



**RÉPUBLIQUE  
FRANÇAISE**

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*



**anses**

# **SHORT SURVEY ON RABIES SEROLOGY IN REGARDS TO THE UKRAINIAN SITUATION**

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# 1. Context



## Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 - Reminder

Dogs, cats and ferrets brought as pets from Territory or Third Country into a Member State (MS) must comply with the following requirements

- ✓ Identification (microchip),
- ✓ Valid anti-rabies vaccination
- ✓ Rabies antibody titration test with a favourable result (30 days after the date of vaccination and 3 months prior to the date of departure)
- ✓ Official certificate stating that they meet the import requirements

### Article 32

MS may, in exceptional situations, authorise the non-commercial movement onto their territory of pet animals not complying with those conditions provided that

- ✓ The owner has submitted a prior application for authorisation
- ✓ Pet animals are isolated under official supervision for the time necessary for them to comply with those conditions and for no longer than six months

## Ukraine emergency situation

Due to the tragic situation occurring in Ukraine, many people have fled the war in emergency and entered MS

↳ Most of them have brought their domestic carnivores with them

The Commission has asked all MS to facilitate the process and adequately address this emergency situation

↳ Develop provisions on permits that would apply to pet animals travelling with refugees

↳ Authorise their entry without prior application for an individual permit

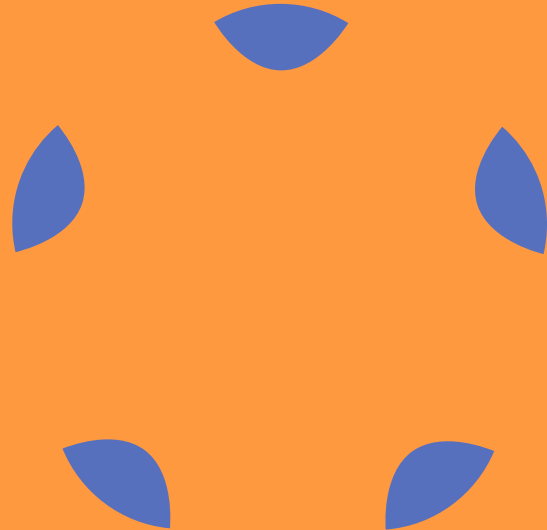
No legal basis exists for harmonizing these arrangements between MS

↳ Organization of a short survey

➤ Which measures have been implemented into EU MS ?

➤ Impact on the rabies serological testing performed in the EU approved laboratories

