

## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMES
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENVIRONMENT

The Directors-General

Brussels GROW.F.1/MF/nt grow.f.1(2023) 2940668

**Subject:** The European citizens' initiative Save Cruelty Free Cosmetics

Dear Petitioners,

Thank you for your e-mails of 17 February 2023 addressed to Commissioner Sinkevičius, in which you express your support for The European citizens' initiative Save Cruelty Free Cosmetics – For a Europe Without Animal Test. The Commissioner has asked us to reply on his behalf.

On 25 January of this year, the Commission received the citizens' initiative 'Save Cruelty Free Cosmetics' initiative, which managed to secure the support of over 1.2 million verified signatures from EU citizens across the EU. Its main objective is to (1) protect and strengthen the ban on animal testing for cosmetics, (2) to transform the EU chemicals Regulation as to ensure that human health and the environment are protected by managing chemicals without adding new animal testing requirements and (3) to develop a roadmap before the end of the current legislative term that leads to phasing out all animal testing in the EU.

The initiative organisers have already had the occasion to present the objectives of their initiative in more detail at a meeting with Vice-President for Values and Transparency Věra Jourová and Commissioner for the Internal Market Thierry Breton and Commission services on 17 March 2023.

They will also be invited to present their initiative in a public hearing, organised by the European Parliament, which is open to the public (also online). The date for the hearing is not yet set.

The Commission will carefully analyse the initiative and provide a reply at the latest by 25 July 2023. The reply will include its legal and political conclusions and the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for taking or not taking action. The Commission will also take into consideration the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, as well as any position taken by the European Parliament and any measures already taken.

We would like to thank you for your interest in the ban of animal testing in the Cosmetics Regulation and in animal welfare.

Yours sincerely,

(e-sign) Kerstin Jorna DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (e-sign) Florika Fink-Hooijer DG Environment