EU LIVE EXPORT

INVESTIGATION OUTCOMES 2017

1. EU HARBOR

Animals International documented the treatment of EU animals for export at the Port of Rasa in Croatia in August this year. Animals from Austria, Lithuania and Slovakia could be identified.

Despite actions by members of Eurogroup for Animals (within the frame of the StopTheTrucks campaign) shining a light on breeches of the transport regulation at EU harbors, conditions have not been improved.

Evidence gathered revealing:

- Abusive use of electric prods (repeatedly used at head region)
- Kicking of animals
- Transportation of unfit animals
- Loading and unloading facilities have not been adequately constructed and operated. Animals escaped from loading facility and had to be caught after a turbulent chase at harbor area.
- Animals of different sizes have not been transported separately (young and grown bulls have been loaded from truck onto the vessel at the same time)

Loading took place when temperature raised up to 39°C. Animals clearly suffered from heat stress (e.g. documentation of tongue rolling).
2. THIRD COUNTRIES

Animals International has conducted a five months investigation documenting the handling and slaughter of European cattle and sheep in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Palestinian Territories and Tunisia.

Evidence has been obtained of handling and slaughter of animals from Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Romania, Spain as well as from EU progeny (Belgium, Dutch, French).

Although the European Commission, national authorities and the OIE have been provided with evidence from 2016 exposing the cruel treatment of EU animals in third countries earlier this year, it sadly can be confirmed that EU animals are still not protected once they leave EU soil and have to suffer because of substandard or missing animal welfare laws in importing countries. Footage represents routine slaughter practices not only in breach with EU and international standards, but also not in accordance with Islamic principles.

EGYPT

Footage of abattoirs represents common practices as slashing of tendons, inserting fingers in eye sockets, stabbing auditory canals to immobilize terrified European exported bulls before cutting their throat while being fully conscious.
Egypt: Romanian bull with slashed tendon being kicked to move inside abattoir.

JORDAN
Documentation of brutal handling of Romanian sheep as dragging animals by single legs or horns, transporting animals with tied legs in closed car boots (no ventilation) or on deck of pickup trucks with full sun exposure before having their throats cut several times whilst fully conscious.

Jordan: Romanian sheep being dragged by one leg from feedlot to pickup truck.
LEBANON
Filming of EU bulls on trucks at butcher shops being hoisted by one rear leg so animals fall off vehicle. After being brutally restrained by ropes their throats are hacked without stunning. In Lebanese abattoirs fully conscious cattle are brought to fall in a trip-floor box before their throats are cut.

MOROCCO
Footage demonstrating the cruel slaughter of an EU cow and the killing of EU progeny in abattoirs has been shot. Furthermore material was gathered of EU animals and their progeny covered with their own excrements and ocular discharge in feedlots.
PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

Documentation of violently handling of Hungarian bull.

Palestinian Territory: Hungarian bull being forced on steep ramp onto a vehicle unappropriated for animal transport by twisting and pulling his tail.

TUNISIA

EU animals and their progeny have been identified in feedlots. Additionally footage of the slaughter of EU progeny has been obtained showing animals being brutally restrained by ropes for the final throat cut.

Tunisia: EU cow with newborn calf in Tunisian feedlot.
Tunisia: Dutch progeny shackled with a chain around his back leg which is pulled to take him down.