

Animal Protection

Green Party MEPs continue to place the fight against animal cruelty high on the agenda of the European Parliament. Most animal protection legislation is now agreed at an EU level, so the impact they make is an important one.

For example, Caroline Lucas MEP – as Vice President of the European Parliament's cross-party Animal Welfare group – has demanded legislation to prevent thousands of chemicals being tested on animals, to ban the import and sale of cat and dog fur, to prohibit live exports and to help save the Iberian lynx.



JEAN LAMBERT Green Party MEP, London CAROLINE LUCAS Green Party MEP, South East England





Green Party MEPs – speaking out

For more information on your Green MEPs and their work visit

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Right: Caroline sees first hand the territory of the endangered lynx.

Below: Jean fights to conserve London Greenbelt Maylands Field, habitat for water voles, reptiles, bats and kingfishers.



Animal testing

- Caroline Lucas has proposed an entirely non-animal test strategy as UK Green MEPs are opposed to animal toxicity testing. A Parliamentary Question tabled by Caroline Lucas resulted in a substantial increase in European funding for the validation of non-animal test methods.
- Green Party MEPs are opposed to the use of primates in experiments, and have worked for an immediate ban on primate experiments.
- Green Party MEPs demanded a complete ban on the testing and sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

The fur trade

- Green MEPs have demanded a complete halt to the import, production and sale of cat and dog fur.
- Caroline Lucas has worked for a ban on the import of seal fur from countries such as Canada and Russia.

Animal transport

• Green Party MEPs are opposed to live exports; Caroline Lucas has tabled an amendment to the new European animal transport legislation to allow countries to ban live exports.

Conservation of habitats

- Jean Lambert and Caroline Lucas have called on national governments and the Commission to amend the Common Fisheries Policy to prevent the by-catch of dolphin and porpoises.
- Jean Lambert initiated the process that convinced Parliament to call unanimously for an Action Plan tackling the trade in endangered species poached as 'bushmeat'.
- Caroline Lucas has worked to preserve the last remaining habitats of the Iberian Lynx which is threatened with extinction.
- A British military spy antenna, the planned site for which was a protected Waterfowl habitat in Cyprus, threatened migratory birds. Jean Lambert brought Green concerns to the European Parliament and mobilised UK support for a campaign.
- Jean Lambert has fought alongside community groups to preserve London's green habitat, for example, Maylands Field in Havering and Erith Marshes in Bexley, where developments threaten migratory wild birds and protected marshland species.

Foot and Mouth disease

 As Vice President of the European Parliament's Committee of Inquiry into the FMD outbreak, Caroline Lucas worked to ensure that any future outbreak would be dealt with by a vaccination policy rather than wholesale slaughter of healthy animals. Zona de par lince ibé