

**Position statement of the United Democratic Movement on
the export of live animals by sea**

8 May 2024

Dear Helena and Michelle

I was tasked to answer the posed questions posed by Helena.

Please see the United Democratic Movement's position in **green** below, next to the questions in Helena's original email. I will add this to the Party's website as well, to go on the record officially, today, if you are interested.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

1. What is your party's position on live animal export by sea? FOR OR AGAINST

The United Democratic Movement is not in favour of live animal export by sea for the following reasons. Amongst other that 1) animals transported live at sea can experience significant stress and trauma due to factors such as overcrowding, confinement in unfamiliar environments, and exposure to rough weather condition; 2) live animal transport can facilitate the spread of diseases among animals due to close confinement and stress, which can compromise their immune systems. Diseases can also spread to wild populations if escaped or released animals carry pathogens and 3) livestock transport ships may discharge waste, including faeces and urine, into the sea, leading to pollution and potential ecological damage.

2. Would you support a ban on live animal export by sea? **Yes**

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