

Import is considered to be **non-commercial**, if:

- the bird is accompanied by its owner or a person authorised by the owner and it is not moved with the purpose of selling or transferring to another owner,
- the situation when the bird is transported in the cargo hold of the airplane and its owner is travelling in the cabin shall be considered to be a non-commercial transportation.

Identity and document **control** of non-commercial pet birds (parrots, canaries) **shall be performed by customs officials** at the customs control posts.

Identity and document control of non-commercially imported birds that are kept in the wild or in captivity (falcons kept for hunting, hawks) **shall be performed by Food and Veterinary Service** at Pāternieki and Terehova customs control posts.

The European Union has determined strict limits on movement on pet birds imported from third countries **regarding especially pathogenic avian influenza**.

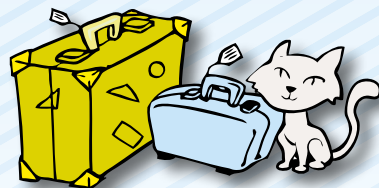
Pet birds may be imported:

- if they **conform to one of the following conditions**:
 - they have been isolated at the place of export in the third country for 30 days before exporting or
 - the birds have been immunised within the last six months and not later than 60 days before export from the third country and at least once have been revaccinated against avian influenza using the H5 vaccine which has been approved for the respective species, according to the instructions of the manufacturer, or
 - the birds have been isolated for at least 10 days before exporting and tests for H5N1 antigen or genome have been performed for them;
- if the birds are **identifiable** (must have individual number which permits determining origin thereof, as well as identification system – for instance, clip, ring, microchip, transponder, eartag);
- if a **veterinary certificate**⁽⁷⁾ of the type established by the European Union is present.

Attention!

- Please promptly verify whether the third country from which you plan to import the pet birds into Latvia has been included in the list of the approved countries!
- If the pet bird does not correspond to the provisions, it may be **returned** to the country of origin or **isolated** for official supervision until the moment when the health requirements are met.
- In case of incompatibilities, the costs of isolation must be borne by the owner, therefore, check the conformity before your journey!
- In the case when the animal cannot be **returned or isolated**, it may be **subject to euthanasia** without financial compensation.

Find more detailed information at the closest territorial structural unit of the Food and Veterinary Service or veterinary clinic, as well as visit the web page of the Food and Veterinary Service www.pvd.gov.lv.



What must be considered if you wish to take a pet animal with you during travel to third countries?

- Identification is required (An electronic identification system (subcutaneous chip) A tattoo is permissible only if it had been made before 3 July 2011) and a passport of the animal.
- Veterinary certificate must be present and vaccination against Rabies and blood analyses must be performed promptly. It is recommended to have blood tests to be done before leaving the Latvia, but only in cases if you are traveling to a country which is not included in the list of countries⁽⁴⁾ not subject for tests.
- The requirements of third countries may differ, therefore, before exporting pet animals to third countries you must promptly enquire at the territorial structural units of the Food and Veterinary Service.

References to the regulations and decisions of the informative material:

