The Directive 86/609/EEC on protection of animals used for experimental purposes

2001/2259(INI) - 05/12/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Jill EVANS (Greens/EFA, United Kingdom) based on its own-initiative report. (Please refer to the document dated 5/11/02.) The central database should include information on all current and all completed animal experiments to ensure that there is no repeat testing. The database should also contain information on animal experiments with no directly applicable results so that not only published studies are registered. Finally, the database should also contain information on alternative testing methods which may replace or reduce the use of animals in experiments. The use of the uniform format for presenting data collected from Member States should be made mandatory, and data presentation should occur yearly rather than every three years. Parliament went on to state that GM animals and animals born bearing debilitating deformities as a result of previous experiments that cause the animal to suffer sporadic or continuous pain or discomfort must be killed humanely at the earliest possible opportunity. An EU-wide training course for those undertaking research using animals as well as for those responsible for the care of animals used for experiments should be introduced as a mandatory requirement. The training course should also ensure that researchers and carers make provision, where appropriate, for the training and socialisation of animals for use in experiments so that the animals are familiar with other animals, people and the relevant procedure for the experiment. Finally, Parliament stated that analgesics or other appropriate methods of pain management should be used to ensure that an animal is not subjected to pain or suffering, except for the testing of new analgesics that represent a significant medical advance in terms of safety and quality. The applicant must proove that such testing is imperative for the protection of human health, that no alternatives are available, and subject to prior approval by the competent authorities.