

Gillian Anderson

MEP
European Parliament

Via e-mail

28 April 2009

Dear MEP,

I am writing urgently on behalf of PETA to ask you to stop Europe returning to the darkest days of vivisection. I urge you to act in the interests of compassion when MEPs vote on the proposed directive on the protection of animals used in scientific procedures. I have been dismayed to learn of proposals introduced to the draft legislation which will have a devastating effect on animal welfare and completely prevent governments from effectively regulating animal experiments on behalf of the citizens of the European Union. Please vote to protect animals, promote good science and ensure proper oversight in the First Reading of the proposed directive in May.

To reflect the deep concerns of European citizens, it is vital that the directive at the very least do the following:

- Promote effective, humane and relevant methods to replace animal experiments. This must be at the heart of EU policy.
- Ensure that *no* experiments are conducted on animals unless a licence is issued by government authorities in advance (this is already the law in many European countries and is vital for animals' protection).
- Ensure that *no* animal is ever exposed to severe, prolonged pain.
- Make real progress towards ending the use of all non-human primates in experiments and take decisive action to completely end the trapping of wild monkeys to supply the vivisection industry.

We must not return to a "free-for-all" in which there is almost no effective control of what takes place behind closed laboratory doors. Twelve million dogs, cats, mice, rabbits, monkeys, horses and other animals suffer and are killed in experiments in the EU every year. I am certain that the overwhelming majority of EU citizens would be as horrified as I was to learn that their elected representatives were considering washing their hands of those animals,

leaving millions of them with little or no legal protection whatsoever. Please vote in favour of progress and compassion.

Please contact me (through PETA) to let me know how you intend to vote on this critical issue. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Gillian Anderson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gillian Anderson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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