- (1) Countries listed in Subsection 2, Part B, Annex II to Regulation (EC) No. 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (of 26 May 2003) on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals and amending Council Directive 92/65/EEC, published Official Journal L 146, 13/06/2003, P. 0001 - 0009.
- (2) 2011/874/EU: Commission Implementing Decision (of 15 December 2011) laying down the list of third countries and territories authorised for imports of dogs, cats and ferrets and for non-commercial movements of more than five dogs, cats and ferrets into the Union and the model certificates for imports and non-commercial movements of those animals into the Union, Section 3 of the decision 2011/874/EU published Official Journal L 343, 23/12/2011, P. 65–76.
- (3) 2011/874/EU: Commission Implementing Decision (of 15 December 2011) laying down the list of third countries and territories authorised for imports of dogs, cats and ferrets and for non-commercial movements of more than five dogs, cats and ferrets into the Union and the model certificates for imports and non-commercial movements of those animals into the Union, Section 2.2. (a) of the decision 2011/874/EU published in Official Journal L 343, 23/12/2011, P. 65–76.
- (4) Countries listed in Subsection 2, Part C, Annex II to Regulation (EC) No. 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (of 26 May 2003) on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals and amending Council Directive 92/65/EEC, published Official Journal L 146, 13/06/2003 P. 0001 – 0009.
- (5) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 1152/2011 (of 14 July 2011) supplementing Regulation (EC) No. 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards preventive health measures for the control of Echinococcus multilocularis infection in dogs, published Official Journal L 296, 15/11/2011, P. 0006 – 0012.
- (6) 2007/25/EU: Commission Decision (of 22 December 2006) as regards certain protection measures in relation to highly pathogenic avian influenza and movements of pet birds accompanying their owners into the Community, published Official Journal L 8, 13/01/2007 P. 0029 – 0034.
- (7) 2010/734/EU: Commission Decision (of 30 November 2010) amending Decisions 2005/692/EC, 2005/734/EC, 2006/415/EC, 2007/25/EC and 2009/494/EC as regards avian influenza, published Official Journal L 316, 02/12/2010 P. 0010 – 0016.
- (8) Countries listed in Part 1, Annex II of the Commission Regulation (EU) No. 206/2010 (of 12 March 2010) laying down lists of third countries, territories or parts thereof authorised for the introduction into the European Union of certain animals and fresh meat and the veterinary certification requirements, published in Official Journal L 73, 20/03/2010, P. 1–121.



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IMPORT OF PET ANIMALS INTO THE EUROPEAN UNION FROM THIRD COUNTRIES

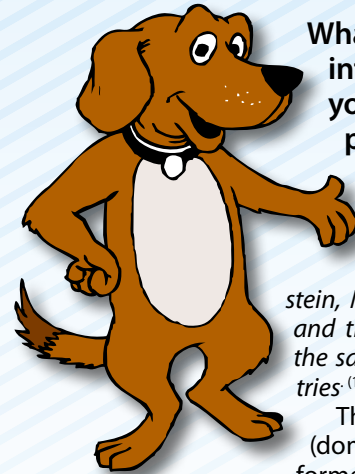


Non commercial movements of dogs, cats and ferrets from third countries to the European Union

The procedure of the European Council for movement (travel) of animals is established by The Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Animal Health Requirements Applicable to the Non-commercial Movement of Pet Animals.

The Regulation provides that a pet is a dog, a cat or a ferret, which travels together with its owner or a natural person authorised by the owner and these animals are not intended to be sold or transferred to another owner.

If the animal does not travel together with the owner or a person authorised by the owner, a certificate is required in order to import an animal for the purpose of selling. Such an animal must be presented for control at the veterinary control post and control thereof shall be performed by the inspector of Food and veterinary service.



What should be taken into consideration if you wish to import a pet animal into the European Union?

Pet (domestic) animals from Andorra, Switzerland, Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, and the Vatican shall be subject to the same provisions as for EU countries.⁽¹⁾

The identity control of the pet (domestic) animals shall be performed by the Customs.

Upon import of a dog, a cat or a white ferret:

- **electronic identification system** (subcutaneous chip) is required

A tattoo is permissible only if it had been made before 3 July 2011 and is clearly legible. If the microchip does not conform to ISO standard 11784 or 11785, the owner or the person who accompanies the pet animal must provide the device for reading of the micro chip.



- the pet must be **vaccinated against Rabies**

If the pet animal had been vaccinated against Rabies before identification, the vaccination against Rabies shall be repeated after identification!

- the pet must have a European Union **veterinary certificate** of the established format, depending on the number of animals:

- for non-commercial entry and movements of five or **less** animals the certificate ⁽²⁾ is required;
- for imports and movements of five or **more** animals the certificate ⁽³⁾ is required
- non-commercial import and movements of more than five pet animals, as well as transit of such is permitted **only from the countries** that are listed in ⁽¹⁾⁽⁴⁾; or in part 1, Annex II to the Regulation (EU) No 206/2010.

