

Commission proposal for a new Regulation on the protection of animals during transport

Animal health Advisory Committee
Working Group of the Advisory Group on Sustainability of Food Systems,
11 June 2024



Céline Ledoux Stanislav Ralchev Policy Officers Unit G3 Animal Welfare Directorate Crisis preparedness in Food, Animals and Plants, DG SANTE

Table of content

The process to prepare and the Impact Assessment

The main requirements and key policy choices



Main sources

Fitness Check

EFSA opinions

Public consultation

External studies including on cumulative impacts

Joint Research Centre economic modelling

Dedicated
Subgroup
in the EU Animal
Welfare Platform



Fitness Check findings

Transport rules
need to be
updated
(science,
societal
developments)

Potential for considerable savings through digitalisation

Lack of enforcement tools



Process

Identification of problems, drivers and (packages of) policy options

Assessments (quantitative, to the extent possible)

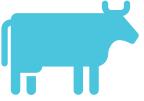
• Animal welfare impacts / Economic impacts / Social impacts / Environmental impacts

Agricultural Commodity Market Model (JRC):

• Distributional effects / Competitiveness / Food security / Food affordability



Problems





Animals are transported in suboptimal conditions



Few requirements for the transport of dogs and cats



Low uptake of new technologies



Drivers



Regulatory drivers (conditions of export difficult to enforce; fragmented internal market due to differing national legislation; overly general provisions; outdated legislation)



Social drivers (increasing societal concerns, including ethics and sustainability)



+ External factors (market dynamics; climate change)



Options in detail

Journey times and space allowances*

Max. 9 h (for slaughter)
Max. 12 h (other transports)

<u>OR</u>

max. 9 h (for slaughter) max. 21 h + 24 h rest + 21 h (other transports). **Exports**: Either a ban on export of ruminants

<u>OR</u>

similar requirements as for intra-EU road transport + additional requirements for exports by sea. Unweaned calves: Max. 19 h journey, min. 5 weeks of age and min. 50 kg, provided that an efficient feeding system exists.

Hot temperatures:

Approval of journey plan subject to weather forecast. If between 25°C and 30 °C, only short journeys (max. 9 h) during daytime. If higher than 30°C, only transports between 21h00 and 10h00 allowed.

New technology: Real-time positioning

retrospective checks based on tachographs (both combined with a central database and digital application).

Dogs and cats: Specific requirements, e.g. on age limits (15 weeks) and temperature.

<u>OR</u>

12 weeks age limit



Economic impacts: Methodology

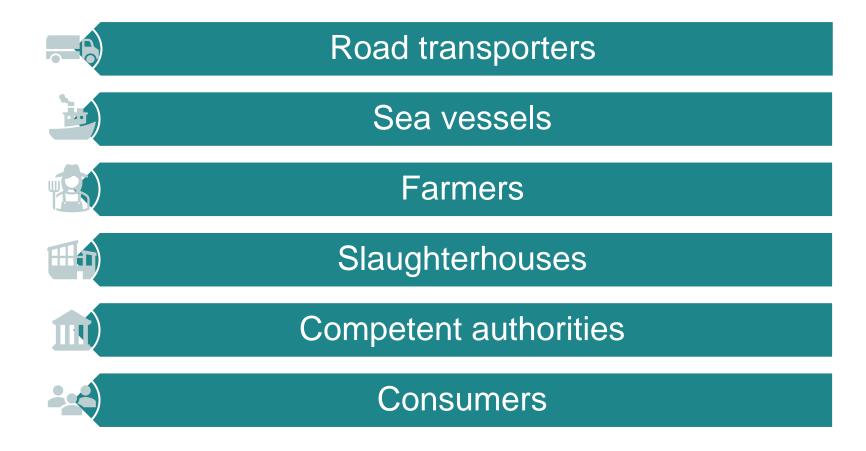


- Step 1: Supply chain analysis
 - →Objective: identifying the **change in costs** for operators due to animal welfare measures

- Step 2: Modelling with Agricultural Commodity Market Model (Aglink-COSIMO)
 - →Objective: Identifying the market impacts of the changes in costs due to transport measures: on production, consumption, exports, imports, producer price, and consumer price of relevant commodities (beef, pork, etc)



Overall impact of the measures





Summary of main findings



Better animal welfare + less distortions on the internal market



Simplification + savings



Certain investments required



Limited impact on production, consumption, consumer price, producer price and international competitiveness



What is covered by the proposal?

