



The European Citizens' Initiative to end caged farming

END THE CAGE AGE

CAMPAIGNING ONLINE

Compassion in World Farming was founded in 1967



The 'End the Cage Age' ECI

Subject matter: Hundreds of millions of EU farm animals are kept in cages for most of their lives, causing great suffering. **We call on the European Commission to end this inhumane treatment of farm animals.**

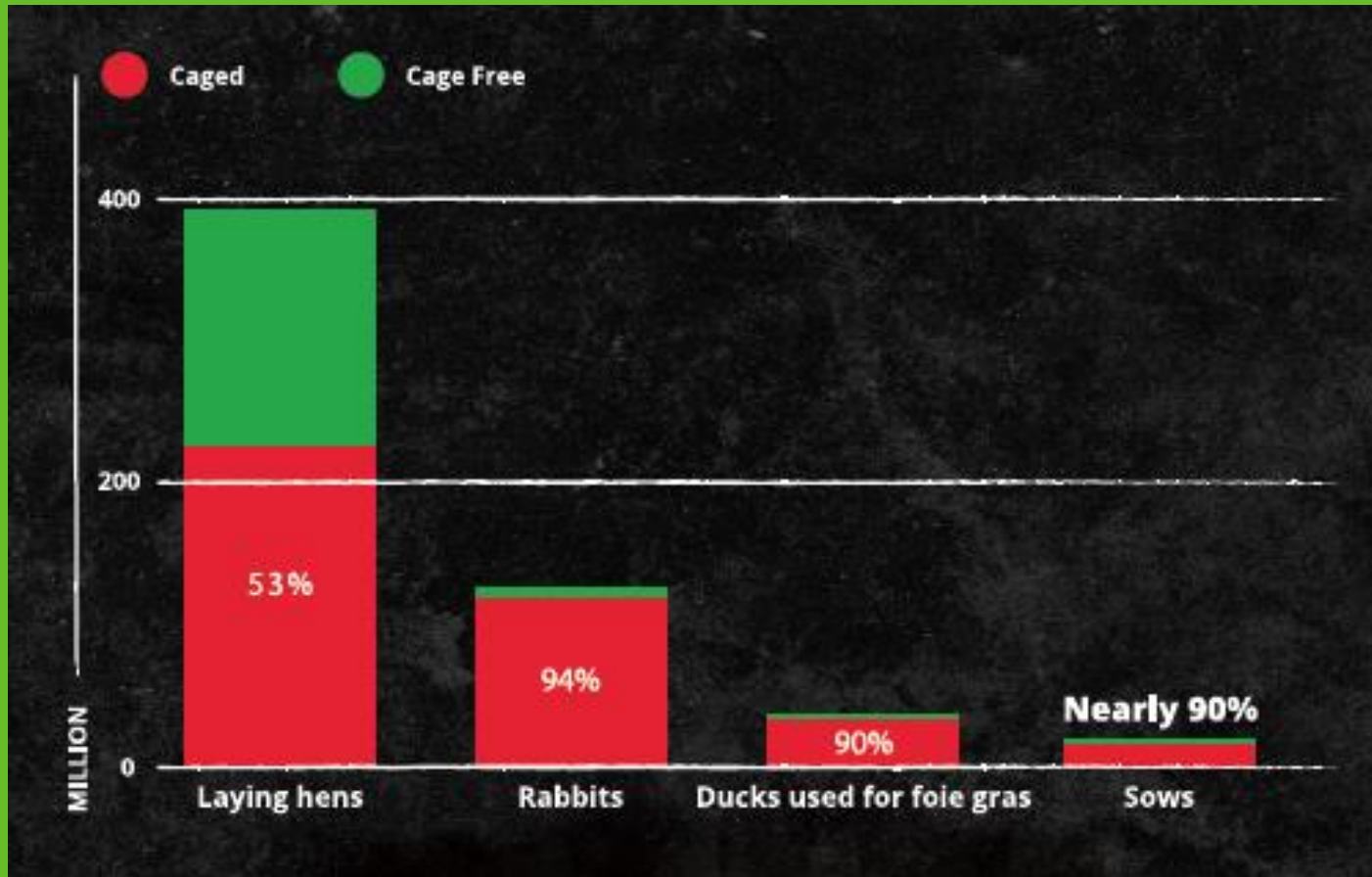
Main objectives: Cages inflict suffering on enormous numbers of farm animals every year. They are cruel and unnecessary, as higher-welfare cage-free systems are viable.

