



# La Strategia Europea Farm to Fork e la revisione del quadro normativo europeo in tema di benessere animale

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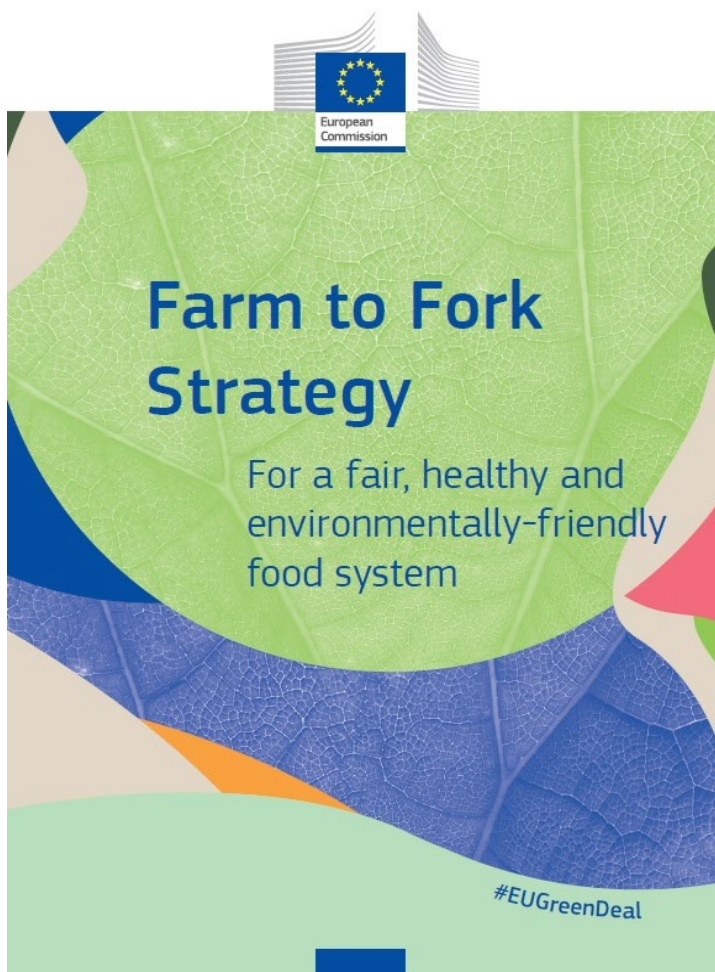


# EU Green Deal



A healthier and more sustainable EU food system is a cornerstone of the European Green Deal, and the Farm to Fork strategy is at the very heart of the Green Deal.

# Farm to Fork Strategy



*“Better animal welfare improves animal health and food quality, reduces the need for medication and can help preserve biodiversity.”*

**"La Commissione procederà alla revisione della legislazione sul benessere degli animali, anche per quanto riguarda il trasporto degli animali e la macellazione degli animali, per allinearla alle più recenti prove scientifiche, ampliarne il campo di applicazione, semplificare l'applicazione e, in ultima analisi, garantire un livello più elevato di benessere degli animali."**

# European Citizens Initiative 'End the Cage Age'



*'The Commission intends to propose to **phase out and finally prohibit** the use of such cage systems, for all the species and categories referred to in the ECI, under conditions (including the length of the transition period) to be determined based on **EFSA** opinions, an **impact assessment** and a **public consultation**.'*

1,4 million signatures in all EU Member States

Legislation to prohibit the use of cages for :

- laying hens, rabbits, pullets, broiler breeders, layer breeders, quail, ducks, geese, sows and calves

