

GAL

Global Animal Law

GAL Association

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Rechtspolitisches im globalen Kontext - Reducing Animal Suffering through Global Legislation

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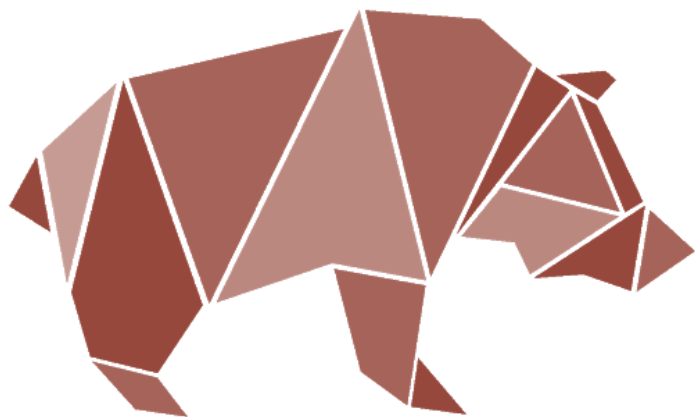


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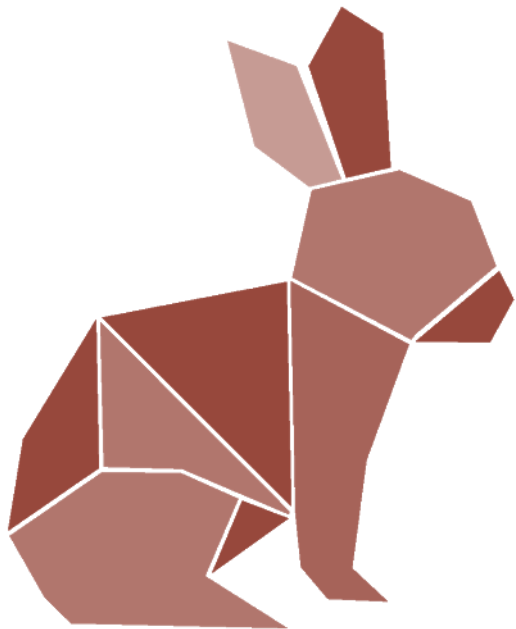


1. UNCAHP



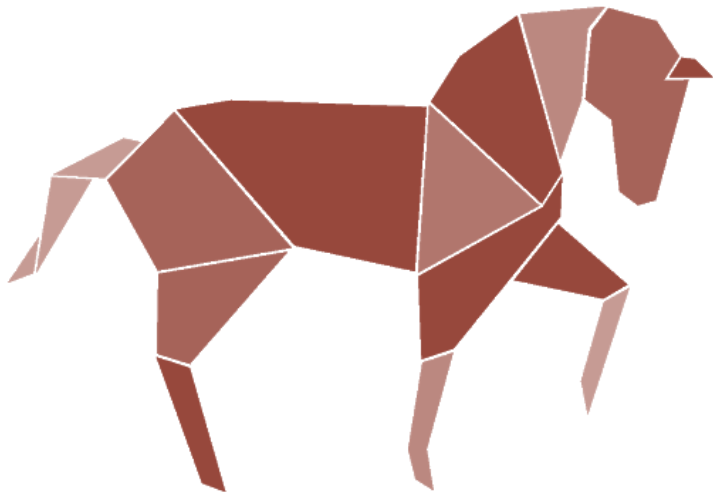
- United Nations Convention on Animal Health and Protection (UNCAHP) - <https://www.uncahp.org/>.
- Worked on by GAL and over 100 experts across all relevant disciplines.
- 1st draft released in August 2018.
- Gives a voice for animals and follows the One Health/One Welfare principle.

2. Introduction



- Animal welfare is a global concern.
- Techniques to address must be universal, comprehensive and holistic.
- Legislation can be used to enforce laws.
- Next step is to anchor internationally at the UN.

3. Arguments for Global Animal Health and Protection



Existing Circumstances

- There is no global regulatory framework holistically dedicated to animal welfare. UNCAHP & UDAW.

SDGs

- The topic of animal welfare has been almost totally ignored. Animal Friendly Indices to be created.

OIE, WTO, WHO, and other UN close organizations

- OIE has established 11 animal welfare regulations and WTO has ruled on animal welfare. A word to the others.

Law vs Ethics

- Ethics, unlike law, is not enforceable. “Animal ‘rights’” approach

4. Ways to Global Animal Health and Protection



Past Efforts

- All have failed and existing regulations mostly focus on species conservation.

Function of the UN

- The UN has the task of maintaining world peace.

Animal-to-Human Transmission

- According to OIE, 75% of emerging infectious diseases originate from animals.

Convention vs Declaration

- Declaration is non-binding and unenforceable, whereas a convention is binding and enforceable.

4. Ways to Global Animal Health and Protection



Other Reform

- Expand UNEP and establish a UN agency and/or programme.

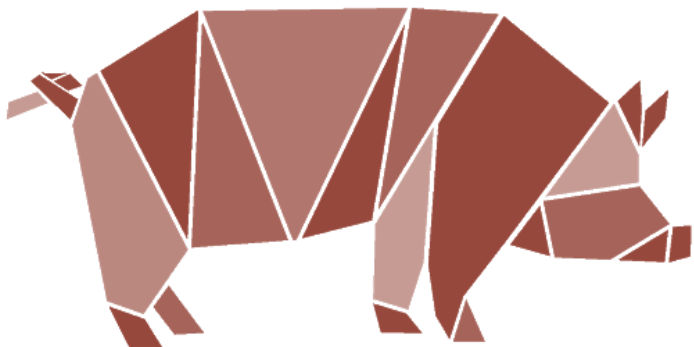
Another Institution

- Perhaps a broader remit of OIE but the UN includes all sovereign member states.

Developments

- 2019 UN GSDR acknowledged animal welfare missing in SDGs and a 2020 UN S-G report stated that animals are sentient beings.

5. Proposal for Convention on Animal Health and Protection



Holistic Instrument

- A common legal basis with a holistic One Health/One Welfare approach.

Voice for Animals

- Provide a voice for animals to protect their interests.

Welfare Principles

- Animals must be guaranteed freedoms and afforded respect for their intrinsic value.

Implementation

- Establish a secretariat at the UN and member states create plans to ratify the convention.

6. Conclusion



- A convention taking into account animal health as well as protection, bridging to human health is key (“One Health/One Welfare”).
- Will help to alleviate animal suffering and promote animal welfare.
- Global animal welfare can only be advanced by involvement from all stakeholders.
- Countries should recognise our interconnectedness and work together.

7. Overview



- Animal health and protection requires urgent global action, which is highlighted by Covid-19.
- Past attempts have failed - success can only be achieved if hard law is applied.
- Binding instruments can help alleviate suffering and promote welfare.
- Recommend the UN adopt a convention on animal health and protection to be ratified into national legislation.

8. Further



- www.uncahp.org , www.globalanimallaw.org/ and <https://www.globalanimallaw.org/news/index.html> with presentations and further references.
- “Strategien zur Tierleidminderung über den Weg globaler Gesetzgebung” in Neussel, W. Verantwortbare Landwirtschaft ..., oekom, 2021.
- Sabine Brels, Sabine Brels, Globally Protecting Animals at the UN: Why and how, in: Claire Portier (Ed.), L'observateur des nations unies, Aix-en-Provence 2019, 193 ff. Die Autorin gründet ihre Position auf ihre ausführliche juristische Dissertation "Le droit du bien-être animal dans le monde", Paris 2017.