

Regulations for entry with dogs into the European Union with dogs

Legislative basis: for the entry with dogs, cats and ferrets from non-EU countries (so-called third countries) the regulations of the decree (EU) Nr. 576/2013 from the European Parliament and the Council are effective in connection with the implementation order (EU) Nr. 577/2013 from the Committee.

General: per person five dogs can be carried at the most. The animals may not be destined to change the owner. Divergent from this the maximum number of five dogs may be exceeded if the animals are transported for the purpose of participation in competitions, exhibitions and sporting events respectively for the training of such events (not for commercial purposes).

- Those animals may be at least six months and a written proof must be on hand showing that they are registered for one of the named events.

If you enter with animals for which the following demands are not met you have to expect that the animals – with costs for you – from the official veterinarian are

- returned to the home country or
- are taken into quarantine for several months or
- owing to the circumstances also other measures can be arranged.

Please in time gather information from the veterinary authorities responsible for your domicile about the animal health law which has to be followed.

Entry from Andorra, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Greenland, Island, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and Vatican City

- The dogs have to be accompanied by a pet passport according to the terms of annex III, part 3 and 4 of the implementation order (EU) Nr. 577/2013.
- This pet passport must clearly be assignable to the animal which means that the animal must clearly be identifiable by tattoo or microchip (this is obligatory for new marked animals since July 3, 2011) and the identification number must be registered in the pet passport.
- In addition, the pet passport must show proof of a valid anti-rabies vaccination.

Entry from third countries listed in annex II part 2 of the implementation order (EG) Nr. 577/2013 (e.g., Argentina, USA, Canada, Japan)

- When entering or re-entering from a non-EU country in any case each dog will be checked for the documents and the identity. For this, each accompanying person has to declare the animal **to customs**.
- Each animal must clearly be identifiable by a clearly visible tattoo or **microchip** (this is obligatory for new marked animals since July 3, 2011). Technical requirements for the transponder: the transponder must correspond with the ISO standard 11784 (HDX or FDX-B transmission) and must be readable with a reading device according to ISO standard 11785.
- The animals have to be accompanied by an **animal health certificate** according to item 5 passage 1 and 2 to of the decree (EU) Nr. 576/2013. This has to be issued in the home country from an official authorized veterinarian. In this certificate a **valid immunization against rabies** has to be proven. In this connection it has strictly to be observed that the immunization may not be done before the implantation of the microchip in order to ensure a clear and unambiguous assignment of the anti-rabies inoculation to the animal. The validity

of the immunization complies with the information of the producer. If necessary, please ask your veterinarian. The primary vaccination has to be done at least 21 days before crossing the border.

- Requirement for the entry is that the animals are accompanied by a responsible person. The accompanying person has, subject to article 25 passage 3 of decree (EU) Nr. 576/2013, to **declare in written form** that the movement of the animal is not for commercial purposes (sale or change of ownership).
- Entry may only be done on the direct way. Should non-listed third countries been passed the holder or the authorized person has to confirm by a self-declaration that, during journey through, the animal didn't have any contact to animals amenable to rabies and that it didn't leave the conveyance or the airport.
- In addition, as proof the **pet passport** has to be carried along.

Entry from non-listed third countries (e.g., Egypt, Serbia, Turkey)

- When entering or re-entering from a non-EU country in any case each dog will be checked for the documents and the identity. For this, the accompanying person has to declare the animal **to customs**.
- Each animal must clearly be identifiable by a clearly visible tattoo or **microchip** (this is obligatory for new marked animals since July 3, 2011). Technical requirements for the transponder: the transponder must correspond with the ISO standard 11784 (HDX or FDX-B transmission) and must be readable with a reading device according to ISO standard 11785.
- The animals have to be accompanied by an **animal health certificate** according to item 5 passage 1 and 2 to of the decree (EU) Nr. 576/2013. This has to be issued in the home country from an official authorized veterinarian. In this certificate a **valid immunization against rabies** has to be proven. In this connection it has strictly to be observed that the immunization may not be done before the implantation of the microchip in order to ensure a clear and unambiguous assignment of the anti-rabies inoculation to the animal. The validity of the immunization complies with the information of the producer. If necessary, please ask your veterinarian. The primary vaccination has to be done at least 21 days before crossing the border.
- Before entry the animals have to be **tested by a blood test for antibodies against rabies**. Taking the blood sample has to be done at least 30 days after the vaccination and at least 3 months before entry.
 - Taking the blood sample may only be done by a veterinarian who is authorized in the respective third country. The blood analysis itself may only be made by a laboratory which is authorized by the European Commission (annex 1 of the decision of the Commission 2004/233/EG).
 - It is recommended, in order to arrange the conditions for forwarding of the blood sample, to contact the concerned laboratory before. Provided that after the blood test the time interval for vaccination given by the producer of the vaccine was met the blood test doesn't need to be repeated.
- The 3-month period before the entry is not valid for re-entry into the EU of pets from a non-listed third country when their pet passport shows proof that the blood sample was taken before the animal left the territory of the union and that the analysis of the blood sample verified enough antibodies against rabies.

- Requirement for the entry is that the animals are accompanied by a responsible person. The accompanying person has, subject to article 25 passage 3 of decree (EU) Nr. 576/2013, to **declare in written form** that the movement of the animal is not for commercial purposes (sale or change of ownership).
- Entry may only be done on the direct way. Should non-listed third countries been passed the holder or the authorized person has to confirm by a self-declaration that, during journey through, the animal didn't have any contact to animals amenable to rabies and that it didn't leave the conveyance or the airport.
- In addition, as proof the **pet passport** and the result of the blood **examination (rabies antibody titration test)** has to be carried along.