



The Rt Hon Emma Reynolds MP
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Via e-mail: emma.reynolds.mp@parliament.uk,
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Dear Minister:

I am writing to you on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our 1.3 million members and supporters regarding the current conflict facing British citizens in Gulf states and their companion animals as they attempt to flee missile attacks. Reports suggest that people are abandoning their animals on the streets as they are faced with the impossible decision of leaving behind their beloved animals due to UK pet import regulations, which require a rabies vaccination to be given 21 days prior to travel, a tapeworm treatment 1-5 days prior and an Animal Health Certificate to be issued by an authorised veterinarian no more than 10 days before entry to Great Britain. We urge you to relax these regulations to allow people to travel to the UK with their animal companions.

During the Ukraine crisis, several European countries—including Austria, Belgium, Hungary and Croatia—temporarily relaxed pet import rules to allow refugees to bring their companion animals, with veterinary checks and quarantine measures implemented after arrival.

Considering the dangerous circumstances, please suspend the UK regulations to allow people from Gulf states refuge in the UK with their animal companions and engage with European counterparts to encourage temporary flexibility in the application of Regulation (EU) No. 576/2013 to allow fleeing people to take their companion and other animals in need to all EU member states.

Please stand up for vulnerable animals in these exceptional circumstances and ensure that they can be brought to safety. They must be offered refuge too. Animals do not start wars and yet, they are often victims of them. We are a nation of animal lovers and must allow Brits returning home to bring their animal family members with them.

Yours sincerely,



Mimi Bekhechi
Senior Vice President

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Registered in England and Wales
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