

# Welfare of Dogs and Cats

December 2023

## Pet population in the EU:



72.7 million Dogs

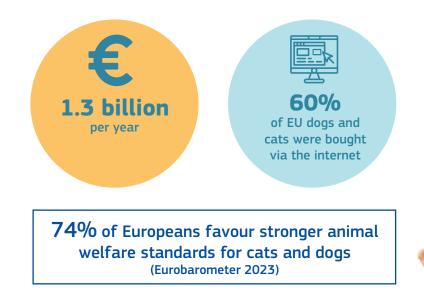


83.6 million Cats



44% of EU citizens own a pet (Eurobarometer 2023)

## Value of dogs and cats trade in the EU





### Risks from poor traceability and welfare in dogs and cats



### Proposed rules for breeders, shelters and pet-shops

#### Common Welfare Standards

Uniform requirements for the housing, breeding and care of dogs and cats.

#### Traceability

All dogs and cats must be microchipped and registered before they can be sold in the EU. All breeding establishments must be authorised.

#### Responsible Ownership

Buyers must be made aware of proper pet care, nutrition and veterinary needs.

#### Competent Animal Caretakers

Animal caretakers in breeding establishments, pet shops and shelters must be properly trained in the care and welfare of animals.

#### Online advertisement

Identification and registration of dogs and cats supplied via online platforms can be checked.

#### Imports

Imported pets must meet the same welfare standards as those bred and raised within the EU.

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PDF ISBN 978-92-68-09966-7 doi:10.2875/773227 EW-05-23-467-EN-N