# EU animal welfare legislation

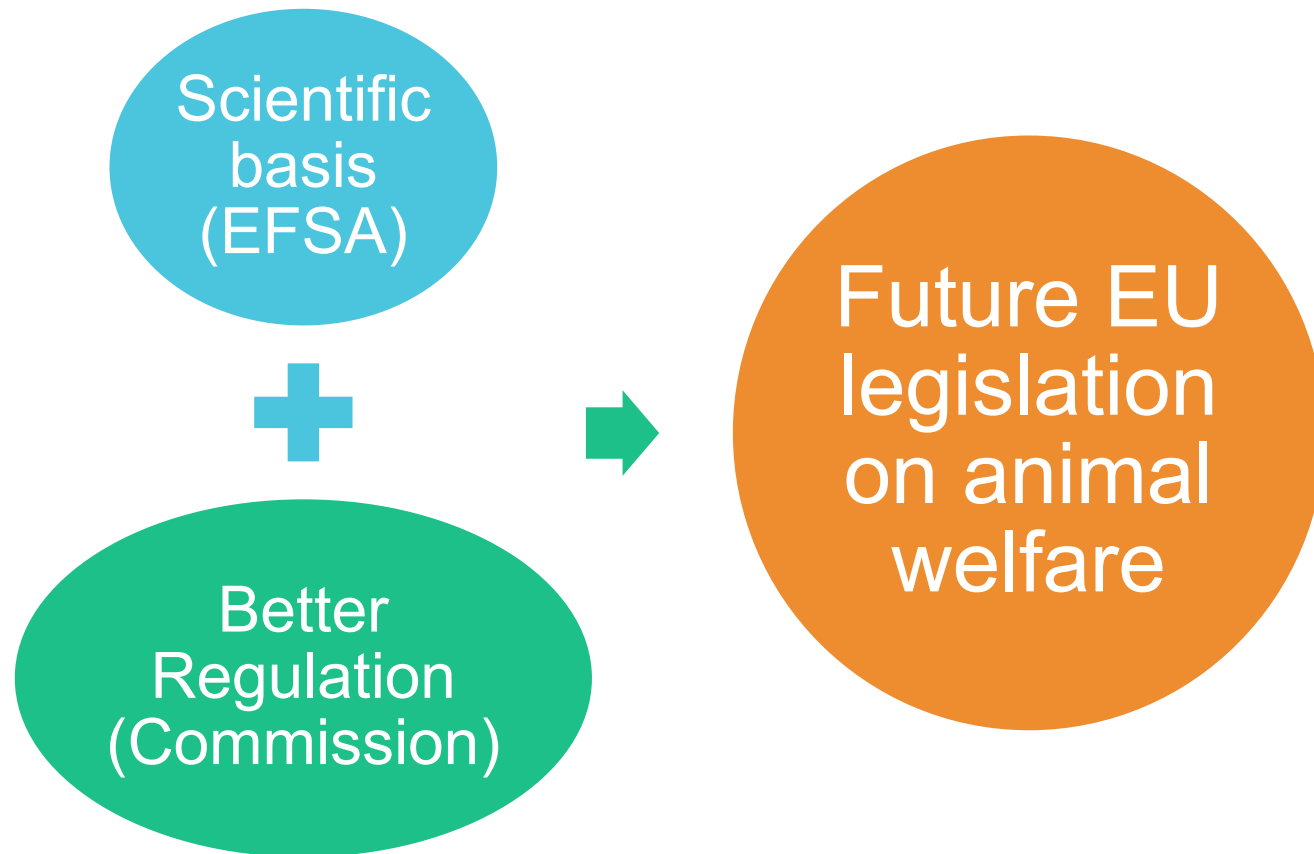
## 5 Directives on animals kept in farms:

- All farm animals
- Laying hens
- Calves
- Pigs
- Chickens for meat production

## 2 Regulations:

- Animal transport
- Killing of animals

# Revision of EU animal welfare legislation



Proposals 2023 on:

