



2019/2914(RSP)

25.11.2019

DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 112(2) and (3) of the Rules of Procedure

on the draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EU)
No 142/2011 as regards imports of petfood from Saudi Arabia
(D063948-02 – 2019/2914(RSP))

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Member responsible: Joëlle Mélin

B9-0000/2019

**European Parliament resolution on the draft Commission Implementing Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards imports of petfood from Saudi Arabia
(D063948-02 – 2019/2914(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the draft Commission implementing regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 as regards imports of petfood from Saudi Arabia (D063948/02),
 - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 (Animal by-products Regulation)¹, and in particular Article 41(4) thereof,
 - having regard to Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 of 25 February 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under that Directive²,
 - having regard to the opinion delivered on 25 September 2019 by the committee referred to in Article 52(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009;
 - having regard to Articles 11 and 13 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers³,
 - having regard to Rule 112(2) and (3) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the motion for a resolution of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety,
- A. whereas the Commission proposes to add Saudi Arabia to the list of third countries from which processed petfood of poultry origin may be imported and allowed to transit through the Union, arguing that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia provided the Commission with the insurance that they can comply with the relevant health conditions and deliver sufficient guarantees regarding the controls they carry out on the production of petfood obtained from poultry;
- B. whereas Europe has 132 petfood-producing companies and 200 production plants⁴;

¹ OJ L 300, 14.11.2009, p. 1.

² OJ L 54, 26.2.2011, p. 1.

³ OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13.

⁴ <http://www.fediaf.org/who-we-are/european-statistics.html>

- C. whereas throughout Europe, an estimated 1 000 000 direct and indirect jobs are generated by pet ownership, providing employment to, for example, veterinarians or breeders or in connected supply industries⁵;
- D. whereas the European annual sales volume of petfood products is 8,8 million tons and turnover is 21 billion euros⁶;
- E. whereas the European petfood industry is growing at a rate of 2,5% per year⁷;
- F. whereas the European petfood market is well supplied, self-sufficient, and does not experience any difficulties that justify imports;
- G. whereas the Union has one of the most advanced animal welfare regulatory frameworks in the world, and that this regulatory framework guarantees that slaughter services for animals, and thereby finished products, are of high quality, both in terms of nutrition and ethics;
- H. whereas Recital 53 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 states in relation to animal welfare rules that: "*The possible courses of action which the competent authority can take when carrying out official controls should be specified in order to ensure legal certainty, in particular regarding the suspension or permanent prohibition of operations or the imposition of conditions to ensure the proper application of this Regulation. These official controls should be carried out in the framework of multi-annual control plans under Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules*";
- I. whereas according to Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸, the definition of "non-compliance" is "non-compliance with feed or food law, and with the rules for the protection of animal health and welfare".
- J. whereas Article 58(1) of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, amending Article 1 of Council Directive 97/78/EC⁹, provides that "*Veterinary checks on products from third countries introduced into one of the territories listed in Annex I shall be carried out by Member States in accordance with this Directive and with Regulation (EC) No 882/2004*";
- K. whereas Saudi Arabia applies Sharia law, which provides for the ritual slaughter of animal without stunning, and whereas these slaughter techniques, which consist of slitting without stunning, do not respect animal welfare;
- 1. Considers that the draft Commission implementing regulation exceeds the implementing powers provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009;

⁵ <http://www.fediaf.org/who-we-are/european-statistics.html>

⁶ <http://www.fediaf.org/who-we-are/european-statistics.html>

⁷ <http://www.fediaf.org/who-we-are/european-statistics.html>

⁸ Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules (OJ L 165 30.4.2004, p. 1).

⁹ Council Directive 97/78/EC laying down the principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on products entering the Community from third countries (OJ L 024, 30.1.1998, p. 9).

2. Calls on the Commission to withdraw its draft implementing regulation;
3. Calls on the Commission to be more cautious about the commercial partnerships it wishes to establish, particularly with a country that regularly violates international law, kills journalists, finances terrorism, where women's rights still do not exist, and where women's rights defenders are persecuted¹⁰;
4. Calls on the Commission to update Union legislation on the labelling and origin of pet-food products;
5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission, and to the governments and parliaments of the Member States.

¹⁰ European Parliament resolution of 31 May 2018 on the situation of women's rights defenders in Saudi Arabia (Texts adopted, P8_TA(2018)0232).