




Basic information	
2003/0171(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure completed
Protection of animals during transport Amended by 2013/0140(COD) See also 2018/2110(INI) Subject 3.10.04.02 Animal protection	

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI	Agriculture and Rural Development	MAAT Albert Jan (PPE-DE)	29/09/2003
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ENVI	Environment, Climate and Food Safety	MCKENNA Patricia (V/ALE)	02/10/2003
	RETT	Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism	VERMEER Herman (ELDR)	10/09/2003
	Council of the European Union	Council configuration		Meetings
Agriculture and Fisheries		2578	2004-04-26	
Agriculture and Fisheries		2592	2004-06-21	
Agriculture and Fisheries		2619	2004-11-22	
Agriculture and Fisheries		2564	2004-02-24	
Agriculture and Fisheries		2555	2003-12-18	
Agriculture and Fisheries		2633	2004-12-21	
European Commission		Commission DG		Commissioner
	Health and Food Safety			

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(2003)0425	Summary

16/07/2003	Legislative proposal published		
22/09/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
18/12/2003	Debate in Council		Summary
24/02/2004	Debate in Council		Summary
16/03/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
16/03/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0197/2004	
30/03/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0222/2004	Summary
30/03/2004	Debate in Parliament	CRE link	
26/04/2004	Debate in Council		Summary
21/12/2004	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
21/12/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		
05/01/2005	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/0171(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amended by 2013/0140(COD) See also 2018/2110(INI)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/5/19919

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0197/2004	16/03/2004	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0222/2004 OJ C 103 29.04.2004, p. 0036-0412 E	30/03/2004	Summary
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Legislative proposal	COM(2003)0425 	16/07/2003	Summary	
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2011)0700 	10/11/2011	Summary	
Other institutions and bodies				
Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary

ESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0326/2004 OJ C 110 30.04.2004, p. 0135-0138	25/02/2004	
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Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Regulation 2005/0001 OJ L 003 05.01.2005, p. 0001-0044 Summary
Corrigendum to final act 32005R0001R(09) OJ L 226 01.09.2017, p. 0031
Corrigendum to final act 32005R0001R(06) OJ L 336 20.12.2011, p. 0086

Protection of animals during transport

2003/0171(CNS) - 26/04/2004

After several hours in plenary session and after bilateral meetings were held in the margins of the meeting, the Council agreed to leave this file. The Presidency concluded there had not been sufficient movement to reach a political agreement by qualified majority on the subject.

Protection of animals during transport

2003/0171(CNS) - 24/02/2004

The Council took note of the progress report (6582/04) presented by the Presidency concerning the proposal for a Council Regulation on the protection of animals during transport and of the comments of the delegations, pending the opinion of the European Parliament, which is expected in March 2004. The Council also took note of the intention of the Presidency to make progress on this issue in order to reach a possible agreement at the Council meeting in April. All delegations acknowledged the need to improve animal welfare during transport on the basis of sound scientific data. However several delegations reiterated their request to include a limitation of journey times in particular for slaughter animals, and of the number of transport cycles for some categories of animals. Several other delegations, whilst taking duly into account animal welfare concerns, also drew the attention of the Council to the need to analyse the situation of the meat industry as well as the transport industry carefully. Some of these delegations also stressed the need to take into account geographical specificity, especially for remote areas as regards transport costs. The Commission hopes for an agreement on the proposal in April 2004.

Protection of animals during transport

2003/0171(CNS) - 18/12/2003

The Council took note of the technical progress achieved under the Italian Presidency concerning the proposal for a Council Regulation on the protection of animals during transport, and agreed to continue the technical examination of the proposal during the first three months of 2004. The Council noted that the Irish Presidency intended to expedite discussions in order that a decision might be taken on this dossier on receipt of the opinion of the European Parliament, which is expected in the spring of 2004. The Presidency suggested basing the animal transport provisions on the social legislation for hauliers, together with a number of specific requirements taking into account the nature of the cargo (feeding, watering, rest periods and veterinary checks). The Belgian, Danish, Swedish, Netherlands and Austrian delegations, while open to such an approach, wanted a maximum limit to be set for the transport of animals for slaughter and a ceiling placed on the number of transport stages for other types of animal. The Swedish and Danish delegations in particular emphasised the need for more account to be taken of animal welfare, with animals being slaughtered close to the place of rearing and meat transported instead of animals. The United Kingdom, Netherlands, German, Swedish and Danish delegations also called for more checks to be carried out throughout the journey.

