%)
- Business Association 6 (1.49%)
- Non-EU Citizen 5 (1.24%)
- Public Authority 4 (0.99%)
- Research Institutions 4 (0.99%)
- Trade Union 1 (0.25%)
- Environmental Organisation 1 (0.25%)

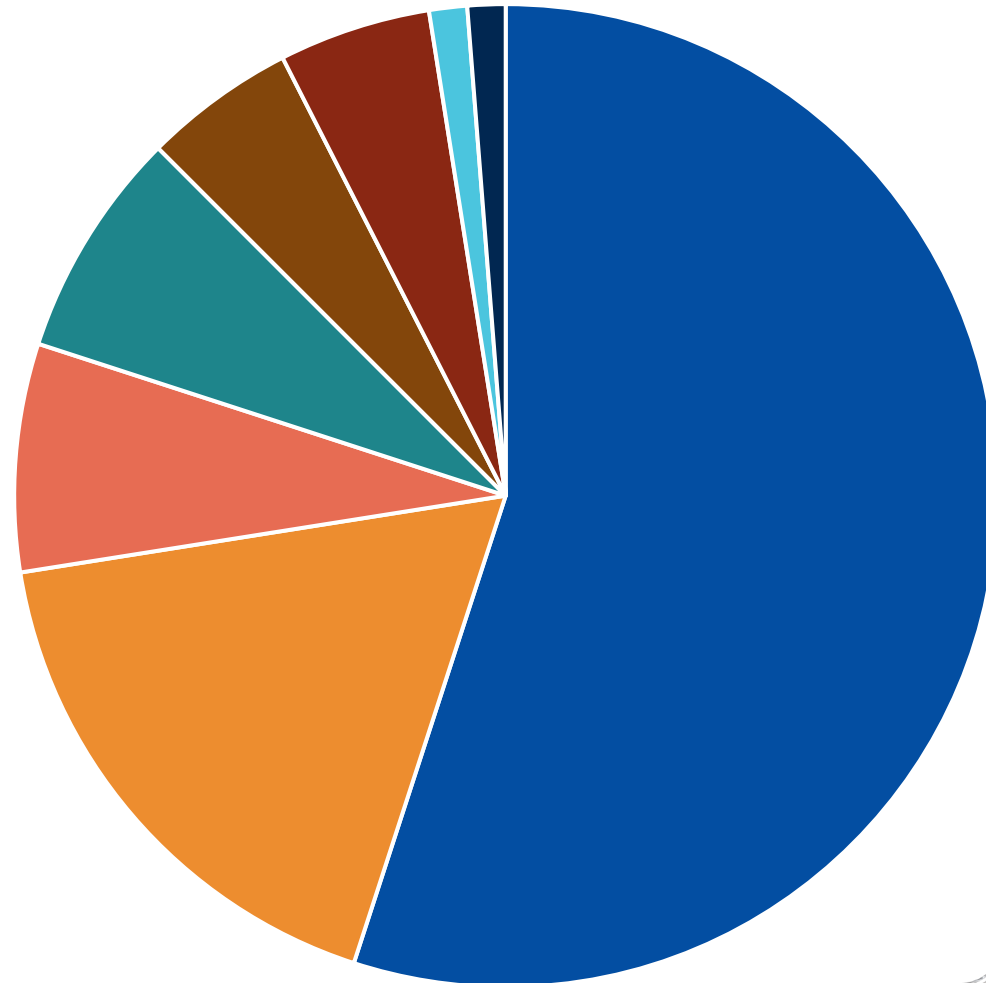


Respondents by country



Stakeholders' composition

- NGO (55%)
- Other (17.50%)
- Company/Business (7.50%)
- Business Association (7.50%)
- Public Authority (5%)
- Research Institutions (5%)
- Trade Union (1.25%)
- Environmental Organisation (1.25%)



Summary of stakeholders' responses

- **Identification and registration** requirements must be extended to **all dogs and cats** in the EU (28.75%, of which 74% are NGOs)
- **Obligations** for operators must be applied to **all breeding establishments**, regardless of their size (28.75%, of which 91.30% are NGOs)
- **Ban** on the sales of dogs and cats in **pet shops** (25%, of which 90% are NGOs)
- A clear **definition** of **extreme breeding** must be included in the proposal and the use of dogs and cats with extreme features for competitions and exhibitions must be banned (22.5%, of which 66% are NGOs)

Summary of EU citizens' responses

Prevailing opinions on the Commission proposal:

- **Identification and registration** requirements must be extended to **all dogs and cats** in the EU (17.24%)
- **Ban** on the breeding, sale, advertisement and use for **exhibitions** and competitions of dogs and cats with **extreme features** (12.85%)
- **Protection** of hunting dogs (*galgos*) in **Spain** (10.65%)
- **Abolition** of “**killing stations**” of stray dogs in Eastern Europe (10.34%)

Summary of campaign responses (I)

- **117** feedback (22% of total contributions) identified as part of two **campaigns**, all submitted from **EU citizens**
- First campaign: **36** respondents (83% from **Austria**), probably launched by a **kennel club**
- Second campaign: **81** respondents (93.83% from **Germany**)

Summary of campaign responses (II)

First campaign

- Mandatory identification and registration for all dogs and cats in the EU
- Ban on the sale of dogs and cats in pet shops
- No financial reward for catchers of stray dogs and cats in Eastern Europe
- Online platforms and social media must verify pedigree and breeder club membership before advertising pure-bred dogs and cats
- No ban on extreme breeding

Second campaign

- Mandatory identification and registration for all dogs and cats in the EU
- Ban on the sale of dogs and cats in pet shops
- Definition and specification of extreme breeding
- Ban on the import, advertisement and use for exhibition and competition of dogs and cats with extreme features
- Ban on tethering and electric collars

Conclusions

- Stakeholders and EU citizens highlight the importance of establishing uniform welfare and traceability standards for dogs and cats in the EU
- Commission proposal is met with favour by the overwhelming majority of stakeholders and EU citizens.

Q&A



European
Commission