



**Entente Européenne d'Aviculture et de Cuniculture**

**EE**

Europäischer Verband für Geflügel-, Tauben-, Vogel-, Kaninchen- und Caviazucht

European Association of Poultry, Pigeon, Cage Bird, Rabbit and Cavy Breeders

Association Européenne pour l'Élevage de Volailles, de Pigeons, d'Oiseaux, de Lapins et de Cobayes

General Assembly 26/05/2022 in Konjic

### **Message from the Subcommittee for animal health and animal welfare**

Just recently we as EE had our last congress in September 2021 in Denmark. Since then, however, a lot has happened in our committee.

First of all, the composition and working methods of the subcommittee have changed. Because Prof. Dr. Joachim Schille and Dr. Josef Rey Bellet left the committee after many years of service, new members were applied for, in consultation with the central management and the chairmen of the divisions. It is not decisive whether the members are active in the hobby and take part in the congress, but whether they can contribute knowledge and input on the topics of the committee. A new committee of 7 people is active and to make the consultation more effective, digital consultations are held 5 times a year. So far 3 digital meetings have taken place. In the meantime, there has been lively e-mail contact on the relevant topics.

The main focus of the subcommittee has so far been on European regulations. The 688 regulation gives us additional requirements for quarantine and health declaration by a state veterinarian when transporting across the border. The 429 ordinance requires registration for anyone who keeps poultry, waterfowl or pigeons, creating another obstacle. Arguments against these measures have been developed and shared and we are trying to get to the discussion table in 'Brussels' to explain our objections. We are also trying to activate and coordinate the lobby of our member countries, because it has been shown that objections need to be broadly supported before the European Union starts to do so. A lot of work has been done on it so far, but it is not yet known whether it will actually have an effect in "Brussels".

In addition to the European regulations, we also dealt with the bird flu situation in the committee. Approving a suitable vaccine seems to be the only way out. A lot of work is also being done in terms of regulations and the development of a vaccine. Both take time, so unfortunately this is not a short-term solution. As EE, we must help ensure that the rules and vaccine can also be used for pets.

As decided at the last EE Congress, the subcommittee will review and report on the housing at future European shows. We want to develop a kind of guideline in which we can specify the accommodation requirements. The standard committees of the various divisions have the control function to prevent races from being overtyped. The subcommittee supports this, and the main board has decided that both the main jury and the chairman of the animal welfare board have the opportunity to mutually exclude animals at a European show.



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As you can hear, there is a lot going on in the field of animal welfare and animal health and both the above and new topics will demand a lot of attention from us in the near future.