



The European Institute
for Animal Law & Policy

ACHIEVING BETTER TREATMENT FOR ANIMALS

Conference

Animal Protection and EU Law

Recent Developments
and Prospective Change



La Fondation
Droit Animal
Éthique & Sciences

Agenda

09:00

Registration and Light Breakfast

09:30

Opening Remarks

Laurence Parisot (President, La Fondation Droit Animal, Ethique & Sciences (LFDA))

Roundtable 1: Reinforcing the Robustness of EU Animal Protection Laws

Moderator: Gabriela Kubíková (Legislative Advocacy Manager, The European Institute for Animal Law & Policy)

10:00 – 10:20

Taking Stock of EU Animal Protection Laws

Christian Juliusson (European Commission, DG SANTE, Animal Welfare Unit)

10:20 – 10:50

The Central Role of EFSA in Science-Based Law-Making

Denise Candiani (European Food Safety Authority (EFSA))

10:50 – 11:10

Extra-Territoriality and EU Animal Welfare Laws

Pauline Phoa, PhD (Assistant Professor, University of Utrecht)

11:10 – 11:30

Q&A Session

11:30 – 11:45

Break

Roundtable 2: The Role of the CJEU in Advancing Animal Welfare

Moderator: Inês Grenho Ajuda (Farm Animals Programme Leader, Eurogroup for Animals)

11:45 – 12:05

Animal Protection in the Caselaw of the Court of Justice of the EU

Alessandra Donati (Référéndaire at the Court of Justice of the EU)

12:05 – 12:25

Recent Developments: Case Studies

Alice Di Concetto (Chief Legal Advisor, The European Institute for Animal Law & Policy); Joren Vuylsteke (PhD Candidate, KU Leuven)

12:25 – 12:45

Q&A Session

12:45 – 14:15

Lunch

Roundtable 3: Implementing Practical Solutions Through Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration

Moderator: Laurence Parisot (President, La Fondation Droit Animal, Ethique & Sciences (LFDA))

14:15 – 14:35

Presentation of the Codex Animalis

Nicolas Bureau (Head of Policy, La Fondation Droit Animal, Ethique & Sciences (LFDA)); Emilie Chevalier (Université of Limoges Law School)

14:35 – 14:55	Balancing Public Interests in Law-Making <i>Members of the European Parliament: Tilly Metz (The Greens/EFA, Luxembourg) and Michal Wiezik (Renew Europe, Slovakia)</i>
14:55 – 15:15	Corporate-Based Campaigns: Joining Forces with the Private Sector <i>Pascal Vaugarny (Deputy Director, Fermiers de Loué); Agathe Gignoux (Legal & Public Affairs Manager, CIWF France)</i>
15:15 – 15:45	Q&A Session
15:45 – 16:15	Closing Remarks
16:15 – 17:00	Cocktail

Speakers



Nicolas Bureau

Head of Policy, La Fondation Droit Animal, Éthique et Sciences (LFDA)

Nicolas Bureau leads LFDA's legal and advocacy work on animal welfare and protection policies in France and at the EU level. A legal expert by training, he pursued doctoral studies in European and international law, with a focus on human rights. He specializes in the intersection between law, ethics, and animal welfare policy. Throughout his career, he has served on the boards of several organisations and worked across sectors related to human rights, public policy, and animal protection, contributing to the advancement of stronger, science-based frameworks for the recognition and protection of animals as sentient beings.



Denise Candiani

Animal Welfare Specialist, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

Denise Candiani is an Italian animal welfare specialist at the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). She earned her PhD in Animal Science from Utrecht University (The Netherlands), focusing on the welfare of pigs during long-distance transport. Since joining EFSA's Animal Health and Welfare Unit in 2006, she has worked on developing methodologies for animal welfare risk assessment and coordinating expert working groups evaluating the welfare of animals on farms, during transport, and at slaughter. She also coordinates EFSA's Animal Welfare Network, which brings together representatives from EU Member States to support harmonized approaches to animal welfare.