Protection of animals during transport

2003/0171(CNS) - 30/03/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

By adopting the report by Albert Jan MAAT (EPP-ED, NL) by 261 votes for, 194 votes against and 44 abstentions, the European Parliament approved the proposal subject to amendments proposed by the committee responsible. Parliament stresses that animals should be moved around as little as

possible and should in particular be slaughtered as close as possible to their point of origin, rather than being taken to a different country just to find a cheaper slaughterhouse. As a way of reducing the frequency of animal transport, the report suggests the creation of mobile slaughterhouses and calls for the development of local slaughterhouses and hence employment, in particular in disadvantaged areas.

Protection of animals during transport

2003/0171(CNS) - 16/07/2003 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to overhaul animal transport rules in Europe. **PROPOSED ACT :** Council Regulation. **CONTENT :** the proposal from the Commission repeals all existing Community laws in relation to the protection of animals during transport. It also incorporates the requirements of the Commission proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation 411/98/EC as regards ventilation in road vehicles carrying livestock on long journeys. The process of revision has been developed following the recommendations of the Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare and by close scrutiny of the economic impact of the proposed measures. The proposal takes also into account the outcome of the stakeholders' consultation. Furthermore in recent years, livestock markets have been proved to be an area where rules to protect the animals are necessary. Similarly, welfare requirements are needed for livestock vessels. Both issues are addressed by the present proposal. The Commission proposal aims to: - establish stricter conditions for the transporters operating long distance journeys; - update journey times and space allowances; - improve the mandatory training of personnel and widen the scope of this obligation to personnel at markets and assembly centres; - ban the transport of very young animals and set out definitions for when animals are unfit for transport; - set up stricter rules for the transport of horses; - upgrade technical standards for road vehicles; - introduce specific requirements for all livestock vessels operating from community ports; - reinforce the responsibilities of the transporters as well as of the other operators concerned by the transport of animals; - emphasise the role of competent authorities in supervising transport operations and strengthen the cooperation between the services concerned; - reinforce instruments for control and better enforcement. Several measures considered in the Commission proposal aim to prevent the spread of diseases, as for example, the stricter regime that would be applied for the transporters operating long distance journeys.

Protection of animals during transport

2003/0171(CNS) - 10/11/2011

The Commission presents a report on the impact of Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport. The report describes the impact of the Regulation on animal welfare and intra-Union trade, its socio-economic and regional implications as well as the implementation of the navigation systems. It also contains information in relation to enforcement of the EU legislation.

Main conclusions

Animal welfare: the Regulation has had beneficial impacts on the welfare of animals during transport. Available data indicate that since 2005 the overall quality of animal transport on long journeys has improved, notably due to improved vehicles and better handling of the animals. The latter appears to be the result of the proper implementation of the stricter training obligations for personnel handling animals, which was introduced by the Regulation.

The percentage of transported animals with lameness, injuries, dehydration and exhaustion decreased, or remained unchanged, between 2006/29 and 2009. Concerning the animals reported "dead on arrival", the numbers decreased significantly from 2005 to 2009. The difference was greater for long transport than for shorter transport. There has also been a significant decrease in the number of animals "observed unfit for travel upon arrival at destination".

Even though animal welfare in general has improved after the introduction of the Regulation, the available information shows that severe animal welfare problems during transport persist. Most of these problems appear to be related to **poor compliance of some requirements of the Regulation**. Available information shows there are some recurring examples of poor compliance such as transport of unfit animals, overstocking of vehicles, transport of animals in vehicles in which the internal height of the compartments is inappropriate, and animals being transported longer than the maximum allowed travelling time. Often, poor compliance appears to be related to improper enforcement.

The Commission does not believe that an amendment would be the most appropriate approach to address problems. A steady legal situation will allow Member States and stakeholders to focus on enforcement within a stable legal framework.

Navigation systems: the Regulation introduced the requirement for vehicles approved for long journeys to be equipped with navigation systems. However, it appears that the full potential of the systems to decrease the administrative burden for industry and to improve official controls is not being utilised. Despite the fact that the Regulation has been applied for more than four years, there are still important differences between Member States as regards the implementation of the requirements related to navigation systems. Most Member States do not yet have a comprehensive approach on how to check whether the systems installed comply with the Regulation, and few controlling authorities use the data collected via the navigation system to carry out checks in accordance with the Regulation. In many cases the data is only considered after the competent authority has detected an infringement during a physical control before or during transport or at the place of destination. It is therefore concluded that the navigation systems are not used in a wide perspective to improve controls.

Volume of trade: according to the available data, the Regulation has not had any impact on the volume of the intra-Union trade in live animals.

Costs: the Regulation appears not to have provoked any impact on the animal production in remote regions. The introduction of the Regulation has led to an increase of transport costs but, probably due to competition in the transport sector, this increase has not been evenly distributed along the food chain and transport operators are mainly bearing the extra costs.