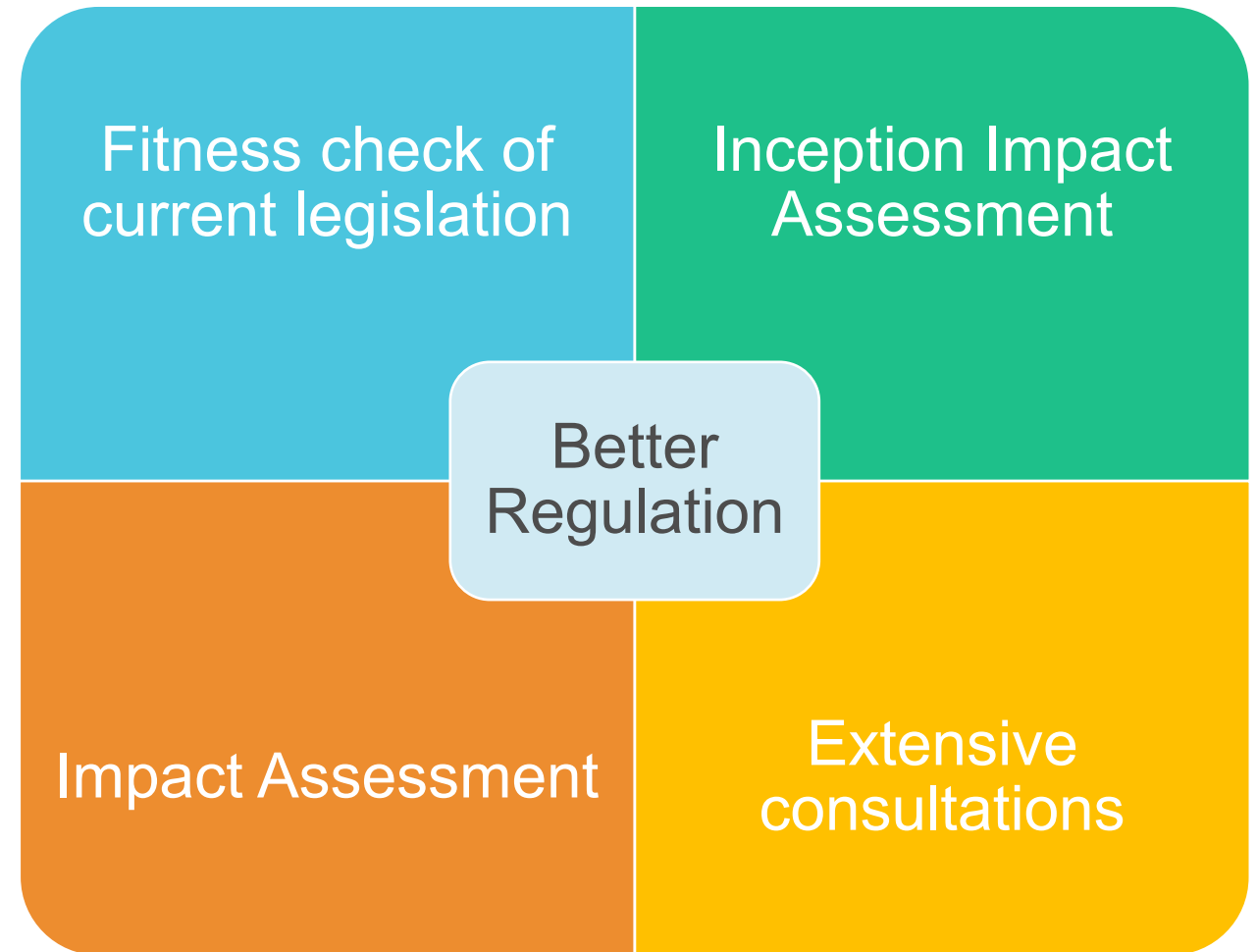
- updated current EU law
- new rules e.g. on dairy cows
- empowerments on other species\*\*
- animal welfare labelling

\*\*Future requirements through tertiary legislation based on Roadmap agreed with EFSA

[aw\\_eval\\_revision\\_roadmap\\_efsa.pdf](#)  
(europa.eu)

# Better Regulation steps to the proposal(s)

*"Un metodo di lavoro trasparente, che si avvale delle migliori risorse di informazione disponibili e sostenuta dal coinvolgimento globale delle parti interessate."*





# Fitness Check: main findings

ALIGN WITH CURRENT  
SCIENCE

- Scientific and technological developments not reflected in current rules

BROADEN THE SCOPE

- Sub-optimal level of welfare for species with no targeted legislation
- Vague provisions result partly to different application and enforcement

MAKE IT EASIER TO  
ENFORCE

- Missing Robust indicators for monitoring and triggering improvements in animal welfare

ADDRESS SOCIETAL  
DEMANDS

- Increasing societal expectations and ethical concern

Full document published at:

[https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-welfare/evaluations-and-impact-assessment/revision-animal-welfare-legislation\\_enRhttps](https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-welfare/evaluations-and-impact-assessment/revision-animal-welfare-legislation_enRhttps)



