



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Director-General

Brussels
AGRI.E.3/PRM/KS(2026) 6789835

Subject: PETITION: Reflect citizens' demands in the Livestock Strategy

Dear Petitioners,

Thank you for your email of 16 June 2026 addressed to Commissioner Hansen, underlining the importance that many citizens attach to improving the welfare of farm animals in the European Union and in particular on the end of cages and of male chicks' killing.

The Commission recognises that these are important animal welfare issues and that citizens expect meaningful progress in this area. The Commission remains committed to high animal welfare standards and is assessing the most appropriate ways to advance on these matters, including on cage systems and practices affecting chicks in the egg production sector. Any future action will need to be based on a thorough assessment, including scientific evidence, impact analysis and dialogue with stakeholders and Member States.

The preparation of the future livestock strategy is part of the Commission's broader reflection on how to ensure a sustainable, resilient and responsible livestock sector. Animal welfare is an important element of this work to ensure excellence in livestock systems.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to the Commissioner and for sharing your views on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

Elisabeth WERNER

