Question for oral answer O-000009/2016 to the Commission

Rule 128

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Subject: Export of live animals outside the EU

Every year more than three million live animals are exported from the EU to third countries. This trade causes animal suffering related to long-distance transport as well as the fattening and slaughter conditions in the countries of destination.

A survey conducted by a number of associations in October 2015 reported inadmissible practices in slaughter conditions in a number of countries of destination in violation of the recommendations of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). This also constitutes a serious breach of Article 13 TFEU and the ECJ judgment of June 2015 in the Zuchtvieh case regarding Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005. Moreover, it is impossible properly to monitor the implementation of the legislation during unloading and transportation.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

- 1. Will it ban exports of animals to countries which do not guarantee compliance with the recommendations of the OIE and European animal welfare legislation, as already occurs in Australia, for instance?
- 2. What steps can it take to ensure proactive assistance to importer countries as regards fattening and slaughtering?

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