The Commission is therefore invited to proposed legislation to prohibit the use of:

- **cages for farmed rabbits, pullets, broiler breeders, layer breeders, quail, ducks and geese and enriched cages for laying hens;**
- **farrowing crates for sows;**
- **sow stalls,** where not already prohibited
- **enclosed calf pens,** where not already prohibited



Animals currently farmed in the EU



In the EU, over **360 million animals** spend all, or a significant part, of their lives imprisoned in cages.

Best performers in the EU

Country	Caged hens	Caged rabbits	Caged sows
Austria	1%	-	95%
Belgium	39%	BANNED	99%
Bulgaria	56%	96%	90%
Croatia	73%	96%	42%
Cyprus	72%	96%	99%
Czech Republic	84%	96%	100%
Denmark	20%	-	95%
Estonia	86%	-	95%
Finland	60%	-	98%
France	65%	97%	99%
Germany	7%	96%	99%
Greece	84%	96%	69%
Hungary	63%	60%	79%
Ireland	54%	-	98%
Italy	62%	97%	94%
Latvia	87%	96%	90%
Lithuania	96%	-	59%
Luxembourg	BANNED	-	82%
Malta	97%	96%	100%
Netherlands	18%	40%	99%
Poland	87%	96%	44%
Portugal	93%	96%	88%
Romania	60%	-	45%
Slovakia	85%	-	90%
Slovenia	57%	96%	23%
Spain	88%	99%	98%
Sweden	12%	BANNED	BANNED

Bans for cages for:

- **'Enriched' cages for hens:** Luxembourg; Austria (2020) & Germany (2025)
- **Cages for rabbits:** Austria (meat rabbits), Belgium (2025), Netherlands (barren cages) and Germany (barren cages, 2024)
- **Sow stalls:** Sweden & the UK
- **Farrowing crates:** Sweden

ECI record – 21 qualified countries



11 September 2018:
started

11 September 2019:
closed

Over 1,6 million
signatures

Surpassed the
minimum signatures in
21 countries

We are at the last leg of
the validation process
and will be submitting
the certificates to the
COM in autumn

What we did



Planning: For 1-2 years prior to the ECI, we thought through the process & geared up for it



We built a network of NGOs

170+ NGOs: animal welfare & environmental groups



TOGETHER, WE WILL END CAGED FARMING IN EUROPE



We built digital presence

Websites

END THE CAGE AGE

COMPASSION
in world farming

SHARE INTERNATIONAL (ENGLISH) ✓

Cage farming is a nightmare that we can end.

Caged farming is cruel, unnecessary and has no place in Europe. Join the movement to ban cages today.

758,539 citizens have signed already!

Join the movement, then add your name to the initiative!

Email

JOIN THE MOVEMENT NOW

Or complete the Europeans Citizens' Initiative form [here](#).

This site uses cookies. By continuing to browse the site you are agreeing to our use of cookies. [Read more.](#)

OK!

Social media

END THE CAGE AGE

Cage farming is a nightmare that we can end.

