



PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

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To: the European Commission and the European Parliament

As the world questions the science and ethics of using animals in experiments, we ask that you observe a Europe-wide moratorium on the use of animals in scientific research while the limited value of such experiments is being assessed and recognised. To do otherwise would be unethical – not only because of the impact on animals but also because it draws us away from finding cures and treatments via superior non-animal methods.

Research is already proving that animal experimentation has contributed very little to current knowledge regarding infectious diseases, neurodegenerative disorders, strokes, cancer, and many other human illnesses. By continuing to review all areas of research, the European Union will be able to reduce the number of animals used in experiments significantly and direct time and money more appropriately towards non-animal methods.

The European Union has long emphasised the ultimate goal of phasing out the use of animals. But it has failed to address the gross imbalance of funding between animal-based and animal-free research. Only with a significant paradigm shift in spending, culture, and attitude – and by focusing away from in vivo studies – can this goal be met.

The future of science lies in cutting-edge, non-animal methodologies such as organs-on-chips, 3-dimensional human skin cultures, micro-models of the brain, and computer models that can accurately predict what happens in humans.

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