

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Directorate G - Veterinary and International Affairs
Unit G2 – Animal Health

Brussels
SANTE/G2/HF/lp (2015) 383172

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on Animal Health

Thank for your email/letter.


The proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on Animal Health is currently being considered in the Council and the European Parliament in the ordinary legislative procedure. Your comments, and in particular your request to classify stray dogs not as wild animals, can only be dealt with in that context.

The Commission's proposal provides comprehensive rules for the protection of animals and humans against transmissible animal diseases and covers coherently all animals, whether they are kept by humans or not, regardless of their species.

The definitions in the proposal ("kept" and "wild") allow a clear distinction between certain animal disease prevention and control rules that can be applied to kept animals under human control and other rules that can be applied to animals that are not under human control. The Commission's proposal therefore ensures that no animal category is forgotten from the scope of its intervention.

Neither of these two definitions will lead to less animal protection for stray animals or the isolation of stray dogs and cats as second-class animals. To achieve measures that are relevant and appropriate to address the health risk involved, further division in the definitions does not seem to be necessary at this stage.

Yours sincerely,


Alberto Laddomada
Head of Unit