



PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

PETA
DEUTSCHLAND E.V.

Friolzheimer Straße 3a
D-70499 Stuttgart
+49 (0)711 860591-0
+49 (0)711 860591-111 (Fax)

Info@peta.de
PETA.de

Minister of Agriculture
Prof. Davor Romić, PhD, Minister
Ministry of Agriculture
Ulica grada Vukovara 78,
10000 Zagreb
Croatia

26 February 2016

Via e-mail: office@mps.hr; bsosic@mps.hr

Dear Minister,

I am writing to you on behalf of PETA Germany – an affiliate of PETA US, which is the world's largest animal rights organisation and has more than 3 million members and supporters worldwide.

On 1 January 2007, Croatia passed the historic Animal Protection Act to ban fur farming of all animals, with a 10-year phase-out period. The fur-farming ban was supported by the government, all political parties, MPs and more than 70 per cent of Croatian citizens. So we are shocked to hear that a new amendment to the act might exclude chinchillas from the existing ban, and **we urge you to maintain a strict ban on fur farms, without exceptions, in Croatia to save the lives of all animals.**

Over the last nine years, fur farmers have had enough time to switch to another type of business or profession. An exemption would undermine the internationally well-respected animal-welfare standards of Croatia. Chinchillas are social animals who naturally live in herds of up to 100 animals and who enjoy burrowing, climbing and playing. On fur farms, they are locked in tiny steel cages – often in solitary confinement – with little enrichment, space or accommodation for their natural behaviour.

Stereotypical behaviour, pelt-biting, pup mortality and gastrointestinal disease are common health problems on chinchilla farms. Farmers kill the gentle animals with gas, which causes the animals to suffocate slowly and in panic.

Please keep the fur-farming ban in Croatia unchanged and remain in the company of the many European countries – including Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Netherlands, Slovenia, the UK and others – that have banned fur farming for animal-welfare reasons.

We thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Harald Ullmann
Vice President
PETA Germany

PARTNER:

- PETA USA
- PETA Indien
- PETA Asien-Pazifik
- PETA Niederlande
- PETA Foundation (GB)

Spendenkonto

GLS Gemeinschaftsbank eG
Konto: 78000 78000
BLZ: 430 609 67
IBAN: DE71 43060967 7800078000
BIC: GENODEM1GLS

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Amtsgericht Ludwigsburg, VR 2128.