

## Question for oral answer O-000014/2024

to the Commission

Rule 142

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Subject: The Commission's plans to include the revision of the outstanding proposals on animal welfare in its work plan for 2025

The commitment to review and revise the EU's animal welfare *acquis* by 2023 is a core component of the EU farm to fork strategy, which was adopted by the Commission in 2020. This set the goals of aligning the legislation with the latest scientific evidence, broadening its scope, making its enforcement easier and, ultimately, ensuring a higher level of animal welfare.

In June 2021, the Commission decided to respond positively to the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) entitled 'End the Cage Age'. In its communication, the Commission set out plans for a legislative proposal to prohibit cages for a number of farm animals as part of the revision process.

In December 2023, in response to the ECI entitled 'Fur Free Europe', the Commission said that it would carefully assess the necessity and feasibility of a ban on fur farming and the marketing of fur in the EU.

In December 2023, the Commission only published a proposal on the welfare and traceability of dogs and cats, together with a proposal for a new regulation on the protection of animals during transport. The timeline for the remaining share of the proposals is still unclear, but Commission representatives repeatedly referred to the outcome of the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture as indicative of the follow-up process.

In March 2024, Parliament held a debate in plenary asking for a clear timeline for the delivery of these proposals, but the Commission did not give a precise answer.

In September 2024, in its final consensus report, the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture urged the Commission to propose the revision of the EU's animal welfare legislation by 2026, including a ban on cages, on the basis of the latest science and the Five Domains Model.

Given the above, will the Commission include the revision of the remaining legislative acts on animal welfare (covering kept animals, slaughter, and labelling) in its 2025 work plan, so as to ensure that the outstanding proposals on animal welfare can be delivered by 2026?

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