



# Subgroup on the protection of animals during transport

Eleventh Meeting of the EU Platform on Animal Welfare  
30 June – 1 July 2022, Brussels

Sandra SANMARTIN, Legislative Officer, DG SANTE, Unit G5  
Stanislav RALCHEV, Policy Officer, DG SANTE, Unit G5



# Background

- **Farm to Fork Strategy (May 2020)**
- **Inception Impact Assessment (July 2021)**
  - ✓ Space allowances, travel times and travel conditions
  - ✓ Live animal exports to non-EU countries
  - ✓ Unweaned and other vulnerable animals
  - ✓ Better monitoring and enforcement by introducing new technologies
  - ✓ Cats and dogs
  - ✓ Means of transports, adapted to new technologies
- **Study in support to the Impact Assessment (January 2022)**

# The subgroup composition

- 10 members + Commission + guests
  - **1 Independent expert** Michael Marahrens
  - **2 Civil society organisations** Animal Welfare Foundation,  
Animals' Angels
  - **3 Business and professional organisations** FESASS/UECBV/Copa
  - **4 Member States** Spain /Netherlands / Portugal / Czech Republic
- **Recurrent guest:** Contractor under the IA Study on transport

# Mandate

- Personal capacity
- Open discussion & Chatham House Rules
- No conclusions: exchange of views on different policy options
- Questions in advance
- All ideas mentioned
- Meetings to cover main policy options
- 4 meetings since March

# Key topics on transport

## Discussed until now:

- Export to third countries – general issues
- Export by third countries by livestock vessels
- Export to third countries by road
- Limiting Journey times

## To be discussed:

- Transport of unweaned and other vulnerable animals
- IT database
- Transport means equipment and monitoring tools
- Reporting of data from MSs
- Policy and/or other indicators on the protection of animals during transport
- Transport of dogs and cats

# Export to third countries

*(general issues)*

## 1. Possible policy options

- To ban or not...

## 2. Existing alternatives and solutions

- Export of meat and carcasses;
- Export of genetic material

## 3. Stricter conditions

- New tools to control;
- Checks at departure, retrospective checks, monitoring and reporting

## 4. Work with Third Countries

- Equivalent conditions,
- Feedback and reporting

# Export to third countries by sea

## 1. Would a ban be an option/solution?

- If so, what are the existing alternatives;
- Do we need to ban or not only the export by sea.

## 2. Which stricter conditions to improve welfare?

- Livestock vessels built for purpose;
- Stricter maritime certifications/flags;
- Parameters to record and monitor on board;
- Vet on board;
- Use of new tools (i.e. CCTV, tracking, temperature/humidity etc.)

# Export to third countries by road

## 1. Would a ban be a solution? If so, could such a ban be:

- Total;
- Only partial;
- Seasonal or conditional;

## 2. Which stricter conditions could improve the situation?

- Stricter parameters (i.e. temperature/humidity, space allowance etc.);
- Online tools to target and improve official controls;
- More checks at departure, transit, exit points and retrospective one;
- Feedback from Third Countries;
- Targeted trainings, exchange of information and sanctions.



# Journey times

## 1. Would limiting journey times be a solution? If so, do we need to consider a maximum journey times for certain categories of animals?

- For slaughter
- Vulnerable animals (i.e. unweaned, pregnant and other)
- For breeding animals

## 2. Main challenges & solutions?

## 3. Simplification of current rules? How?

## 5. Technical requirements to ensure welfare?

# For more details

- The transport sub-group minutes, agenda and other info are available at:
- <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/awp/>

THE EU PLATFORM ON ANIMAL WELFARE



**Thank you for your attention!**