

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004639/25
to the Commission
Isabel Serra Sánchez (The Left)
(20 November 2025)**

Subject: Animal cruelty at the Toro Júbilo event

On the evening of 15 November 2025, a festivity took place in Medinaceli (Soria, Spain) in which two torches are attached to the horns of a bull were set alight. This practice, known as *Toro Júbilo*, causes the animal an enormous amount of suffering.

Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) describes animals as ‘sentient beings’ and states that they should be protected from suffering.

In view of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware of these festivities?
2. Will the Commission take any action to prevent these practices from happening again?

Submitted: 20.11.2025

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(30 January 2026)**

The Commission condemns any form of cruelty towards animals, which are recognised as sentient beings by Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

Article 13 of the TFEU ⁽¹⁾ states that, in formulating policies and legislation in a number of policy areas, the Union and the Member States shall pay full regard to the welfare of animals, while respecting the legislative or administrative provisions and customs of the Member States relating in particular to religious rites, cultural traditions and regional heritage.

Practices such as the one referred to by the Honourable Member thus remain under the competence of the Member States concerned, in accordance with the above-mentioned Article of the TFEU.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:12012E/TXT&from=EN>.