Sign now

We set targets



Country	Target 1 million	Target 2 million
Austria	15,000	25000
Belgium	15,000	25000
Bulgaria	12,000	25000
Croatia	9000	15000
Cyprus	4500	10000
Czech Republic	20,000	50000
Denmark	10,000	25000
Estonia	4500	15000
Finland	10,000	25000
France	150,000	250000 / 300000
Germany	300,000	500000 / 400000
Greece	15,000	35000
Hungary	15,000	35000
Ireland	10,000	30000
Italy	150,000	225000 / 375000
Latvia	6000	10000
Lithuania	8000	15000
Luxembourg	4500	10000
Malta	4500	10000
Netherlands	80,000	225000
Poland	40,000	140000
Portugal	15,000	35000
Romania	25,000	40000
Slovakia	9000	25000
Slovenia	6000	20000
Spain	80,000	150000
Sweden	15,000	30000
Total	1,033,000	2,000,000

We set milestones

Sept 2018	ECI ask approved by Commission
Sept 2018 – Oct 2018	Launch of ECI at European Parliament and public launch events in certain countries
Sept 2018 – Sept 2019	Signature collection publicity events and stunts
Sept – Oct 2019	High profile event to mark end of signature collection 12 months after launch

Network co-ordination



We coordinated
the Network
through
newsletters,
virtual calls and
frequent
communication

Launch events



Launch events



The Network's street actions



The Network on social media

SEY
SUOMEN ELÄINSUOJELU

 Sey Suomen Eläinsuojeluyhdistysten Liitto 11 May · 🌐 ⋮

Jos olet EU-kansalainen ja haluat vaikuttaa eläinten oloihin, voit

1. allekirjoittaa #EndTheCageAge -vetoomuksen tuotantoeläinten hakkikasvatuksen kieltämiseksi: <https://sey.endthecageage.eu/fi-FI/live>
2. äänestää eläinten puolesta europarlamenttivaaleissa. Täältä löydät ehdokkaat, jotka ovat sitoutuneet toimimaan eläinten puolesta: <https://tinyurl.com/yypg6j>

[See Translation](#)



The Network on social media



 **Bont voor Dieren** 14 February · 🌐 ⋮

In Europa leven en lijden honderden miljoenen dieren in kooien. Meestal zijn die kooien krap en kaal en veroorzaken ze enorm veel dierenleed. Met onze campagne Stop de Kooien! kunnen we deze kooien samen Europa uit krijgen! Met één miljoen stemmen krijgen we de kans om voor eens en altijd te kappen met kooien! Teken jij ook het Europees Burgerinitiatief?

(Let op: Deze campagne betreft een burgerinitiatief. Dat betekent dat er heel veel gegevens moeten worden ingevuld om je stem geldig te maken. Deze gegevens gaan enkel naar de Europese referendumcommissie (niet naar ons!) en worden daarna vernietigd).

<https://bontvoordieren.endthecageage.eu/nl-NL/live/skip>

[See Translation](#)



The Network on social media



Photos from Sloboda zvierat's post in Timeline Photos

POVEDZ DOŠŤ!
AJ TY TVORÍŠ DEJINY. UKONČI DOBU KLIETKOVÚ.

COMPASSION
in world farming

END THE CAGE AGE

SLOBODA ZVIERAT

foto: Credit: Animal Equality, 2018

Sloboda zvierat
Like This Page · March 29 ·

Povedzte aj priateľom, že v EÚ sú v kliečkach okrem nosníc, králikov či prasníc chované aj HUSI a KAČICE násilne vykrmované na foie gras. PRIDAJTE SA K PETÍCII a navždy UKONČIME najkrutejší spôsob chovu - KLIETKY! PETÍCIA TU <https://sloboda-zvierat.endthecageage.eu/>
See Translation

222 30 Comments 170 Shares

Like Comment Share

Most Relevant

Miriam Sochovičová Ale križik na krku pani nesmie chýbať!!!!

Like · Reply · See Translation · 11w

1 Reply

Marek Michálek Jasné prídu husacie a kačacie hody a polovica z vás bude dávať fotočky jedál ako sa napchávajú ... vy hlupáci je mi z vás do plaču ... Človek je od nepamäti lovec a konzumujeme zvieratá a vy nieste iný!