Scientific knowledge: in the EFSA opinion adopted on 2 December 2010 scientists recognise that parts of the Regulation are not in line with current scientific knowledge, and point out specific areas where future research is recommended. In particular, scientists recommend that transport time for horses for slaughter should be shorter than that provided in the Regulation. The Commission feels that, for the time being, this is best addressed by the adoption of guides to good practices.

Enforcement: enforcement of the Regulation remains a major challenge, partly because of differences in interpretation of the requirements and because of lack of controls by the Member States. Furthermore, the quality of monitoring data, submitted to the Commission by Member States, is often insufficient to provide a clear analysis of the situation and to allow planning of specific corrective measures at EU level.

Live fish: the Commission will launch a study on the welfare of fish during transport, with a view to determining the appropriateness of a revision of the provisions of the Regulation to improve the clarity of the legal framework on the transport of live fish for aquaculture operators, in accordance with the Commission Aquaculture Strategy.

To correct the problems identified, the appropriate enforcement of existing rules should remain the priority. The Commission will consider the following actions for the near future:

- adopt implementing measures concerning navigation systems as provided by the Regulation, and establish a simplified version of the journey log. Furthermore, in close co-operation with the European GNSS Supervisory Authority, it should be ensured that drivers are informed on how to profit from the device. The objective is to improve harmonisation of the implementation of the Regulation, and improve animal welfare through controlling the journey times, space allowance etc. of animal transports. This action should also contribute to a reduced administrative burden for the transporters, but may increase the administrative burden for Member State authorities. However, this should result in better enforcement of animal transport legislation;
- adopt implementing measures concerning the controls to be performed by the competent authorities of the Member States, in accordance to Article 27(1) of the Regulation. At the same time, the structure of the reporting system should be further harmonized. The objective is to increase in the number of inspections, which should lead to improved enforcement. The information received from Member State's reports would provide better and more comparable data when based on the same structure;
- increased co-operation and communication with the competent authorities of Member States and stakeholders, including non-governmental animal welfare organisations. The objective is to collect and analyse information on difficulties and share experiences on possible solutions related to the implementation of the Regulation;
- dissemination of Commission guidance on the interpretation of the Regulation and supporting the development of guides to good practice. These could focus on different aspects of day-to-day management that may be problematic and would encourage best practice that considers the latest scientific knowledge. The aim is to resolve ambiguities and inefficiencies in the current animal welfare legislation and improve harmonisation of the implementation of the rules. At the same time it would encourage industry and other relevant parties to exceed the minimum welfare standards for transporting animals.

The Commission invites the European Parliament and the Council to discuss the issues highlighted in this Report

Protection of animals during transport

2003/0171(CNS) - 22/12/2004 - Final act

PURPOSE : to establish rules for the transport of animals taking place in connection with an economic activity.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Regulation 1/2005/EC on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EC and Regulation 1255/97/EC.

CONTENT : This Regulation applies to the transport of live vertebrate animals carried out within the Community, including the specific checks to be carried out by officials on consignments entering or leaving the customs territory of the Community.

The Council adopted this Regulation by qualified majority. The Danish delegation voted against it, while the delegations from Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany and Sweden abstained. The majority of the amendments adopted by the European Parliament and accepted by the Commission became part of the Regulation. In particular, two amendments were introduced regarding, on the one hand, the review clause (the Commission's report will take into account the socio-economic implications of the Regulation, the implementation of the satellite navigation system and scientific evidence on welfare needs of animals) and on the other hand provisions regarding transport by farmers of their own animals for sale: the administrative requirements will not be applied to this category of transporters on a maximum journey of 65 km (instead of 50km) between the point of departure and the destination.

The new rules aim to ensure that animals will not be transported in a way likely to cause injury or undue suffering to them.

The Regulation applies not only to transporters but also to other categories of operators such as farmers, traders, assembly centres and slaughterhouses. It aims to improve the following aspects:

- conditions applicable to transporters making long journeys;
- the length of the journey and the space available for the animals;
- training of personnel;
- assembly centres must ensure that Community legislation on the protection of animals during transport is known and respected by their employees and visitors;
- rules on the transport of horses;
- Council Regulation 3821/85 provides for recording equipment to be installed and used to ensure effective checking on compliance with social legislation concerning road transport. Such record data will be made available and checked so as to enforce travelling time limits under animal welfare legislation;
- flexible procedures will improve the level of collaboration between the competent authorities in the different Member States;
- A significant number of animals are transported by livestock vessels over very long journeys from and within the Community and transport by sea can be checked at the place of departure. The Regulation sets up specific measures and standards for this mode of transport;
- the use of cattle-prods is regulated;

- the Regulation provides for the possibility of establishing derogations to take account of the remoteness of certain regions from the mainland of the Community, in particular for outermost regions.

ENTRY INTO FORCE : 25/01/2005.