



Deutsche Juristische Gesellschaft
für Tierschutzrecht e.V.

Deutsche Juristische Gesellschaft für Tierschutzrecht e.V.
Dircksenstraße 47 • 10178 Berlin

Thorbjørn Jagland
Avenue de l'Europe
F - 67075 Strasbourg Cedex

Dircksenstraße 47
10178 Berlin
Fax: +49(0)30-400 54 68 69
info@djgt.de
<http://www.djgt.de>

Treatment of Romanian stray dogs

Berlin, 03.02.2014

Dear Secretary General Jagland,

We, the members of the German Juridical Society for Animal Welfare Law e.V. (DJGT) kindly ask for your attention regarding the current treatment of Romanian stray dogs. Further we kindly request that you take action in the Council of Europe.

Der Verein ist durch
Bescheinigung des Finanz-
amtes Münster-Innenstadt
(St-Nr.: 337/5975/0365) vom
12.11.2013 als gemeinnützig
anerkannt.

The German Lawyer Association for Animal Welfare Law (DJGT) is an association of approximately 100 lawyers whose aim is to improve animal rights laws. This is the reason why we are not only active in German animal rights law, but also deal with European and international animal welfare law.

Spenden und Beiträge sind
steuerlich abzugsfähig.

In our attached legal statement we come to the following conclusion: due to the administrative - territorial units practice and due to national law, Romania acts against the European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals. Particularly the following actions are against the law:

- Romania doesn't consider the proportionality principal stated in Art. 12 b ii of European convention for the protection of pet animals which says that parties should consider the neutering of animals before killing them;
- The methods of killing which are legally permitted and practiced in Romania do not accord to those mentioned in Art. 11 of European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals;
- Animals weren't captured with minimal physical and mental suffering appropriate to the animal according to Art. 12 of European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals;
- Animal shelters don't have sufficient equipment, therefore there is no appropriate animal keeping as required in Art. 4 European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals.

Sparkasse Münsterland Ost
Bankleitzahl 400 501 50
Konto 0000 496 448

IBAN: DE84
4005 0150 0000 4964 48

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Romania ratified the European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals unconditionally. Although there is no possibility for litigation, Art. 15 I of the convention states that a multilateral consultation can be requested by the majority of the representatives of the Parties. It offers the possibility to review the practice of the convention in each member state.

Having shown the actions to be against the law, we kindly request that you consider taking steps in the Council of Europe which will move Romania to follow its duties as a member of this convention.

A similar letter has been sent to the German Chancellor and the German Secretary of State. Additionally we appeal to the European Commission and to the President of the European Parliament although they don't have permission to start legal action due to the fact that the European Union didn't sign the European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals.

We would greatly appreciate your effort and cooperation in regard to the compliance of this international law contract and humane treatment of the Romanian stray dogs.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Christoph Maisack
First Chairman