

Country report on animal welfare during long distance transport by land

## ROMANIA

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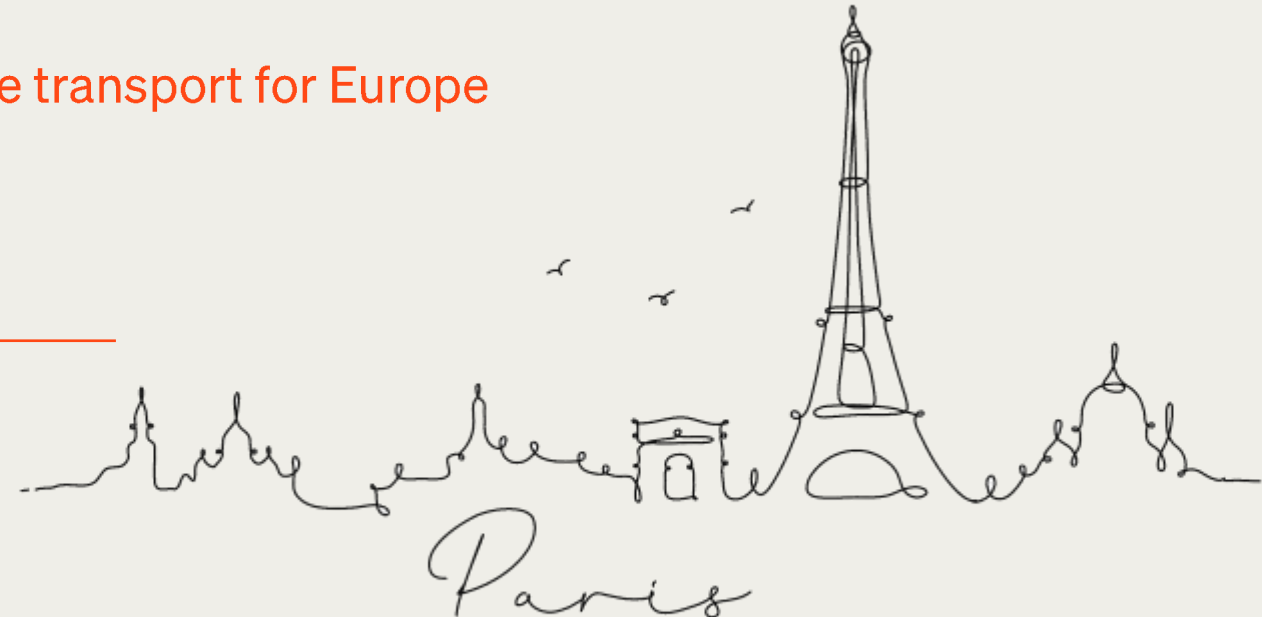
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Whole Journey Scenario workshop on long-distance transport for Europe

16 – 18 December 2024, Paris, France



World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded in 1924



## Romania

- One of the OIE founding members (1924) and EU's MS (2007).
- Legislation applicable in Romania

**EU legislation** – Council Regulation 1/2005/EC – includes provisions on transport by road and by sea and Council Regulation 1255/97/EC – standards to be complied with by the control posts intended for feeding, drinking, resting of animals on long-distance journeys;

– Reg. (EU) 2023/372 (transport by sea) – electronic database, contingency plan, team of inspectors at approval (OV+authorised maritime expert), OV on board;

– Reg. (EU) 2023/842 (transport by sea) – inspections at loading/unloading (mixed teams).