Emilie Chevalier

Assistant Professor, Université de Limoges (France)

Émilie Chevalier is an Assistant Professor at the University of Limoges, France, where she serves as Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Law and Economics and co-director of the international teaching program European Studies. She also directs the Master's program in Environmental, Urban and Planning Law. Professor Chevalier earned a Ph.D. from the University of Limoges in 2010, after completing an LL.M. in International, European, and Comparative Law at Maastricht University (2004). Her research interests include EU administrative law, administrative procedural rights, EU environmental law, and the procedural application of EU law in national laws.



Alice Di Concetto

Executive Director, Chief Legal Advisor, The European Institute for Animal Law & Policy

Alice Di Concetto founded The European Institute for Animal Law & Policy, where she serves as the Executive Director and Chief Legal Advisor. She is also a lecturer in EU animal law and ethics at Sciences Po (Paris, France). She was previously a fellow in the Animal Law & Policy Program at Harvard Law School from 2016 to 2018. Alice earned a master's degree in Animal Law (LL.M, 2016) from Lewis & Clark Law School (USA). She graduated from Sciences Po Law School (Master in Economic Law, 2015).



Alessandra Donati

Référendaire, Court of Justice of the European Union

Alessandra Donati holds degrees in law from the Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi (Milan) and economics from the Università Politecnica delle Marche (Ancona). She holds an LL.M. in French and European Law and a PhD in European Union Law, both from the University Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne. Before joining the CJEU, Alessandra worked as a qualified lawyer in Italy and France. She has also worked as a research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Procedural Law in Luxembourg, a lecturer at Sciences Po (France), a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Luxembourg, and a visiting researcher at the European University Institute and at UCLouvain. In addition to her work at the CJEU, Alessandra is also a lecturer at the University of Luxembourg, editor-in-chief of the European Journal of Consumer Law, and co-editor of the collection Europe (Larcier-Intersentia).



Agathe Gignoux

Legal and Public Affairs Manager, CIWF France

Agathe Gignoux is Legal and Public Affairs Manager at Compassion In World Farming (CIWF) France. CIWF is the leading farm Animal Welfare NGO, founded in 1967 by a British dairy farmer, to promote high animal welfare in farming. A lawyer in international and European law, Agathe is a member of several platforms on animal welfare and food & agriculture transition, including the animal welfare expert committee of the French Ministry of Agriculture, the French National Council for Food, and the National Ethic Committee for Slaughterhouses.



Inês Grenho Ajuda

Farm Animals Programme Leader, Eurogroup for Animals

Inês Ajuda, MVM, a veterinary professional and advocate for farm animal welfare, has led the farm animals team at Eurogroup for Animals since 2020. Prior to this, Inês worked as Research Manager for the European Food Business Engagement team at Compassion in World Farming, and was editor of *Ruminantes*, a Portuguese-language magazine specializing in veterinary sciences and ruminant health. Inês holds an Integrated Master's Degree in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Lisbon, where she also contributed as a lecturer and research supervisor. Her academic work focused on the development of welfare indicators for farm animals, combining field research with clinical veterinary practice as a large animal vet.



Christian Juliusson

Legislative Officer, Animal Welfare Unit, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE)

Christian Juliusson is a lawyer with 25 years of experience from working in the European Parliament and in the European Commission, mainly with legislation related to animals and food, such as the Official Controls Regulation. He was responsible for the Commission's Fitness Check of the EU animal welfare legislation, which was concluded in 2022, and is currently working on the upcoming modernisation of the EU rules for on-farm animal welfare, including on the use of cages, as an action under the EU Vision for Agriculture and Food.



Gabriela Kubíková

Legislative Advocacy Manager, The European Institute for Animal Law & Policy

Gabriela Kubíková leads The European Institute for Animal Law & Policy's advocacy on farmed animal welfare. A lawyer by training, she previously worked in the European Parliament's Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) Secretariat, and later at DG SANTE. Gabriela holds a PhD in law from Charles University in Prague, where she specialized in EU farmed animal law. Her doctoral thesis was published by Wolters Kluwer and received the Zdeněk Madar Prize for the best doctoral thesis awarded by the Czech Society of Environmental Law (2023).



