# European citizens against fur farming

Opinion polls from a number of European countries have consistently demonstrated that the majority of citizens consider breeding animals for fur unacceptable. Fur farming has already been banned in Austria, Bosnia- Hercegovina, Croatia, The Netherlands, Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia, UK and Northern Ireland and in the Belgian region of Wallonia.

- Austria: 81 % of Austrians consider that killing animals for fur products is wrong (Integral Survey/Four Paws, 2014)
- Belgium: 86 % favor a ban on breeding animals for their fur (Ipson/GAIA, 2012)
- Croatia: 73 % agree that breeding animals for fur should be legally banned in Croatia (SPEM Communication Group, Animal Friends Croatia, 2006)
- Czech Republic: 70% agrees that fur farming should be banned (Centre pro výzkum veřejného mínění, CVVM/Svoboda Zvirat, 2015)
- Estonia: 59 % do not support that wild animals are raised on farms for the purpose of producing fur (Saar Poll LLC social market and research provider/LOOMUS, 2014)
- Germany: 86 % of Germans consider that killing animals for fur products is wrong (Integral/Four Paws Germany 2014)
- Italy: 91 % of Italians are against the activities linked to the production of fur using animals (EURISPES "Italy Report", 2015)
- Latvia: 64% of the Latvian population considers fur farming unacceptable (SolidData/Dzivnieku Briviba, 2015)
- Lithuania: 58% of the Lithuanian citizens considers raising and killing wild animals for fur unacceptable (Vilmorus, Tušti narvai, 2016)
- The Netherlands: 84% considers fur farming unacceptable (Motivaction/Bont voor Dieren, 2015)
- Norway: 68 % of people said fur farming was wrong (Infact/Dyrevernalliansen 2014)
- Poland: 66 % thinks the breeding of foxes, raccoon dogs and minks for fur should not be allowed. (Instytut Badań Rynkowych i Społecznych (IBRiS) Homo Homini/Otwarte Klatki, 2015).
- Sweden: 78 % do not think it should be allowed to breed mink in cages for fur (Demoskop/Djurens Rätt, 2014)
- Switzerland: 80 % of Swiss consider that killing animals for fur products is wrong (Integral/Four Paws 2014)
- UK: 74 % think that using animals for the production of fur for the fashion industry is wrong (YouGov, Four Paws Uk, 2014)

## More information about the polls in each country

### Austria:

80 % of Austrians consider that killing animals for fur is wrong.

78 % of Austrians consider that selling fur is outdated

75 % would prefer fur-free enterprises to other companies

70 % consider that stopping the sale of animal fur is improving a company's public image

The survey made by Integral survey/ Four Paws in March 2014.

## Belgium:

8 out of 10 Belgians (83%) know that there are fur farms in Belgium.

8 out of 10 Belgians (82%) have a problem with the fact that there are animals who are only being bred for their fur.

Nearly 9 out of 10 Belgians (86%) are in favor of a ban on the breeding of animals for their fur. 1053 people over 15 years were questioned in the survey via Ipson 2012.

#### Croatia:

73% of surveyed persons agree that breeding animals for fur should be legally banned in Croatia.

More information and graph (in English) can be found here: <a href="http://www.prijatelji-zivotinja.hr/index.en.php?id=907">http://www.prijatelji-zivotinja.hr/index.en.php?id=907</a>

After that poll fur farms were banned (transitional period until 2017 so unfortunately there is still one farm existent) so we didn't make more polls afterwards.

(Source: Animal Friends Croatia, Opinion Poll by SPEM Communication Group)

# **Czech Republic:**

70% of the Czech population agree that fur farming should be banned.

78% of respondents believe that modern society could function without fur fashion.

85% of respondents do not buy products containing real fur.

74% do not support the killing of animals for fur.

The public opinion survey (November, 2015) was conducted by Centre pro výzkum veřejného mínění (CVVM) on behalf of Svoboda Zvirat.

# Estonia:

More than half (59%) of the Estonian population does not support that wild animals are reared on farms in order to produce fur. A quarter of the population wants to ban fur farming in Estonia and 55% would like to introduce tougher rules to improve the animals' living conditions on the farms. Only 12% of the people think that fur farms should be allowed to continue so that they look like in Estonia today.

The survey was conducted by Saar Poll LLC social market and research provider, on behalf of the Estonian animal rights organization NGO Loomus. The survey was conducted in March 2014, and a thousand people between 15-74 years responded.

