

Options Animal Welfare at the time of killing

Second meeting of the animal welfare killing subgroup

Today's option

- 1. Pre-approval for restraining and stunning equipment**
2. Electrical prods
3. Simplification of small slaughterhouses
4. Carbon dioxide at high concentration for pigs
5. Waterbath stunning for poultry
6. Farm fish
8. Prohibiting the killing of day old chicks
9. Other options [if any proposed]

What is the problem?

- Missing instructions of **restraining and stunning** equipment
 - on species, categories of animals, maximum throughput, key parameters, monitoring procedure, maintenance and calibration
- Slaughterhouse staff misuses equipment
- Manufacturers outside the scope of competent authorities
- Local inspectors have limited time and competence
- Equipment conception ignores animals' needs and behaviour
- **High risk of overall bad welfare of animals**

The baseline

- Conception and design of equipment improve over time
- Economics tend to increase throughput against animal welfare
- Slaughterhouse operators increase their demand for well designed equipment and improve their use
- The evolution depend on the type of equipment and manufacturers (SMEs vs big companies?)

You agree:

very much++, **much+**, **no change 0**, **the opposite -**, **much the opposite--**

What are the options?

- **Option 1:** pre-approval system **at Member State** level, by their scientific national support
- **Option 2:** pre-approval system **at EU level**, by the European Animal Welfare Reference Centers

1. Pre-approval at Member State level

- Certificate for restraining/stunning equipment is compulsory
- **Scientific national support** prepare the approval decision
- Fees collected by the scientific national support
- **Member State** competent authority grants the **approval valid for the EU**
- **Member State** competent authority publishes the list of approved equipment **in all EU languages**

What are the impacts?

- On the problem
 - Missing instructions of equipment
 - Competence of the staff
 - Competence of the local inspectors
 - Conception of equipment
 - Overall welfare of the animals

**What evidence for
your assessment?**

You believe the impact to be:

very positive++, **positive+**, **neutral 0**, **negative -**, **very negative --**

What are the impacts?

- On other aspects
 - on slaughterhouse operators (big/small)
 - on equipment manufacturers (big/small)
 - on slaughterhouses staff
 - on local inspectors
 - On EU reference centres
 - on other players?

**What evidence for
your assessment?**

You believe the impact to be:

very positive++, **positive+**, **neutral 0**, **negative -**, **very negative --**

How to refine the option?

- Any way to complement or refine the option to
 - improve its positive impacts?
 - decrease its negative impacts?

2. Pre-approval at EU level

- Certificate for restraining/stunning equipment is compulsory
- **EU reference centre** prepares the approval decision based on documentation, possible on-site visits or tests
- **Fees** collected by the centre
- **Commission** grants the **approval valid for the EU**
- **Commission** publishes the **list of approved equipment** in all EU languages

What are the impacts?

- On the problem
 - Missing instructions of equipment
 - Competence of the staff
 - Competence of the local inspectors
 - Conception of equipment
 - Overall welfare of the animals

**What evidence for
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