Tilly Metz

Member of the European Parliament (Greens/EFA)

Tilly Metz has a passion for animals and a strong interest in health. She serves on the environment, transport, and agriculture committees, as well as being first Vice-President of the public health committee. In the previous mandate, she chaired the Intergroup on Animal Welfare and now serves as its Honorary President. Until December 2021, she also chaired the Animal Transport Inquiry Committee and is currently co-rapporteur on the animal transport file and involved in the negotiations on better welfare for dogs and cats.



Laurence Parisot

President, La Fondation Droit Animal, Éthique et Sciences (LFDA)

Laurence Parisot is a French business leader and advocate for animal welfare. Chairwoman of Citi France, Vice-President of the Adrienne and Pierre Sommer Foundation, former head of the French business confederation (MEDEF) and of the polling institute IFOP, she has held leading roles at the crossroads of business and ethics. Deeply committed to the protection of animals, she served as Vice President of the Brigitte Bardot Foundation before joining LFDA, where she became president in 2025. She promotes a vision in which animal welfare is treated as a major societal issue, grounded in science, ethics, and law, and advocates for stronger political commitment to animal protection.



Pauline Phoa

Assistant Professor of European Law, Utrecht University

Pauline Phoa specializes in EU agrifood law, EU economic law and legal theory. She holds LL.M degrees from Utrecht University (*cum laude*) and Columbia Law School, and obtained her PhD at Utrecht University in 2021 (*cum laude*). Her dissertation received the 2022 Praemium Erasmianum Prize and the 2023 Dutch Association for Legal Philosophy Dissertation Prize. Pauline currently works for the 'ReGeNL' project on regenerative agriculture, and the 'Re-imagining Constitutional Ecology' (RICE) project, exploring the constitutional and legal foundations of the EU in the context of sustainability and resilience.



Pascal Vaugarny

Deputy Director, Fermiers de Loué; Étiquette Bien-Être Animal (AEBEA)

Pascal Vaugarny is deputy director of Fermiers de Loué, a French farmers' cooperative established in 1958 which produces free-range and organic poultry under the Label Rouge certification, focusing on slow-growing breeds and feed made from local, non-GMO grains. Known for its early adoption of outdoor farming, Loué represents a long-standing model of organized rural production within France's agri-food sector, balancing traditional practices with modern market expectations. Alongside this, Pascal is also contributing to the Étiquette Bien-Être Animal (AEBEA), an association created in 2018 in France on the initiative of La Fondation Droit Animal, Éthique et Sciences (LFDA), CIWF France, and OABA to provide consumers with clear, science-based information on the living conditions of farmed animals.



Joren Vuylsteke

Co-Founder and Director, The Harrison Collective

Joren Vuylsteke is co-founder and director of the Harrison Collective, the first Belgian NGO focusing on animal welfare litigation. He is also writing a PhD on general principles of law at KU Leuven (Belgium). Previously, Joren worked as a lawyer in Brussels, specializing in European economic law (2016 to 2022). He holds a master's degree in law from KU Leuven (2015) and an LL.M in EU law from the Université Libre de Bruxelles (2016).



Michal Wiezik

Member of the European Parliament (Renew Europe)

Michal Wiezik is a Slovak Member of the European Parliament, university lecturer, and scientist. Since 2019, he has been actively advocating for better living conditions for animals. He works on shaping European legislation to reduce animal cruelty, combat illegal trade, and establish minimum welfare standards. A long-time supporter of the EU for Animals initiative, he focuses on strengthening the legal protection of animals across the European Union. This year, Michal successfully pushed for new legislation to ensure stricter protection for companion animals.

Notes

Dotted lines for note-taking.



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