

Mr John Dalli
European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy
European Commission
B – 1049 Brussels
Belgium

February 2012

Dear Commissioner Dalli

Please Have A Heart For Animals This Valentine's Day

As a compassionate EU citizen who loves both animals and cosmetics, I am sending you my heart-felt plea this Valentine's Day to help animals who suffer to test beauty and personal care products for sale in the European Union.

I was so proud when, in 2009, the cruel practice of animal testing for cosmetics was banned in EU laboratories. Like millions of other citizens, I was appalled by the needless suffering of such tiny gentle creatures such as rabbits, hamsters and mice. I was delighted that our policy-makers listened to us and introduced not only a testing ban but also a ban on selling cosmetics tested on animals elsewhere in the world from 2013. This sales ban is vital because it means that the EU's strongly held ethical principle that testing cosmetics on animals is morally unjustifiable, would apply not just to its own laboratories but to laboratories across the globe.

So I have been dismayed to hear from Humane Society International/Europe that you are now considering a proposal that would undermine the 2013 ban by giving cosmetics companies a loophole to continue profiting from animal suffering.

Like most girls, I love make-up, but my ethical principles are also very important to me. No new lipstick, eye-liner or other cosmetics ingredient can ever be worth the suffering and death of defenceless animals forced to endure painful toxicity tests. These gentle animals are killed by the hundreds in some tests, despite the fact that manufacturing products free of new animal testing is perfectly possible through the use of thousands of existing, safe ingredients. Animals have suffered enough – if their pain has been deemed immoral within the EU, it must also be immoral outside the EU. To trade in their pain would be hypocrisy.

When EU politicians promised to ban the sale of animal-tested cosmetics, we trusted you. We put our faith in you to honour your word. This Valentine's Day, please look inside your heart and do the right thing. Show the rest of world that the EU leads the way in humane science and ending animal testing. Please save the ban.

I can be contacted via Humane Society International/Europe's Director of Research & Toxicology, Troy Seidle at tseidle@hsi.org

Yours sincerely



Leona Lewis