

Question for written answer E-015788/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Georg Mayer (ENF)

Subject: Animal welfare - conditions in European abattoirs

The ÖRF magazine programme *Thema* has broadcast a worrying report on conditions in Austrian abattoirs. According to statements by many NGOs and experts, appalling conditions prevail all across Europe, under which animals are compelled to undergo enormous suffering. According to information from the EU Commission, 75% of all animals slaughtered in Europe are slaughtered while fully conscious. Animal welfare regulations in this regard are frequently breached, as no controls exist whatsoever. It is therefore important to establish control mechanisms and thus guarantee that animal welfare is maintained.

1. Does the Commission have access to data that would enable Member States to be identified that permit animals to be slaughtered without being stunned and/or tolerate such slaughtering due to a lack of controls?
2. Does the Commission intend to issue a proposal for a Directive or Regulation that would provide an effective and lasting guarantee of animal welfare, specifically in abattoirs?

Does the Commission have plans for a certificate that would ensure that animals were slaughtered while fully unconscious?