Read more (in English): http://loomus.ee/press-release-more-than-half-of-the-estonian-

population-does-not-support-raising-wild-animals-on-farms-with-the-purpose-of-producing-fur/

## Germany

86% of Germans consider that killing animals for fur products is wrong

85% of Germans consider that selling fur is outdated

83% would prefer fur-free enterprises to other companies

76% consider that stopping the sale of animal fur is improving a company's public image

The opinion poll was conducted in March 2014 by Integral and Four Paws.

# Italy

It is an independent poll by EURISPES (<a href="http://eurispes.eu/content/eurispes-institute-political-economic-and-social-studies">http://eurispes.eu/content/eurispes-institute-political-economic-and-social-studies</a>) that each year published the report called "Italy Report" with a lot of matters (also about the relationship of Italians with animals). The official press release: <a href="http://eurispes.eu/content/eurispes-rapporto-italia-2015-italia-burocrazia-il-">http://eurispes.eu/content/eurispes-rapporto-italia-2015-italia-burocrazia-il-</a>
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"Gli italiani si schierano contro l'attività legata alla produzione di **pellicce** utilizzando animali (90,7%)" = ("Italians are against the activities linked to the production of fur using animals (90.7%)).

## Latvia

Internet poll with 1007 respondents (2015) about attitudes towards fur farming in Latvia. Poll conducted by SolidData http://en.soliddata.lv The question was: Is raising and killing animals for fur acceptable in your opinion? The results were:

Fully acceptable - 10.4% Rather acceptable - 24.7% Rather unacceptable - 32.3% Fully unacceptable - 32.6%

### Lithuania

58% of the Lithuanian citizens considers raising and killing wild animals for fur unacceptable. Among people under the age of 29, 70% consider raising and killing wild animals for fur unacceptable.

The opinion polls was conducted by Vilmorus on behalf of Tušti narvai in May 2016.

### **Netherlands**

84% of the Dutch population considers breeding and killing animals for fur unacceptable – of which 57% considers fur farming very unacceptable. Only 5% of the Dutch population considers breeding animals for fur acceptable.

The opinion poll with 1000 respondents was conducted by Motivaction for Bont voor Dieren in 2015.

### Norway

62% of respondents answered that they were negative to keep foxes and minks in cages to produce fur. Only 15% of respondents were in favor of fur farming. The survey was conducted in 2010 on behalf of Dyrebeskyttelsen.

#### Poland:

66% of the Polish citizens thinks the breeding and killing of foxes and raccoon dogs for fur should not be allowed. This opinion poll was conducted in September 2015 and had 1100 respondents.

A survey conducted in February 2014 had the following results:

55% of Poland's population agree that breeding foxes, raccoon dogs and minks for fur should be banned. In the age group 18-35, 70% supports a ban. Also, nearly 70% of women are in favor of banning fur.

### Sweden:

According to a poll from March this year 8 of 10 (78%) of the Swedish people wants to ban minkfarming. This is an increase of 9 percentage points since the poll only one year ago. Only 17 percent said that it should be allowed to breed mink in cages. The figure stood at 19% in 2013.

Study was conducted by Demoskop, on behalf of Animal Rights in March 2015.

Read more (in Swedish): <a href="http://www.djurensratt.se/min-rost-for-minkarna/stark-opinion-mot-minkfarmning">http://www.djurensratt.se/min-rost-for-minkarna/stark-opinion-mot-minkfarmning</a>

#### **Switzerland**

80% of Swiss consider that killing animals for fur products is wrong

85% would prefer fur-free enterprises to other companies

82% consider that stopping the sale of animal fur is improving a company's public image 90% are in favor of an import ban for fur items, which are not produced according to the Swiss animal welfare standard

The opinion poll was conducted by Integral/Four Paws in March 2014.

### **United Kingdom**

62 % of the UK population would prefer to buy from retailers that do not sell animal fur products

66 % consider that refusing the sale of animal fur products has a positive effect on a company's public image

73 % consider that luxury fashion brands like Prada, Gucci and Burberry should not use animal fur

74 % of interviewed individuals think that using animals for the production of fur for the fashion industry is wrong

70 % consider that the sale of animal fur products is outdated

The survey was conducted by YouGov poll for Four Paws UK in March 2014.