

The Need for an EU Action Plan to Tackle the Illegal Trade in Dogs and Cats

6 April 2017, European Parliament, Strasbourg



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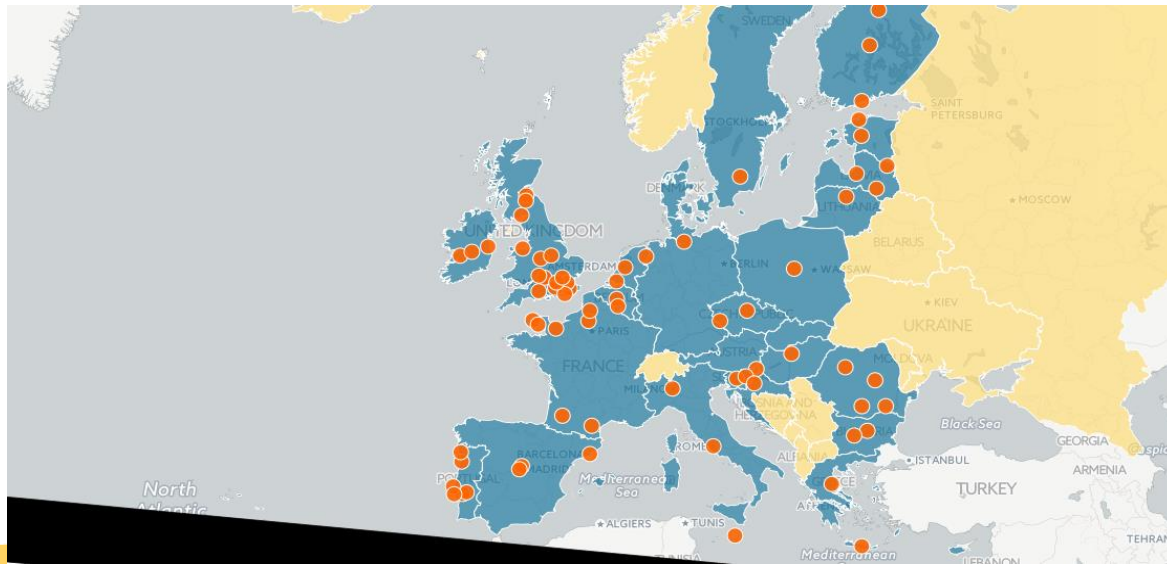
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ALLIANCE®**

Introducing the EU Dog & Cat Alliance

- 70+ member organisations from 23 EU countries
- Members
 - veterinary organisations
 - organisations which are involved in the rescue/rehoming of dogs and cats
 - organisations which are working to protect dog and/or cat welfare
- Main focus: improving EU legislation in relation to dogs and cats.



The Problem



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The Problem

- PETS travel scheme abused: puppies and kittens for commercial sale imported under the non-commercial Regulation (EU) 576/2013
- EU-wide problem, exploiting discrepancies in pet legislation, welfare standards and prices among Member States
- Networks of unscrupulous breeders, dealers, veterinarians and transporters
- Animals kept and transported in poor conditions, severely impacting their health and welfare, including behavioural issues
- European Commission-funded study on the welfare of dogs and cats in commercial practices (Specific Contract SANCO 2013/12364) confirmed findings by NGOs. **Sharp contrast:**
 - Study: 46,000 dogs traded between EU Member States every month
 - TRACES: in 2014 registered only 20,779 dogs and 2,287 cats involved in intra-EU trade in total



Implications

- Animal Health and Welfare
- Public Health
- Consumer Protection
- EU Internal Market
- Trafficking



Se upp för smugghundar!

Så söt, men så...
FARLIG

Varje år smugglas 1000-tals valpar in i Sverige

Hjälpte till att stoppa hundarna från att komma in i landet och valpar i valpfabriker.
När de köper valp: - Skicka till 18 år mannan tillsammans med väskan!



Hungarian Puli puppies for sale

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Country:	United Kingdom
Contact person:	Mihaly
Phone:	07526677734

The Solution



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The Solution

- The illegal trade can only be addressed through a **comprehensive, coordinated approach**, involving:

- European Parliament
- European Commission
- Member States
- Agencies
- Border and veterinary authorities
- Civil society – NGOs, education, information sharing



The EU Dog & Cat Alliance is calling on the European Commission to draw up an Action Plan to tackle the illegal trade in dogs and cats in the EU.

The Solution

EU Action Plan should cover the following:

- Animal health and welfare
- Public Health
- Consumer protection
- Internal market
- Trafficking



European Parliament: What can MEPs do

- Keep raising this issue with the European Commission through Parliamentary questions, letters, etc.
- Oral question with debate on Action Plan to tackle the illegal trade in dogs and cats in the EU
- Own-initiative report (AGRI, ENVI, IMCO)
- Keep pushing for a Delegated Act on compulsory identification and registration of dogs and cats under Animal Health Law
- Ask DG SANTE's Health Food Audits and Analysis (formerly known as the Food and Veterinary Office) to audit EU legislation on commercial and non-commercial movements pet animals



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Thank you!

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