# Inception Impact Assessment (IIA)



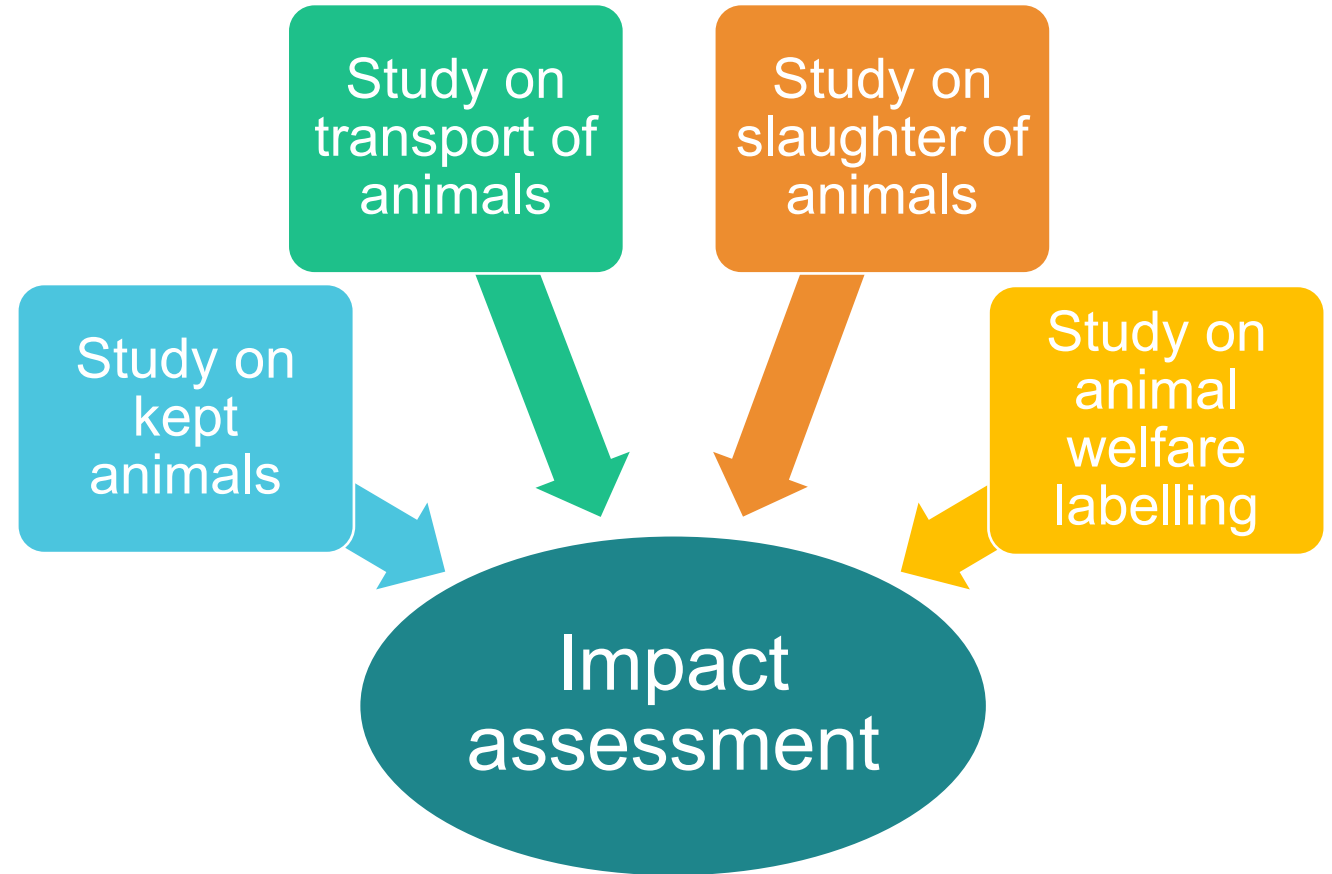
Ref. Ares(2021)4402068 - 06/07/2021

INCEPTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT	
Inception Impact Assessments aim to inform citizens and stakeholders about the Commission's plans in order to allow them to provide feedback on the intended initiative and to participate effectively in future consultation activities. Citizens and stakeholders are in particular invited to provide views on the Commission's understanding of the problem and possible solutions and to make available any relevant information that they may have, including on possible impacts of the different options.	
TITLE OF THE INITIATIVE	Revision of the EU legislation on animal welfare
LEAD DG (RESPONSIBLE UNIT)	SANTE (Unit G5: Animal Welfare and Antimicrobial Resistance)
LIKELY TYPE OF INITIATIVE	Legislative proposal of the European Parliament and of the Council
INDICATIVE PLANNING	Q4 2023
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/welfare/strategy/evaluation-eu-legislation-welfare-farmed-animals_en">https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/welfare/strategy/evaluation-eu-legislation-welfare-farmed-animals_en</a>
<b>The Inception Impact Assessment is provided for information purposes only. It does not prejudice the final decision of the Commission on whether this initiative will be pursued or on its final content. All elements of the initiative described by the Inception impact assessment, including its timing, are subject to change.</b>	
<b>A. Context, Problem definition and Subsidiarity Check</b>	
<b>Context</b>	
EU animal welfare policy scope and principles derive from Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU, which recognises animals as sentient beings. Article 13 also recognises the need to respect the legislative or administrative provisions and customs of the Member States relating in particular to religious rites, cultural traditions and regional heritage.	
The EU legislation on the welfare of farmed animals consists of a <a href="#">Directive concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes</a> and four Directives laying down minimum standards for the protection of <a href="#">laying hens</a> , <a href="#">broilers</a> , <a href="#">pigs</a> and <a href="#">calves</a> : one <a href="#">Regulation on animal transport</a> and one <a href="#">Regulation on the protection of animals at the time of killing</a> . In other words, it regulates animal welfare at farm level, during transport and at slaughter.	