## 2. Results



Includes 16 EU NRLs approved to perform rabies serological testing

## Participants

27 EU NRLs as well as 30 EU approved laboratories for rabies serology have been contacted

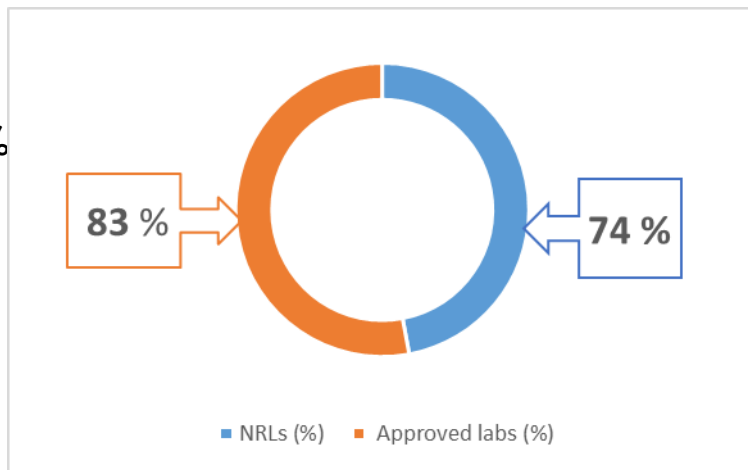
29/37 answers received → 78 %

### EU NRLs

20/27 answers received → 74 %

### Approved labs

25/30 answers received → 83 %



## Knowledge of specific measures implemented in MS

🌀 20/29 laboratories are aware about the implemented measures

🌀 1/29 is partially aware

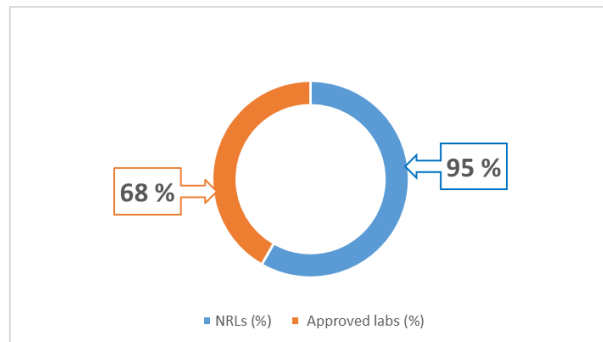
### EU NRLS

19/20 know the measures → 95 %

### Approved labs

17/25 know the measures → 68 %

1/25 knows partially the measures



Some MS performed a risk analysis to implement their measures

For the majority of the MS these specific measures concern only non-commercial movement of pets with owner

Pets rescued from shelters or commercial movements of pets are not concerned by these measures

# Overview of specific measures implemented in MS (1/5)

↳ Only based on the answers given by the laboratories (N=21)

## Animal registration

Mandatory for 90% (19/21)

No information provided for 2 participants

## Veterinary visit

Mandatory for 90% (19/21)

Not mandatory for 1 participant

No information provided for 1 participant

Form online and/or specific  
contact point

Address of the owner and  
final destination

## Delivery of Pet EU Passport

Yes for 38% (8/21)

No for 19% (4/21)

No information provided for 9 participants

After completion of all  
required criteria

After the end of surveillance  
period



# Overview of specific measures implemented in MS (2/5)

## Animal identification

Performed if required for 76% (16/21)

Not done for 1 participant

No information provided for 4 participants

## Animal surveillance

Performed for 71% (15/21)

Not done for 1 participant

No information provided for 5 participants

Surveillance period between 10 days to 6 months

Quarantine could be done at  
home or in specific center

# Overview of specific measures implemented in MS (3/5)

## Different schemes are observed for the surveillance period

- 🌀 10 days with 2 vet visits at 6 and 10 days followed by a rabies vaccination
- 🌀 21 days from arrival
- 🌀 3 months if the rabies serological titre  $\geq 0.5$  IU/mL and 6 months if the titre  $< 0.5$  IU/mL
- 🌀 Until all health requirements are met in accordance with Regulation (EU) 576/2013
- 🌀 Strictly 3 months after rabies vaccination (performed systematically at arrival)
- 🌀 4 months from arrival if the titre  $< 0,5$  IU/mL
- 🌀 Strictly 3 months from arrival
- 🌀 Minimum 3 months from blood sampling up to 6 months
- 🌀 Up to 6 months

# Overview of specific measures implemented in MS (4/5)

## Vaccination against rabies

Performed if required for 81% (17/21)

↳ Systematically done for 2 participants (at arrival or after the 10-day surveillance period)

Not done for 1 participant

Only recommended after the surveillance period for 1 participant

No information provided for 2 participants

## Rabies serological testing

Performed systematically for 62% (13/21)

Performed only if vaccination done outside EU (1/21) or if the pet leave the country (1/21)

Not done systematically for 2 participants

Not done for 2 participants

No information provided for 2 participants

# Overview of specific measures implemented in MS (5/5)

## Supplementary measures

- National web page to be consulted ⇨ Information in Ukrainian language
  - Forms available online in Ukrainian language
  - Rabies serological controls performed free of charge or paid by the MS
  - Supplementary recommendations:
    - ↳ Muzzle and keep in leash dogs and isolate cats during the surveillance period
    - ↳ Limit the contact with other animals and people housing refugees
- should vaccinate their pets against rabies

## Coordination by the EC

Ask the different countries to create contact points

- ↪ Facilitate the exchange of information
- ↪ Improve the coordination by the Member States



All this information has been compiled in a EC document

- ↪ Information related to EEA/EFTA countries and to a few non EU-countries (Canada, Great Britain, Georgia, Israel and the US)
- ↪ Circulate regularly electronically between the CVOs