- Focusing mostly on most commonly transported animal species;
- Addition of provisions on aquatic animals and dogs and cats;
- Three layers of regulation
 - Included with detailed provisions (farm animals, aquatic animals, cats and dogs...)
 - Included with general provisions (transhumance, 50km radius, animals for the purposes of participating in training, exhibitions, competitions, cultural events, circuses, and equestrian sport and leisure activities)
 - Excluded (CITES, zoos, vet practice, no economic activity, ornamental fish, direct deliveries of aquatic animals to food businesses supplying the final consumer)
- Derogations (animals in scientific projects)



Obligations during journey

- Well defined obligations and responsibilities/liabilities of organisers, transporters, drivers, attendants, AW officers, and keepers
- New provisions for transport by Ro-Ros:
 - Access to vehicle deck
 - Enough space around the means of transport
- Minimum over-head space



Journey log

- Digital incorporated into TRACES mobile app
- Templates revamped (Annex III)
- Long journeys
 - Must be approved by competent authority
 - Created, updated, completed by several actors along the journey
- Short journeys
 - No approval by competent authority
 - Simplified / Collection of data on transport





Journey times



New simplified approach

Short journeys - 9 h (to slaughterhouse max 9 h, derogation upon decision of CA)

Long journeys -21 h + 24 h rest + 21 h

Transport of unweaned animals - 8 h (without feeding) and 19 h (with feeding)

Transport of poultry and rabbits - 12 h (incl. loading and unloading)

Transport at extreme temperatures

Journeys including transport by sea (livestock and ro-ro vessels)

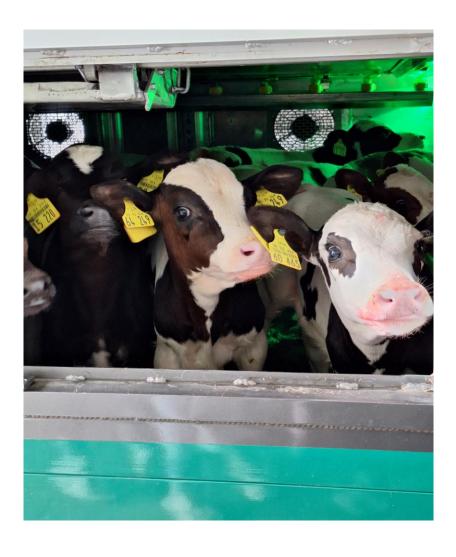


Positioning system for road vehicles

- Selection of locations before approval of journey log
- Real-time positioning
 - Vehicles equipped with positioning system
 - Positions in short intervals recorded in an information system
- Date and time of reaching selected locations recorded in TRACES
 - Allows ex-post analysis of journey logs



Transport of unweaned calves



Minimum age: 5 weeks Minimum weight: 50 kg

Journey time:

- Without feeding system: 8h
- With feeding system is installed and used: 9h-1h-9h

Animals must be fed every 9 h

Time spent on sea does not count as journey time

Approval of feeding system



Space allowance

- Uniform for all means of transport
- Calculated using allometric equation

$$A = kW^{(2/3)}$$

A=area per animal [m² or cm² for transport of birds and rabbits in containers], W=live weight [kg], k= "k-value"

- Species-specific (k-value); takes into account specifics of locomotion of species to provide enough space for all animals to be able to stand, lie down, have access to water and thermoregulate.
- Space allowance is better defined and easily calculated



Export and import



Export to third countries:

EU rules must be respected until the place of destination in the third country.

- Organisers to be authorised for transports to TC
- Checks in TC to be performed by certification bodies;
- Control posts in TC to be approved;



Import from third countries:

EU rules or equivalent must be respected until the place of destination in the EU.



Transit through the EU:

EU rules apply except provisions on journey times



Transport by sea



Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control

Only vessels flying white or gray flag according to <u>flag</u> <u>performance rating</u>



Official veterinarian on board of the first journey



Animals to be loaded only to vessels with ship risk profile as "low risk" or "standard risk"



Acceptance of documentation from TC authorities

Attestation

Prerequisite for approval of journey log if animals are to be transported by sea



Transport in extreme temperatures

Journey times depend on temperature forecast at departure, destination, control post and exit point or BCP

Cold:

• < 0°C: Protection from windchill

• < -5 °C: Protection from windchill and journey time max 9h

Heat:

• 25-30 °C: Journey between 10am and 9pm limited to 9h

>30 °C: Only journeys between 9pm and 10am allowed

• >30 °C by night: Only journeys between 9pm and 10am allowed and 20% more space allowance





More harmonised approach on sanctions

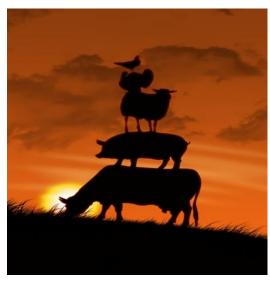
A new approach

- Better defined aggravating circumstances
- List of 'Serious infringements'
- Administrative financial penalty expressed according to the value of the consignment
- List of 'Other measures'



Transitional and final provisions

- Entry into force it shall apply 2 years from the date of entry into force
- 3 years transition for:
 - sanctions: serious infringements and other not related to poultry;
- 5 years transition for:
 - Means of transport by road equipped with position system
 - Data protection
 - Journey times requirements
 - Import and export requirements
 - Space allowances





Thank you!