The objectives of the EU legislation on animal welfare are to ensure by uniform application and enforcement the welfare of farmed animals, while at the same time allowing rational production and fair competition for EU business operators within the single market, and addressing expectations among citizens and consumers.	
Under the <a href="#">Farm to Fork Strategy</a> (F2F), the Commission committed to revise this legislation and consider options for animal welfare labelling. The purpose of the revision is to ensure a higher level of animal welfare, broaden the scope of the EU animal welfare legislation, align it with the latest scientific evidence and current political priorities as well as citizen's expectations and make it easier to enforce. Animal welfare is a key component of sustainability in our food chain.	
On 30 June 2021, the Commission announced in its <a href="#">reply</a> to the 'End of Cages' citizens' initiative that it will put forward a legislative proposal to phase out and finally prohibit the use of cages for certain species in the EU.	
The revision of the EU animal welfare legislation covers animals – including fish and fur animals – bred and kept for farming purposes, as well as cats and dogs insofar as transport for commercial purposes is concerned. It does not cover wild animals, experimental or laboratory animals (with exception for their welfare during transport) or any invertebrate animals.	
To gather evidence to feed into such revision, the Commission initiated in 2020 a fitness check of the current rules on the welfare of animals at farm, during transport and at slaughter, to be concluded in 2022. While the fitness check is still ongoing, available information points to weaknesses in the design, implementation, compliance and enforcement of the EU animal welfare legislation. Among others, the current rules seem to be outdated in light of new science and technology, and the lack of clarity of certain provisions results in divergent transposition and implementation across the EU Member States. In turn, this creates an uneven playing field for EU business operators and poses additional challenges to a proper, effective and uniform enforcement by the competent	