Write a comment...

The Network on social media



Djurens Rätt
January 30 · 🌐

Instängd i veckor utan möjlighet att ta hand om sina ungar. Ett liv i en bur är inget liv för en gris.
Skriv under uppropet nu - hjälp oss stoppa lidandet!
[See Translation](#)

Djurens Rätt ✓
@djurenstratt

Home
Posts
Fundraisers
Photos
Videos
Stöd oss
Events
About
Community

Create a Page

ABOUT DJURENS RÄTT

Djurens Rätt - gör skillnad för djuren

Djurens Rätt har funnits sedan 1882 och är idag Sveriges ledande djurrätts- och djurskyddsorganisati...

[See More](#)

Community [See All](#)

- Invite your friends to like this Page
- 436,693 people like this
- 405,179 people follow this
- Sofia Leander and 7 other friends like this or have checked in
- 183 check-ins

Var vänlig underteckna det europeiska medborgarinitiativet End the Cage Age för att Europas lantbruksdjur.

[Like](#) [Comment](#) [Share](#)

The Network on social media

animal
EQUALITY
ITALIA



Animal Equality Italia



14 June at 17:03 · 🌐

● Le sofferenze che oche ed anatre allevate per il foie gras provano a causa delle gabbie sono inimmaginabili! Aiutaci a mettere per sempre fine a tutto questo: bit.ly/firma-ora

See Translation



The Network on social media

FADA

FADA Fundación FAADA  Siguiendo

  #NoMásJaulas !! La ganadería enjaulada es cruel, innecesaria y no tiene cabida en Europa.  ¡Firma la Iniciativa Ciudadana Europea! Unamos fuerzas, tenemos el poder de acabar con la era de las jaulas. !!  #EndTheCageAge