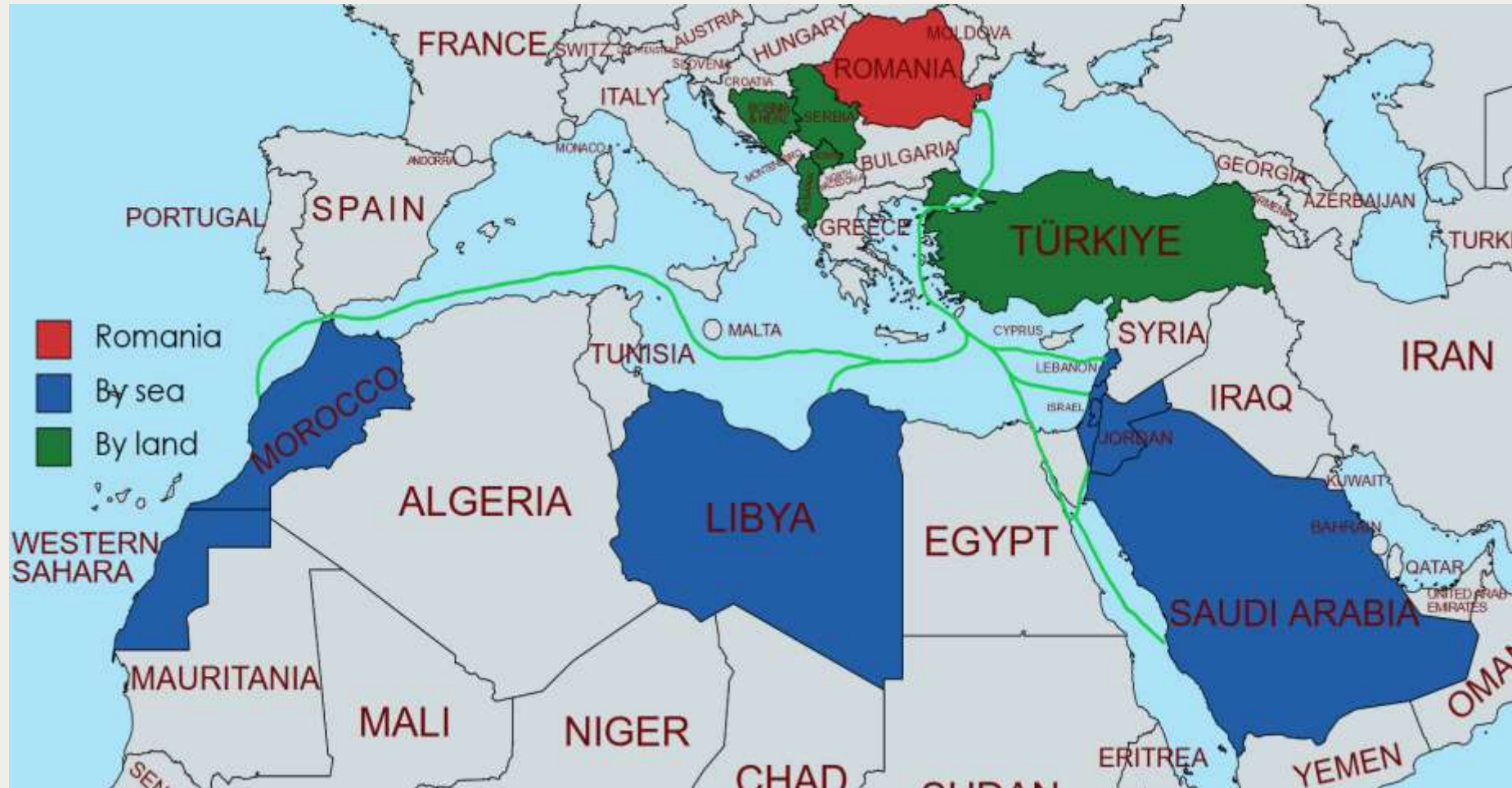
**National legislation** on authorisation of transporters, vehicles and livestock vessels; sanctions in case of non-compliance with the legislation on protection of animals during transport; organisation of training courses for drivers and attendants. There is also a Romanian law on the protection of animals intended for transport (EU Directive 609/1986).

## Border Control Posts and Exit Points approved for the control of livestock intended for export to non-EU countries





## Overview of country livestock transport and trade



## **ROMANIA:**

### **Exports to non-EU countries (cattle, sheep, goats):**

#### *By road*

2023, 2024 - Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye.

#### *By sea*

2023: Israel, Jordan, Libya, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Morocco;

2024: Israel, Jordan, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Georgia.

### **Intra-EU trade – by road (cattle, sheep, goats):**

2023 - Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Hungary, Netherlands;

2024 - Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland.

Country of **transit** for consignments (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs) sent from other Member States to non-EU countries (Albania, Armenia, Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Moldavia, North Macedonia, Türkiye) and to Member States (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Hungary).

## Competent Authorities

Competent Authority responsible for animal welfare during transport by land and sea

– NSVFSA at central level (mainly coordinating role - instructions and guidelines, also inspections to check if the official controls performed by local competent authorities are effective);

- 42 local CA (approval of transporters, means of transports, journeys, official controls at the place of departure, during transport, at exit points).

Other Authorities involved in cross-border transport of animals by land and sea:

- Romanian Naval Authority (CA for Port State Control);

- Romanian Border Police.

## National animal welfare standards

- According to the provisions of (EC) Regulation 1/2005 (national legislation Order 46/2023), training is a requirement for any person handling animals during transport.

Training of drivers and attendants is provided by organisations approved by the competent authority.

- Transport by sea: any member of the crew handling livestock during transport has to complete a training course first.

National legislation (Order 128/1669/2020): proof of such training has to be submitted when applying for the transporters' authorisation.

## Implementation of the standards

Planning of the journey – approved by the competent authority at the place of departure only if is realistic, with a correct estimation of the journey duration.

Contingency plan – for each long distance transport, in accordance with the EU legislation.

Sanctions for infringements (such as inadequate transport practices for animal handling; not complying with the journey duration, resting periods, watering and feeding interval; not following the provisions of the contingency plan).



## Monitoring and evaluation

### *Retrospective checks*

- assess if the animal welfare requirements were observed during the journey;
- transports selected based on risk;
- sections of the Journey Log compared with TRACES and SNS data.

## Cross-border transport of animals

### ***Before travel:***

- section I of the JL (48 h prior departure): correct estimation of duration (loading, unloading, average speed, resting times, border controls);
- contingency plan;
- authorization of transporter and vehicle approval, certificate of competence for the driver;
- fitness for travel;
- space allowance;
- water, feed and bedding onboard;
- weather forecast.

## Cross-border transport of animals

Deficiencies – checklist; notified to the CA approving the transporter/vehicle.

The health certificate is issued by OV in the Exit Point following inspection of animal health and welfare and based on the HC issued by the veterinarian at the assembly centre.

*After travel:* retrospective checks.

In case of significant animal welfare problems during the journey – communication through:

- WOAHA contact points on long distance transportation;
- liaison bodies designated under (EU) Reg. 2017/625.

## Conclusions

Main challenge for the Competent Authority to implement relevant legislation and requirements on animal transport: *communication with CA of countries of destination.*

In the last semester of the year, consignments of animals were stuck at the borders between EU Members States and non-EU countries:

- exports of sheep: trucks blocked at the Greek-Albanian border;
- exports of cattle: consignments stopped at the Bulgarian-Turkish border.

# Thank you

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