Country	Contact information
EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Germany: <a href="#">German Contact Point</a></li> <li>France: <a href="#">French Contact Point</a></li> <li>Italy: <a href="#">Italian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Spain: <a href="#">Spanish Contact Point</a></li> <li>Poland: <a href="#">Polish Contact Point</a></li> <li>Czechia: <a href="#">Czech Contact Point</a></li> <li>Slovakia: <a href="#">Slovak Contact Point</a></li> <li>Hungary: <a href="#">Hungarian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Romania: <a href="#">Romanian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Bulgaria: <a href="#">Bulgarian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Croatia: <a href="#">Croatian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Slovenia: <a href="#">Slovenian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Lithuania: <a href="#">Lithuanian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Latvia: <a href="#">Latvian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Estonia: <a href="#">Estonian Contact Point</a></li> </ul>
EFTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iceland: <a href="#">Icelandic Contact Point</a></li> <li>Norway: <a href="#">Norwegian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Switzerland: <a href="#">Swiss Contact Point</a></li> </ul>
Non-EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canada: <a href="#">Canadian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Great Britain: <a href="#">UK Contact Point</a></li> <li>Georgia: <a href="#">Georgian Contact Point</a></li> <li>Israel: <a href="#">Israeli Contact Point</a></li> <li>USA: <a href="#">US Contact Point</a></li> </ul>

Regular meetings are held with CVOs and Chief Plant Health Officers

- ↪ Discuss potential difficulties in implementing the measures for Ukraine
  - broader scope than pets
- ↪ The last meeting took place on May 20, 2022

# Impact on the rabies serological testing

## Involvement of approved labs

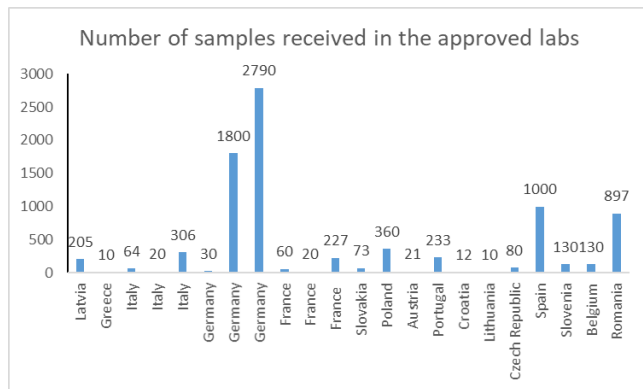
25 approved laboratories answering the survey



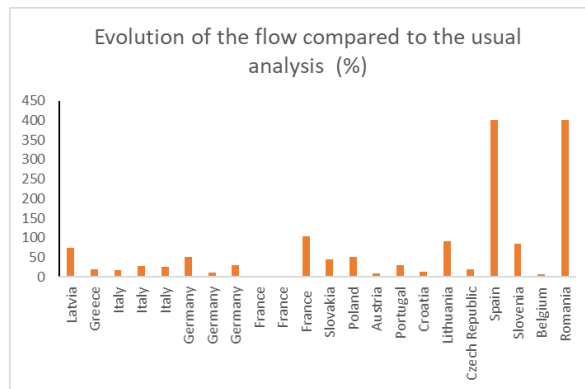
23 received samples from Ukrainian pets for titrations

Number of samples received since the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Evolution of the analysis flow since the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022



➤ from 10 to 2790 samples



➤ from 1 to 400 %

One laboratory is not able to assess the number of received samples

# 3. Conclusion



✧ All Member States applied the flexibility in Regulation (EU) 576/2013 to facilitate the process of entry and adequately address this emergency situation

✧ The European Commission coordinate the exchange of information between the authorities of the MS

✧ The most of the measures are almost identical through the MS (registration, pet identification, rabies vaccination)  
↳ Based on the (EU) 576/2013 requirements

✧ The surveillance period and the rabies serological controls are the measures with the most variations between MS



✧ Involvement of the majority of EU approved laboratories for testing the Ukrainian samples

✧ High increase in the number of received samples and analysis flow for some approved labs

✧ Variations in the number of received samples and in the flow of serological analyses according to the labs

- The scheme adopted by MS (with or without serological testing)
- The location of the laboratory
- The cost of the test (free of charge or not)

# Acknowledgements

**I would like to thank warmly  
all laboratories that kindly  
took part in this survey**

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION