



Better Training for Safer Food BTSF

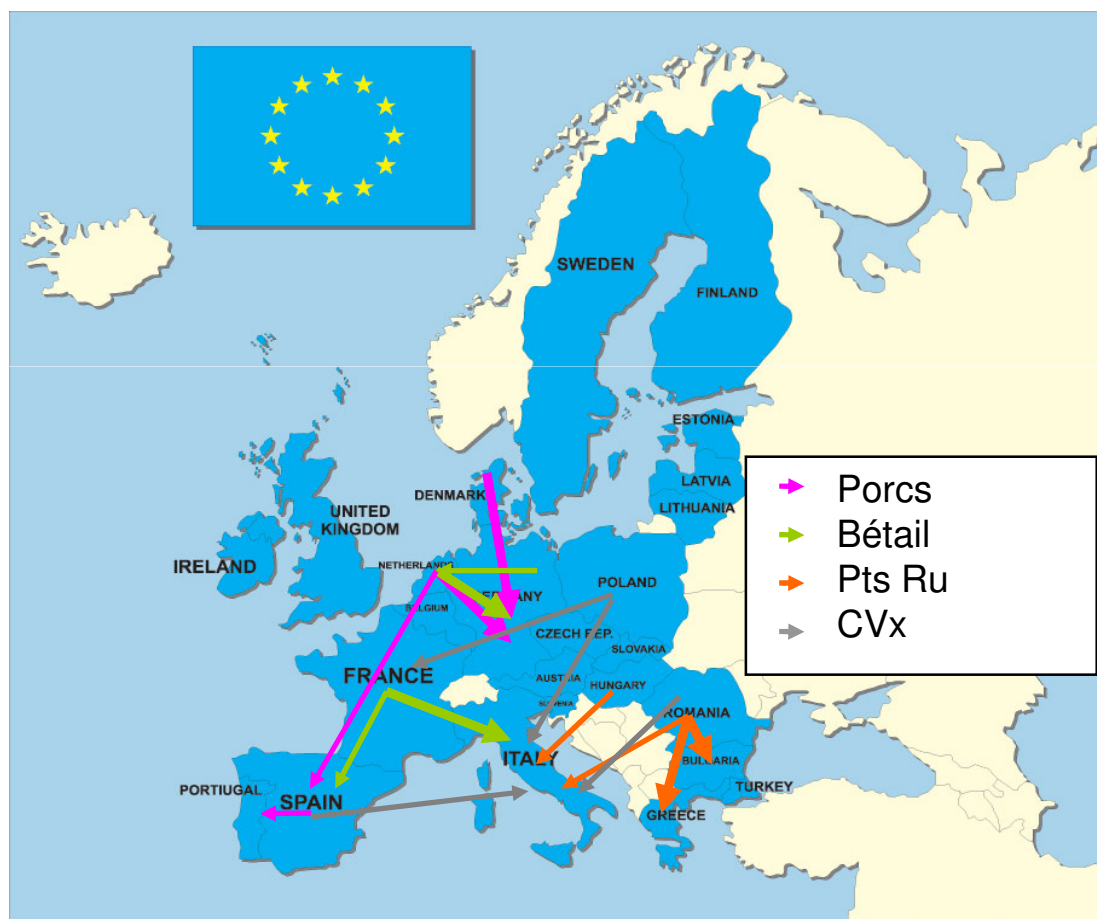
Workshop on EU Legislation for Animal Welfare

EU Legislation on Animal Welfare during transport

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Each year, around six million farm animals – cattle, sheep, pigs and horses – are transported across Europe



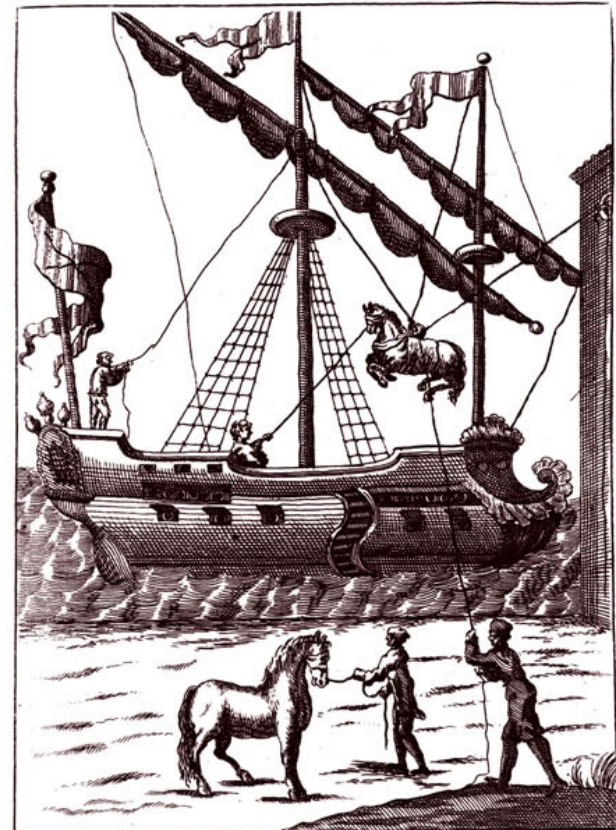


EU Legislation applicable to Animal Welfare during transport

1. History of the legislation
2. Main requirements
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History of the legislation

- European Convention for the protection of Animals during International Transport
- Council Directive 91/628/EC of 19 November 1991 on the protection of animals during transport



European horses boarding a ship bound for the Americas

Escuela de a cavallo, Salvador Rodriguez Jordan



Main requirements

Regulation EC 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport

The Regulation applies to the transport of live vertebrate animals within the Community in connection with an economic activity

This is being interpreted as any transporting of animals undertaken as part of a business or commercial activity, which aims at achieving financial gain, whether direct or indirect, for any person or company involved with the transport.

Under the EU Regulation everyone transporting animals must ensure:

- Journey times are kept to a minimum (different permitted long journey times for the different species)
- The animals are fit to travel.
- Those handling animals are trained and competent.

- The vehicle and its loading & unloading facilities are designed, constructed and maintained to avoid injury and suffering.
- Water, feed and rest are given to the animals as needed, and sufficient floor space and height is allowed.

Animals that cannot be transported

- Unfit animals (annex I)
- Very young animals, e.g. calves of less than 10 days of age, pigs of less than three weeks and lambs of less than one week, except if the journey is less than 100 km.
- Calves of less than 14 days of age on journeys exceeding 8 hours.
- Pregnant female animals in the last stage of gestation (within 10% of the estimated birth date).
- Female animals less than one week after giving birth.

Transporter requirements for journeys up to 65 km

Transporters are not required to have vehicle authorisation or training and certificates of competence. However, they must comply with the technical rules on fitness to travel, means of transport and transport practices. See Annex 1 to the Council Regulation 1/2005.



Transporter authorisation for all journeys over 65 km

Authorisation will be granted, and will be valid for 5 years, if transporters can comply with the following:

- The transporter has an established business or, in the case of businesses established outside of the EU, is represented in the EU;
- The transporter can demonstrate that they have appropriate staff, equipment and operational procedures to transport animals in compliance with the new Regulation;

- The transporter has no record of serious infringements of animal welfare legislation in the 3 years preceding application.

Additional Requirements for Transporter authorisation for journeys over 8 hours

- The transporter must also provide:
- certificates of approval for vehicles and containers;
- certificates of competence for all staff acting as drivers and/or attendants on the journeys

Additional Requirements for Transporter authorisation for journeys over 8 hours

- details of procedures enabling transporters to trace and record the movement of road vehicles under their responsibility and to contact the drivers at any time contingency plans in the event of emergencies.
- All vehicles used for the transport of horses (except registered horses) or farmed animals must have a satellite navigation system.



Training and competence certification for drivers and attendants and assembly centre personnel

The training courses will cover the technical and administrative aspects of the rules and regulations that apply to the protection of animals during transport. However, the precise format of training, and who may provide it, is not specified in the Regulation.

The aspects of the regulation which will be assessed include

- general conditions of transporting animals;
- the documents that are required;
- fitness for transport;
- journey planning;
- animal physiology and feed needs, animal behaviour and the concept of stress;
- practical aspects of handling animals;
- impact of driving behaviour on welfare of animals and on the quality of meat;
- emergency care for animals; and
- safety of personnel handling animals.

Journey log

A requirement of Council Regulation (EC) 1/2005 is that for long journey, a journey log accompanies the consignment from the place of departure to the place of final destination

The journey log comprises the following 5 Sections

- (1) Section 1 – Planning,
- (2) Section 2 – Place of Departure,
- (3) Section 3- Place of destination
- (4) Section 4 – Declaration by transporter,
- (5) Section 5 – Anomaly Report

Please submit this form to the Animal Health Divisional Office for the area in which the journey will begin

Different permitted “long journey times”

Unweaned calves (above 14 days of age), lambs, kids, foals and piglets (heavier than 10 kilogrammes)

9 hours travel, at least 1 hour rest on the lorry, with water (and food if necessary), then a further 9 hours travel.

Adult pigs

24 hours travel without stopping, providing they have continuous access to water.

Different permitted “long journey times”

Adult cattle and sheep

14 hours travel, at least 1 hour rest on the lorry, with water (and food if necessary), then a further 14 hours travel.

Adult horses

24 hours travel, with water (and food if necessary) provided every 8 hours. On journeys over 8 hours, horses must be transported in individual stalls (mares and their foals can travel in the same stall). The maximum permitted journey time for ‘unbroken’ horses (not tame) is 8 hours.



Different permitted “long journey times”

Poultry

No maximum journey time. They must be provided with suitable food and water if journeys last more than 12 hours.

These ‘long journey’ times can be extended by 2 hours in certain situations, for example, if vehicles are nearly at their destination. After each journey, animals must be unloaded, fed, watered and rested for at least 24 hours before further travel.

Scientific advises

SCAHAW “The welfare of animals during transport”
(details for horses, pigs, sheep and cattle) – 2002

- EFSA – other species (including poultry and fish)
- 2004

Opinion of the Scientific Panel on Animal Health
and Welfare on a request from the Commission
related to the welfare of animals during
transport(Adopted on 30th March 2004)

January 2011: Scientific Opinion Concerning the
Welfare of Animals during Transport

This opinion lists a series of practical indicators and clinical measurements , which can be used by animal industry professionals and inspectors to assess the welfare of animals during transport. For example, if, after inspecting an animal, a professional or an inspector believes it is suffering from high body temperature or making abnormal respiratory sounds, such measurements can be used to justify a decision to declare the animal unfit for transport.

Future perspectives

The experts also stress the need for further research on aspects such as: limits and regulation of temperatures during the transport of poultry and rabbits; the effect of ventilation on pigs; the minimum space allowed for rabbits, pigs and newly-hatched chickens ; and the duration of the journey which will not harm unweaned horses, pigs and calves.



***Thank you for your
attention***