  faada.endthecageage.eu



0:31 215 reproducciones

Celebrities' support on social media



Jerome Flynn

91

Recruited

100

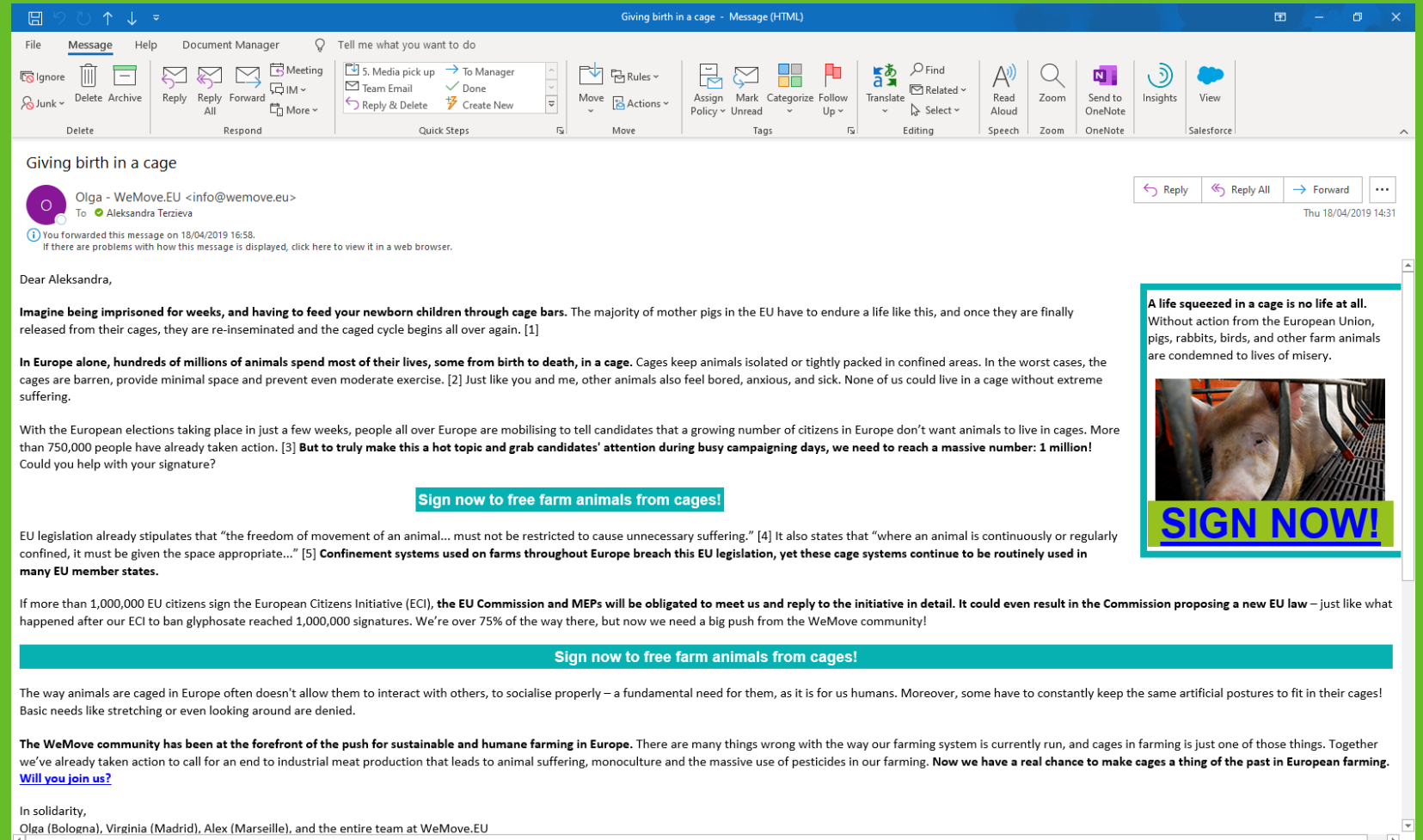
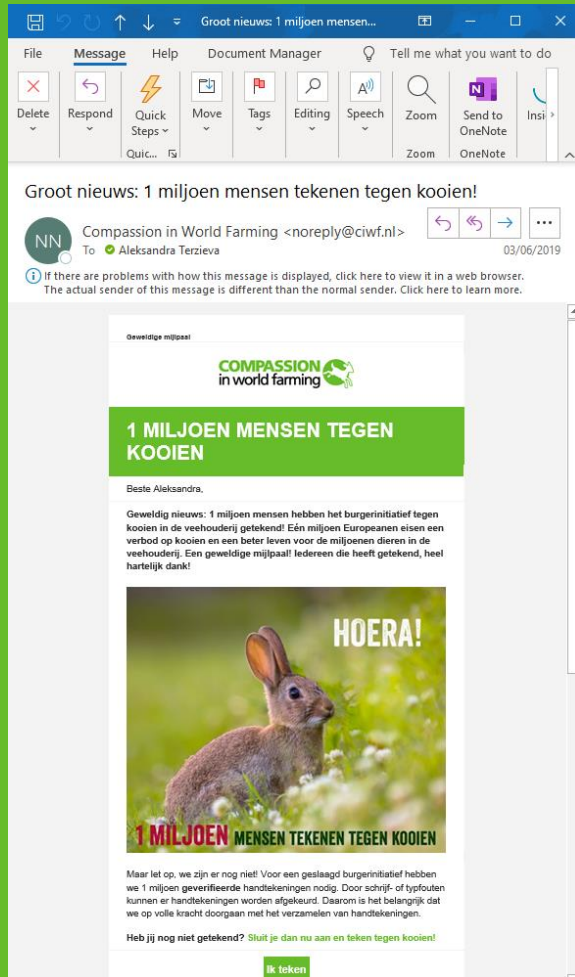
Target

Help Jerome End the Cage Age for farm animals:

"As Bronn in Game of Thrones, I played a guy who I really wanted to be a hero but, likeable as he was, he didn't really turn up to save the world. Now I have a chance in real life, where it counts, to stand up and do the right thing for our beloved farm animals. Over 300 million of them suffer in cages across Europe. I want to see an end to this shameful cruelty – and I need your help. Together, we can end this suffering. Join me, sign the initiative to ban cages, and help me reach my target."

