

Brussels, **1 1 NOV. 2014** C/MF/NC/gp/D(2014)

Dear State Secretary, Dear Davils,

We have recently received a volume of correspondence from a British Non-Governmental Organisation called Serbian Animal Voice, which is working with a Serbian NGO called EPAR - SERBIA OIPA / Alliance for the Protection of nature, animal and human rights.

The correspondence concerns allegations of mistreatment of animals in Serbia, in particular the case of a young deer, called 'Nani', which is being held captive, in very poor conditions. The NGOs are asking that this deer be returned to the lady who looked after the deer when its mother was killed.

As part of the correspondence we have also received a copy of a complaint that EPAR – SERBIA has filed with you for failure to apply Serbia's own 2009 Law on Animal Welfare. This is also attached.

The NGOs in question have managed to create a certain amount of interest in their campaign, including in the European Parliament. We are informed that the NGO has not received any reply to its correspondence. Neither has Keith Taylor, MEP, who wrote to the previous Minister in August 2013.

As a candidate country to the EU, Serbia is encouraged to apply best EU practices, such as engaging in a dialogue with stakeholders, including NGOs. For this reason, I would invite you to give this case your attention.

Thanking you in advance,

Yours sincerely,

Myriam Ferran

Mr Danilo Golubovič, State Secretary Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management Nemanjina 22-26 Belgrade Serbia