



DALLA PARTE
DEGLI ANIMALI

LAV PRESS RELEASE

LAV PREVENTION OF FUTURE PANDEMICS: ITALY BANS THE IMPORT, DETENTION AND TRADE OF WILD AND EXOTIC ANIMALS. SENATE APPROVES EU DELEGATION LAW.

LAV: THIS IS A MAJOR STEP FORWARD, TO PROTECT ANIMALS AND HUMAN HEALTH!

Rome, April 21st 2021: for immediate release

A concrete step forward to contrast epidemics and pandemics. Parrots, armadillos, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, and all exotic animals will no longer be imported and kept in Italy.

Last night the Italian Senate finally approved the European Delegation Law which contains Article 14 letter q), an amendment first signed by the LeU (Liberi e Uguali) representative, Loredana De Petris, with the positive opinion of the Government, providing a ban on the importation and detention of exotic and wild animals, and restrictions on trade in domestic animals. A ban which will have to be made effective within twelve months.

"Today the European Regulation 2016/429 on transmissible animal diseases comes into force, and it amends and repeals some specific acts relating to animal health. Italy can thus make the Community law effective - declares Gianluca Felicetti, President of LAV – Today, our proposal for an effective prevention of the spreading of viruses and zoonoses from animals to humans, becomes real; for the respect of animals, torn from their natural environments or bred in captivity, and in order not to fall back into the same errors that led the humanity to the development and spread of so many epidemics and pandemics, such as Sars, Mers and Covid19".

Wild animals are reservoirs of many diseases that can spillover, evolve into pandemics, such as in the case of avian flu. It is therefore essential to reduce cases of contact as much as possible, as required by the "One Health" approach, which recognizes the close interdependence between human health, animal health and the environment.

sede nazionale
viale regina margherita, 177
00198 roma
t +39 06 44 61 325
f +39 06 44 61 326
info@lav.it

LAV.IT

LAV è riconosciuta
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ed Ente Morale

To promote and support this change, last year LAV launched its Manifesto "Let's not go back as before" <https://www.lav.it/en//lets-not-go-back-to-the-normalcy-manifesto> to act on the causes of the Covid-19 pandemics and avoid the spreading of new ones.

ENDS

Press contacts

Claudia Squadroni, LAV Press office

press@lav.it

+39 (0) 320 6770285

[LAV](#) was established in 1977 in Italy, it promotes cultural change in the way we relate to other animals, with a view to achieving a lifestyle and making political choices based on respect for and solidarity towards all living beings, irrespective of their species. LAV is committed to stop any form of exploitation and suffering by asserting animals' rights and promoting the issuing and implementation of new laws. LAV is a member of Eurogroup for Animals, the European Coalition to End Animal Experiments, the Fur Free Alliance and ENDCAPtivity.