Add my name

E-mails



The Network's websites



 [WAT WIJ DOEN](#) [WAT KAN JIJ DOEN?](#) [IN JOUW BUURT](#) [SHOP](#) [CONTACT](#) [DONEER](#) 

Oproep aan de minister om kooien voor leghennen te verbieden

16 januari 2019

In een brief aan minister Schouten van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit roept de Dierenbescherming op om alle kooisystemen voor leghennen in Nederland te verbieden. In 2021 worden de verrijkte kooien verboden, maar de zogenaamde koloniekooien blijven toegestaan. Een goed dierenwelzijn is ook in deze aangepaste kooien niet mogelijk.

Kooisystemen




Dieren horen niet in kooien.
Samen kunnen we deze nachtmerrie stoppen.



Newspaper ads



SKROTA BURARNA



Hjälp oss hjälpa djuren, bli medlem i Svenska Djurskyddsföreningen
www.djurskydd.org

SVENSKA DJURSKYDDSFÖRENINGEN

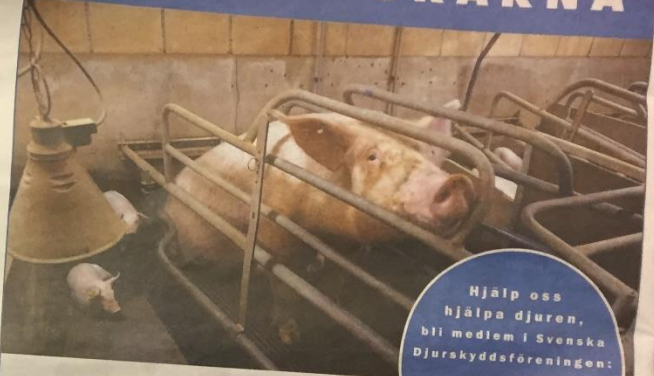
Djur i bur utsätts ofta för stort lidande eftersom de begränsas kraftigt i sina rörelser och hindras från att utföra många naturliga beteenden.

Hundratals miljoner lantbruksdjur inom EU får stå ut med dessa förhållanden. Suggor tvingas amma sina kullingar i fixeringsboxar, kaniner och vaktlar hålls hela livet i karga burar, mycket unga kalvar stängs in i individuella kättrar, många honor sitter fortfarande i bur och ankor och gäss fixeras för att kunna tvångsmatas vid tillverkning av gästever.

Tillsammans kan vi få bort dessa burar från Europa. Gå med och skriv under vårt EU-medborgarinitiativ på www.djurskydd.org/skrota-burarna. Vi kräver att Europa förbjuder burhållning av lantbruksdjur. Om vi kan bli en miljon människor som enas kan vi få en framtid utan burar.

Maila oss på info@djurskydd.org om du har några frågor.

SKROTA BURARNA



Hjälp oss hjälpa djuren, bli medlem i Svenska Djurskyddsföreningen
www.djurskydd.org

SVENSKA DJURSKYDDSFÖRENINGEN



Djur i bur utsätts ofta för stort lidande eftersom de begränsas kraftigt i sina rörelser och hindras från att utföra många naturliga beteenden.

Hundratals miljoner lantbruksdjur inom EU får stå ut med dessa förhållanden. Suggor tvingas amma sina kullingar i fixeringsboxar, kaniner och vaktlar hålls hela livet i karga burar, mycket unga kalvar stängs in i individuella kättrar, många honor sitter fortfarande i bur och ankor och gäss fixeras för att kunna tvångsmatas vid tillverkning av gästever.