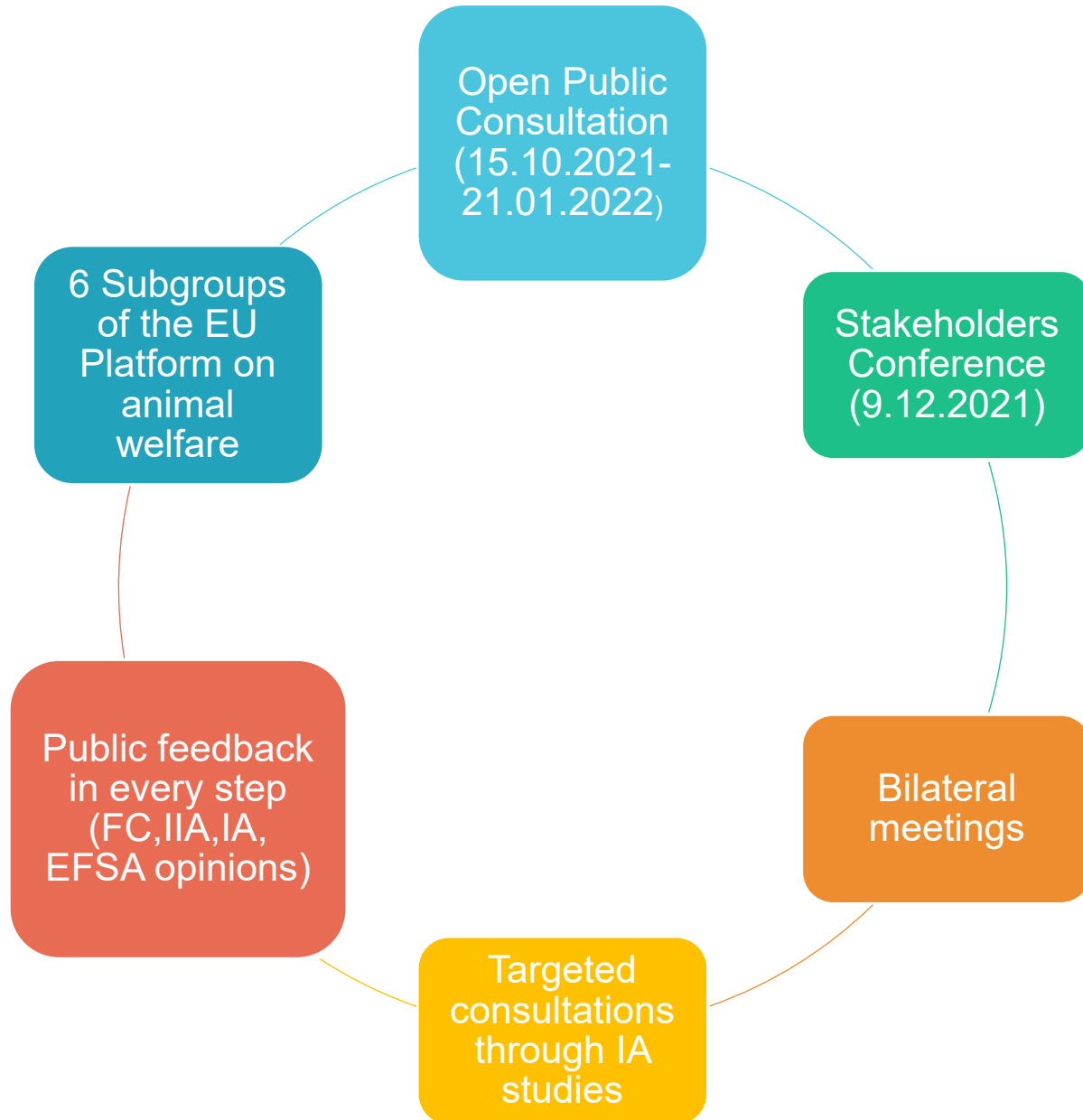
- Published July 2021
- Commission's preliminary policy options
- 4 welfare areas: on the farm, during transport, at the time of killing and animal welfare labelling
- Feedback period: 06/07-24/08/2021 (i.e. seven weeks)
- 983 contributions received, largely supporting the initiative

# Impact Assessment

- Ongoing external studies on the economic, social and environmental impacts of different policy options
- Conclusion first half 2023



