

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002303/25
to the Commission
Marc Angel (S&D), Tilly Metz (Verts/ALE), Niels Fuglsang (S&D)
(6 June 2025)**

Subject: Animal welfare in the European film industry

Animal welfare has already been regulated in several areas at EU level, or is currently under regulatory development within the EU. Although Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union declares that animals are sentient beings and that the welfare of animals is to be considered in the formulation of Union policies, no specific EU directive or regulation has yet been adopted to generally regulate the use of animals in the film industry, or at least to develop or recommend a related framework. As a result, regulation varies across Member States, and there is currently a lack of a unified European standard or supervisory mechanism that would ensure consistent protection of animals during film shoots, including in cinema, television and advertising productions.

1. Does the Commission envisage creating Europe-wide animal welfare standards that could serve to generally regulate, or at least provide initial guidance for, the European film industry?
2. Does the Commission agree that at least in the case of film industry productions that are fully or partially EU-financed, such mandatory animal welfare standards should be required in the future?

Submitted: 6.6.2025

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(20 August 2025)**

1. The existing EU animal welfare legislation is based on Article 43 and Article 114 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, i.e., agriculture policy and internal market policy. There is no evidence of problems with the functioning of the internal market for films due to the lack of harmonised EU animal welfare standards. Therefore, the Commission has currently no plans to act in that domain.
2. The Commission acknowledges the significance of maintaining high animal welfare standards in EU-financed projects, including film productions. All projects funded under the Creative Europe MEDIA programme ⁽¹⁾ must comply with the highest ethical standards of the programme and applicable Union and national laws where the productions are held.

⁽¹⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/creative-europe-media>.