



Mr David Maria Sassoli  
President of the European Parliament  
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60, rue Wiertz / Wiertzstraat 60  
B-1047 Brussels

Brussels, 23 January 2020

### **No to events promoting the fur industry at the European Parliament**

Dear President Sassoli, Dear Quaestors,

We are writing with regard to the exhibition “THIS IS FUR 2020” which is currently taking place at the European Parliament this week, 21-23 January 2020.

We deeply regret the Questors’ decision to authorise this event, which provides a highly visible platform to an industry which is based on and profits from unnecessary animal cruelty.

All over Europe, fur farming is being banned or progressively phased out due to animal welfare concerns. Despite heavy lobbying efforts to convince the public and lawmakers otherwise, fur farming remains incompatible with basic animal welfare standards (as set down in Directive 98/58/EC) and continues to cause unnecessary suffering to animals.

We therefore deplore the fact that the European Parliament has given the fur industry undue visibility and has lent itself to the industry’s “animal welfare-washing” attempts by hosting this event in its premises.

We believe proper application of the existing rules governing the use of parliament’s premises by outside bodies (Bureau decision of 14 March 2000) as well as the rules governing cultural events and exhibitions on parliament’s premises (Bureau decision of 1 July 2013) should have led to a refusal of authorisation for this event.

More specifically, we are referring to Article 4 point f of the Bureau decision of 14 March 2000; *“Events may under no circumstances have a commercial purpose and must not undermine the dignity of Parliament. (...)”*, as well as Article 2 paragraph 3 of the Bureau decision of 1 July 2013; *“Cultural events and exhibitions shall under no circumstances be offensive or of an inflammatory nature or contradictory to the values on which the Union is founded or likely to give rise to disturbances in the designated exhibition areas.”*

In light of the above, we call on you to develop stricter guidelines to make sure that the European Parliament applies these rules and that it does not promote or associate itself directly or indirectly with industries or entities that promote animal cruelty.



We count on your understanding and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Eleonora Evi

Tilly Metz

Francisco Guerreiro

Martin Buschmann

Sylwia Spurek

Anja Hazekamp

Ernest Urtasun

Caroline Roose

Catherine Rowett

Pascal Durand

Grace O'Sullivan

Yannick Jadot

Anne-Sophie Pelletier

Hannah Neumann

Alexandra Louise Phillips

Klaus Buchner

Manuel Bompard

Dino Giarrusso

Michael Bloss

Ellie Chowns

Annika Bruna

Bas Eickhout

Kim van Sparrentak

Ville Niinistö

Younous Omarjee



Aurélia Beigneux

Ciarán Cuffe

Kira Peter-Hansen

Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield

Jutta Paulus

Petra De Sutter

Molly Scott Cato

Athanasios Konstantinou

Rosa D'Amato

Marie Toussaint

Henrike Hahn

Michal Wiezik

Manuel Bompard

Theresa Griffin

Philippe Lamberts

Irena Joveva

Saskia Bricmont

Irène Tolleret

David Cormand