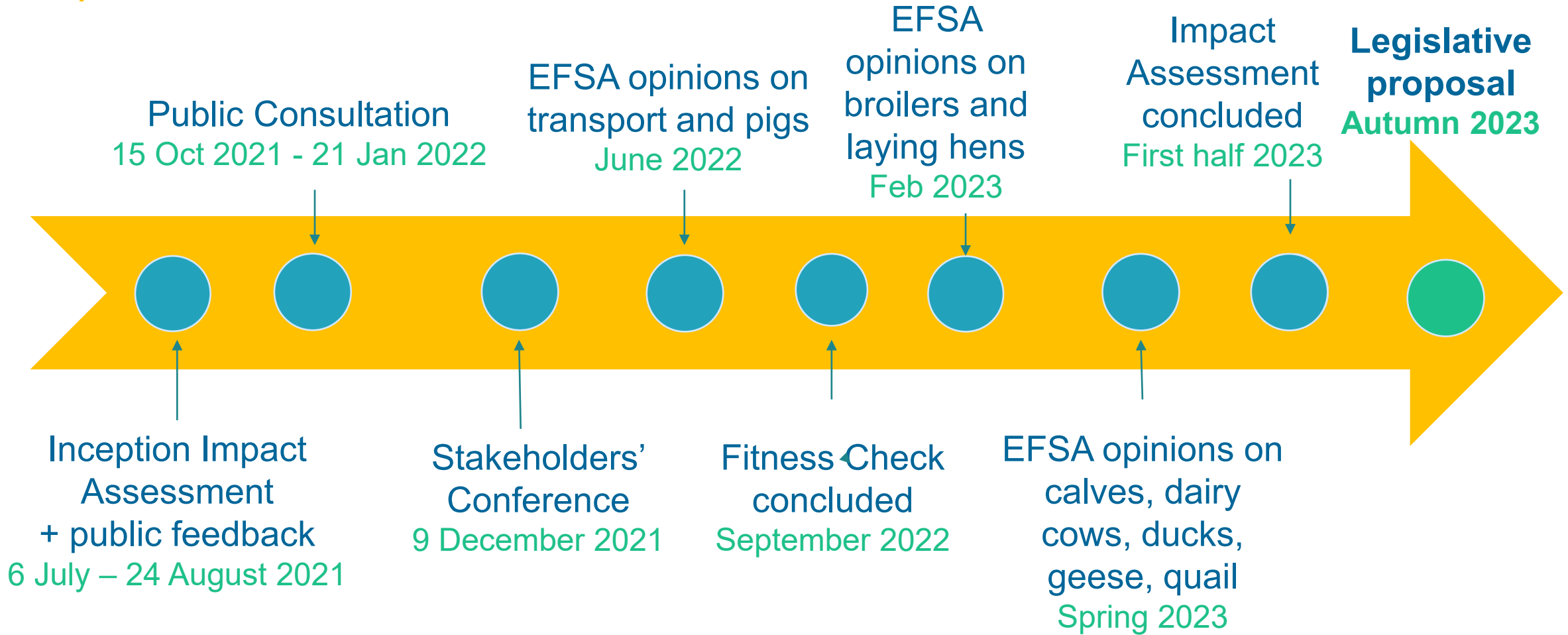
# Consultations on the revision of legislation



- Open Public Consultation received nearly 60000 contributions
- 6 Subgroups of the EU Platform on:  
poultry, pigs, calves and dairy cows, transport of animals, slaughter and animal welfare labelling



# Timeline



# Farm – options to assess, improve

Use of cages

Space allowances

Mutilation practices (beak-trimming, tail docking, castration)

Enrichment

Monitoring and management at farm level

Competences of workers in farm, transport, killing

Breeding practices

Animal welfare requirements and imported animals and products

# EFSA - welfare of pigs on farm

Grouping the sows at time of weaning (28 days)

Farrowing pen of total space at least 7.8 m<sup>2</sup>

Space allowance to be increased for weaners and rearing pigs/ minimum solid floor

Tail biting reduced by provision of 20 g per day of straw per animal

Immunocastration is the preferable alternative to surgical castration

Breeding selection towards litter size of 12-14 piglets born alive



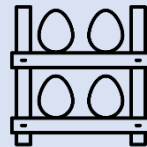
# Animal Welfare Labelling

*"The Commission will also consider options for animal welfare labelling to better transmit value through the food chain."*

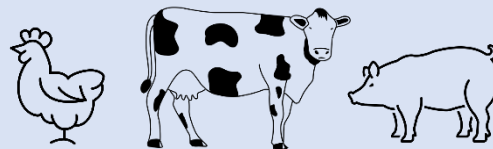


- Interest in being better informed about farming conditions
- 52% of EU consumers look for animal welfare labels
- 13 labelling systems developed since 2010

## Mandatory requirements



## Voluntary systems



**The EU Animal Welfare Platform:**  
promoting dialogue on animal welfare issues relevant at EU level.

European Commission | Health and Food Safety #EU4AnimalWelfare

# Labelling options to assess (non specific)

Regulating animal welfare claims

- Voluntary, no EU label

An EU label focused on cage/non-cage

- Voluntary
- Mandatory (egg marketing model)

An EU label with key animal welfare criteria

- Voluntary single-tier or multi-tier
- Mandatory multi-tier



*Thank you!*

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