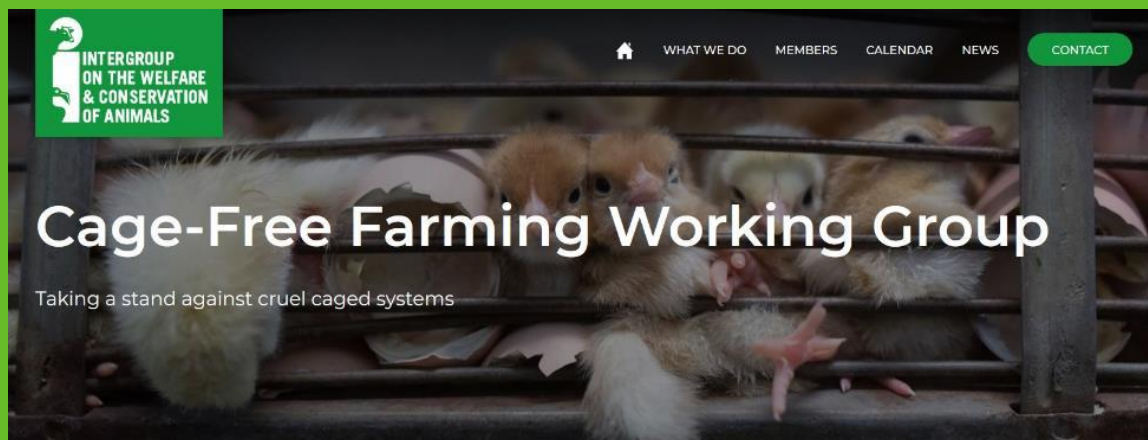
Tillsammans kan vi få bort dessa burar från Europa. Gå med och skriv under vårt EU-medborgarinitiativ på www.djurskydd.org/skrota-burarna. Vi kräver att Europa förbjuder burhållning av lantbruksdjur. Om vi kan bli en miljon människor som enas kan vi få en framtid utan burar.

Maila oss på info@djurskydd.org om du har några frågor.

On-going digital content creation

	COPY	IMAGE/VIDEO	LINK OR NOTES	WHERE TO FIND THE ASSET
6-May	<p>During this week, we will post every day a specific online action that could help caged animals! Just 3 min of your time each day of this week can deeply change the lives of more than 300 million animals in Europe.</p> <p>Let's start! 1 action: become a Cage Fighter. A Cage Fighter is an online activist who pledges to get more signatures to end the cage age. Starting a Cage Fighter profile is very easy: - Click here and you will land on the Cage Fighter platform - Add your name, photo, and set a target (how many signatures you think you can realistically collect) - Invite your friends to sign up by sharing on Facebook, Whatsapp and email</p>		<p>your CAGE FIGHTER link to the form page link this https://ciwf-int.endthecageage.eu/nl-NL/live/myeci</p>	<p>On asset Bank https://ciwf.assetbank-server.com/assetbank-ciwf/action/viewLogin E mail address: ECI 2018 Cage-Free Password: ECI2018</p>
7-May	<p>Today we are asking you to spend your 3 mins for animals, sharing on Whatsapp and messenger the End the Cage Age European Citizens' Initiative. FROM MOBILE: Click on SHARE and SELECT "Send on Whatsapp" and SEND to your contacts. FROM DESKTOP: Click on SHARE and SEND as MESSAGE (on messenger)</p>	<p>your ECI link to the form page like this https://ciwf-it.endthecageage.eu/it-IT/live/eci</p>		
8-May	<p>"Today let's send a clear message to the power brokers of Europe. From 11 until 13, let's tweet against the use of cages in farming in EU. Go on our account on twitter and retweet all #EndTheCageAge posts :)"</p>			

In Brussels: MEP working group



Record-breaking 'End the Cage Age' ECI

The largest European petition ever for farm animal welfare ended collecting signatures in mid-September 2019, breaking the record for balanced representation of voices across the EU. The "End the Cage Age" ECI has, subject to validation, surpassed the minimum **threshold** required by EU law in **21 EU Member States** – a first in the history of ECIs! This direct democracy tool has also collected over **1.6 million signatures!** The ECI was coordinated by the international NGO Compassion in World Farming and is supported by a network of over **170 NGOs** and federations across Europe, aiming to end the use of cages in EU farming.

