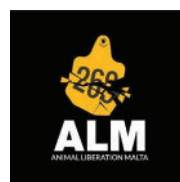# Tell them how you will vote, before we vote for you!

2019 MEP election awareness campaign by

Dear MEP candidate,

As a candidate for the upcoming MEP elections we ask you to kIndly answer these 10 questions. These will help us better understand your position and how you will vote on these vegan and animal welfare issues.

Question 1: Vegan product names
Will you vote to ban the right of free speech and expression and ban vegan products from using words like veggie-burger or vegan-sausage?

Question 2: Vegan regulation
Do you agree that there should be legally binding definition of the terms vegan and vegetarian, to regulate the market for plant-based products?

Question 3: Common Agricultural Policy
Do you agree that the Common Agricultural Policy (post-2020) should shift from intensive animal agriculture towards more sustainable (plant-based) food production and that this shift must be an essential component in order to combat environmental, climate, animal-welfare, and public-health concerns?

Question 4: Plant-based dairy alternatives
Do you agree that all plant-based dairy alternatives (like coconut, almond etc) should have the right to use the term milk? Also do you disagree that in many European countries, plant-based milks are taxed with a higher VAT rate than cow's milk although they represent eco-friendly alternatives & are used in the same way?

Question 5: Fish welfare
Although the number of farmed fish outnumbers that of other sentient beings, fish welfare is not specifically addressed by EU legislation. Do you agree on the need to introduce new rules to protect the welfare of fish particularly at the time of slaughter and during transport?

Question 6: Animal cages
Every year, around 700 million farm animals are forcibly confined in cages in the EU, some of them living in cages all their lives. Do you agree that the use of cages should be banned with the introduction of higher welfare farming systems within the EU and for all meat products that are imported inside the EU?

Question 7: Animal testing
Whilst the EU has introduced a ban on animal testing for cosmetics, and the recent call for a global ban is applaudable, more that 12 million animals every year are "used" for scientific purposes. Do you agree that the EU should implement a strategy with defined milestones to phase out the use of animals in all research, testing and education, and fund and support the development of alternative methods?

Question 8: Sentient beings
The Lisbon Treaty recognised that animals are sentient beings. Do you agree that more needs to be done by the EU Parliament to ensure that it is acknowledged in all relevant legislative proposals and policy initiatives?

Question 9: Commissioner on Animal Welfare
Do you agree that the Commission should appoint a Commissioner on Animal Welfare which would give a strong signal of commitment to the improvement of the lives of animals.

Question 10: Trade
Improving the standards of animal welfare within the EU is not enough. The access to free trade and international trade agreements should not be a loop hole for allowing access inside the Union to products using poor and inadequate welfare conditions. Do you agree that all imports of animal products from non-EU countries must adhere to the animal welfare standards within the EU?