



Netherlands National Committee  
for the protection of animals  
used for scientific purposes

# State of Play EU National Committees Results mini-questionnaire

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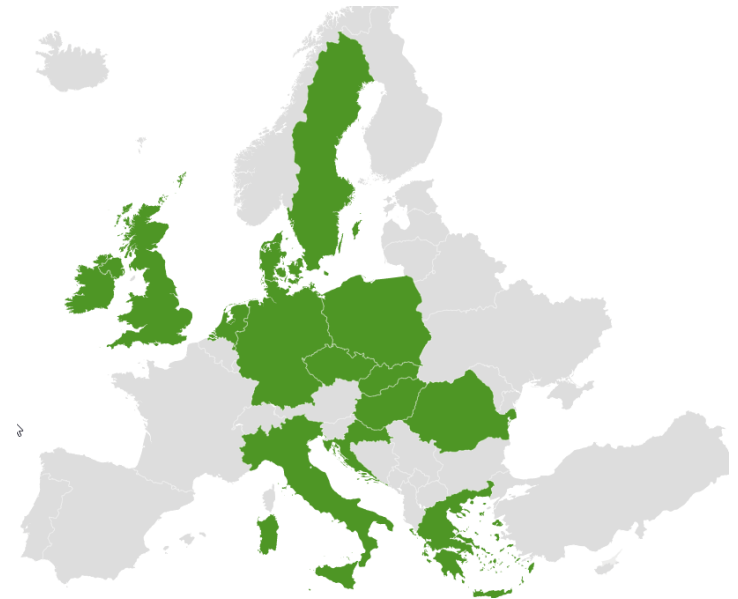
NC meeting Stockholm, 28 February 2019



## Background questionnaire

- NC-meeting Brussels spring 2018
- Questionnaire: obtain more insight in structure and organisation EU NC's
- Responses from 14 NCs:

*Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, The Netherlands and United Kingdom*





## Key conclusions: establishment, accountability, independence

- Most NCs have been established around 2013 by their government, some are part of their government
- Most NCs are accountable to their government
- Most NCs deem themselves independent





## Debate intermezzo: what do you think?

- ? If part of government, how is independence guaranteed?
- ? What are your experiences with (constructively) criticising your government or other involved bodies





## Key conclusions: formal mandate

- Mandate flows from art. 49 in the Directive
- Four NC's have additional 'legal' responsibilities:
  - 1) Denmark: supporting AWBs
  - 2) Hungary: also competent authority for project evaluation
  - 3) Poland: body of appeal
  - 4) The Netherlands: promoting alternatives





## Debate intermezzo: what do you think?

Quick round:

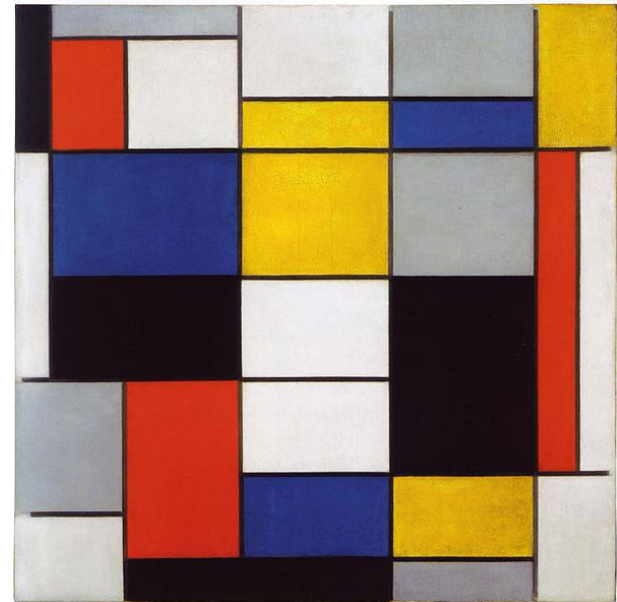
- ? How do you see your key role?
- ? In other words, what is your most important responsibility?





## Key conclusion: Composition

- NCs size varies from rather few members (4) to bigger committees (15 members)
- NCs composition varies from solely research oriented to broad representation
- In some cases members of the competent authority or civil servants are part of the NC





## Debate intermezzo: what do you think?

- ? How does participation by competent authorities or government officials affect independence?
- ? Do we have a view on the ideal composition?
- ? How is the relationship between NCs and 3R centres?







## Key conclusion: relationship with designated bodies

- In most cases NC's advise and support CAs, AWBs and ethics committees through formal and informal relationships
- Many NCs advise CA and AWB's in harmonising working procedures
- Exemptions: NC and CA are one body or NC is body of appeal





## Debate intermezzo: what do you think?

- ? What are your views on the ideal relation between NC and CA?
- ? How are the AWBs organised in your country?
- ? Is there a central body and how is it operating?





## Key conclusions: achievements

- Respondents indicated their key achievements relate to the establishment of the committee and developing networks
- Most respondents indicated their achievements relate to education and harmonisation of CA, AWB and ethics cie
- Most respondents indicate their achievements relate to issued opinions and recommendations





## Key conclusions: future plans

- Most NCs aim to continue working on harmonising project licensing
- Most NCs aim to improve their visibility and network
- Most NCs will focus on supporting and educating other designated bodies



### Other topics:

- ✓ increasing transparency
- ✓ phasing out animal use
- ✓ reducing publication bias
- ✓ regulation of GMO-animals



## Debate intermezzo: what do you think?

- ? Is CIRCABC a good tool for us to learn from each other achievements?
- ? Any other views on how to optimise exchange on our achievements?
- ? How we can better reinforce each other's work and perhaps partner up on specific reports?





Thank you  
for your  
attention!



Questions?