The EU countries where signature collection has, subject to validation, surpassed the threshold are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The ECI was launched on the 25th of September 2018 with a conference and a week-long exhibition hosted by Eleonora Evi MEP and Compassion in World Farming. Twenty-one MEPs from most political groups (EPP, S&D, EFDD, Greens/EFA, GUE/NGL and ECR) and from 13 European countries spoke at the launch.



Eleonora Evi
Co-Chair (NI, IT)



Anja Hazekamp
Co-Chair (NL, GUE)



Tilly Metz
(Greens/EFA, LU)



Sylvia Spurek
(S&D, PL)



Martin Buschmann
(GUE/NGL, DE)



Maria Noichl
(S&D, DE)



Sirpa Pietikäinen
(EPP, FI)



Jiří Pospíšil
(EPP, CZ)



Francisco Guerreiro
(Greens/EFA, PT)



Klaus Buchner
(Greens/EFA, DE)



Michèle Rivasi
(Greens/EFA, FR)



Fabio Castaldo
(NI, IT)



Stelios Kouloglou
(GUE/NGL, GR)



Marisa Matias
(GUE/NGL, PT)



Mario Furore
(NI, IT)



Catherine Rowett
(Greens/EFA, UK)



Martin Hojsik
(Renew, SK)



Manuel Bompard
(GUE/NGL, FR)



Marie Toussaint
(Greens/EFA, FR)

+++

Actions by the cage-free WG



Klaus Buchner
Kämpfer für die Beendigung der Käfighaltung aus Deutschland

2207 rekrutiert	5000 Ziel
--------------------	--------------

Recent advocacy



We smashed the targets!



Over 1,6 million signatures

21 countries qualified

(Validation of signatures is on-going)



Next steps



- We continue working with the **EU institutions** to ensure they act upon the citizens' expectations
- Together with our network of over 170 NGOs, we are working at **Member State level** to ensure support

We informed EU Commissioner Kyriakides



Important to record progress: Recent US actions on cages



California, Washington, Oregon, Massachusetts and Michigan banned cages for egg-laying hens & the **sale of products** that don't meet the state's new requirements (in effect 2022, 2022, 2023 & 2025 respectively).

20% of all US hens are now cage-free (vs 5% six years ago).

Committee of the Regions supports a phase out of cages

Amendment 65

New Annex 0: Performance objectives common to the national Strategic Plans

<i>Text proposed by the Commission</i>	<i>CoR amendment</i>
	<i>Animal welfare, health: gradual and planned end to cage rearing throughout the European Union</i>

Reason

In order to respond to animal welfare but also public health (antibiotics) concerns, we must by 2027 move to more extensive modes of production which avoid the use of cages; these already exist.

The Committee of the Regions issued an Opinion on the Common Agricultural Policy, supporting the phasing out of caged farming.

2020 EFSA report on rabbits



EFSA, the EU Food Safety Agency, has issued three **scientific opinions** on rabbit farming.

It concludes that conventional farming systems are **worse than alternatives**, and rates organic farming as the best system available.

Working together with companies

- We are working together with progressive businesses to showcase that **change is possible!**
- Many progressive **farmers** have already gone cage-free.
- An increasing number of **brands & retailers** do not sell or have committed to phase out products from caged farm animals.



Carrefour



franprix 



EU Commission's response to successful ECIs



EU citizens
expect that the
EU Commission
will deliver a
legislative
proposal
following
successful ECIs.



Thank you!





**END THE
CAGE AGE**