- animal **passport** is required

(The passport is required if an animal of European origin has previously left the European Union to a third country and returns to the European Union).

- a **blood test** ⁽⁴⁾ for determining of the level of antibodies after vaccination against Rabies has been performed.

An authorised veterinarian shall take a blood sample at least 30 days after the vaccination and three months after moving. The analyses may be performed only by a recognized European Union laboratory. If you have moved from Latvia to any other country which has not been granted the status of a favourable country regarding Rabies and if you wish to return to the European Union, a test for determining the level of antibodies must be performed. A three-month waiting period after performance of the analysis is not required.

⁽⁴⁾ **The test for determining the level of antibodies does not refer to the following countries:**

Ascension Island, United Arab Emirates, Antigua and Barbuda, the Netherlands Antilles, Argentina, Australia, Aruba, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Barbados, Bahrain, Bermuda, Belarus, Canada,

Chile, Falkland Islands, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Japan, St Kitts and Nevis, Cayman Islands, Saint Lucia, Montserrat, Mauritius, Mexico, Malaysia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, French Polynesia, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, Russian Federation, Singapore, Island of Saint Helena, Trinidad and Tobago, Taiwan, United States of America (including Guam, Northern Mariana islands, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, British Virgin Islands, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna, Mayotte.

Entry into Finland, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Malta

Before entry of dogs into the territories of the aforementioned countries they must be treated against *Echinococcus multilocularis* not less than 1 day before and not more than 5 days before the scheduled entry, the respective record of the performed treatment must be entered into the certificate.⁽⁵⁾

More information:

WEB PAGE OF THE FINNISH COMPETENT INSTITUTION

http://www.evira.fi/portal/en/animals/current_issues/?bid=2851

WEB PAGE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM COMPETENT INSTITUTION

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/pets/travel/pets/pet-owners/>

WEB PAGE OF THE IRISH COMPETENT INSTITUTION

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/pets/changestoentryrequirements-from1january2012exceptfromtheuk/>

WEB PAGE OF THE MALTESE COMPETENT INSTITUTION

<http://vafd.gov.mt/pet-travel-scheme?l=1>

Attention!

- *If your pet has been vaccinated the first time, you may start your journey after **21 days**. If the vaccination is performed repeatedly/regularly within the terms established by the veterinarian you may take your pet on your journey immediately.*
- Special provisions and limitations have been established for movement of non-vaccinated dogs, cats and

ferrets which are younger than three months from third countries to the member states of the EU, as well as among the member states of the EU.

Import of non-immunised animals which are younger than three months to Latvia is permitted only from the countries⁽⁴⁾ with favourable Rabies status.

Non-vaccinated animals:

- must have a passport/ veterinary certificate and have remained in the place where they were born and have not been in contact with wild animals that might be exposed to the infection, or
- they are together with mothers on whom they are still dependent.
- **Import of non-vaccinated animals from a country that has not been included in the list of the countries⁽⁴⁾ regarding which the provision of mandatory determining of the level of antibodies is not in effect is prohibited.**
- If upon entry into the European Union the pet does not correspond to the provisions;
- it may be **returned** to the country of origin or **isolated** for official supervision until the moment when the health requirements are met.

In case of incompatibilities, the costs of isolation must be borne by the owner of the animal, which may be expensive, therefore, check the conformity before your journey!

The last resort, in the case when the animal cannot be **returned or isolated**, is **euthanasia** without financial compensation.

Import of Non-Commercial Pet Birds Which are not Poultry Into The European Union From Third Countries

Pet birds from Andorra, Switzerland, Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, and the Vatican shall be subject to the same provisions as for EU countries.

Birds may be introduced to Latvia if the third country has been listed on the list of the approved countries^{(6),(8)}

