



Ambassade van Finland

Ambassador, Mrs. Talonpoika  
Groot Hertoginnelaan 16  
2517 EG Den Haag, Nederland

**Subject: Urgent request to ban fur farming in Finland**

**21 May 2015**

To the honourable Mrs. Tolanpoika,

We call on Finland and other nations to ban fur farming, which is unethical abuse of animals. Therefore we would like to hand you over this petition to ban fur farming in Finland; it has been signed by almost 200.000 people all over the world, in the following web address:

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/814/930/957/demand-an-end-to-fur-industry-in-finland-now/>

The petition text is attached below:

Demand an end to fur farming in Finland

Animals are kept in small wire cages in Finland to produce fur. This cruelty is done to maintain the livelihoods of a small amount of people, and because of tax income generated by the fur industry. Finland is with China, the biggest fur producer of foxes and raccoon dogs in the world, and one of the largest of mink! Please tell the Finnish parliament that there are always choices, and animal abuse should not take place for the sake of money.

*"The question is not, Can the animal reason? nor, Can they talk? But rather, Can they suffer?"*

- Jeremy Bentham, 19th century Philosopher, Oxford University.

The Finnish fur farmers claim their farms are ethical. ***How can that be true when mammals such as foxes and mink are kept in metal wire cages where they can not fulfill their inherent biological needs?*** The fur industry is animal abuse and cruelty and it must end. Many people have expressed their concerns about the fur animals but only small improvements have been made in terms of their living conditions. Finnish fur farmers want to keep on practicing their livelihood, and government gets their share of money made from the fur industry (about 200-300 million € annually; <http://fi.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkistarhaus>).

Some people (including politicians) have claimed that if Finland does not practise fur farming, other countries like China will do it instead. But China is already produce furs regardless of Finlands fur farming.

Furthermore, supply creates markets as well as machinery for manufacture and marketing! All the nations in the world should end animal torture such as fur farming.

How can people in Finland and elsewhere in the world allow fur industry to continue despite many pledges to close it down? The Finnish people signed a historical national petition to end fur farming in 2013, with about 70.000 signatures it was discussed in parliament. Unfortunately only a handful of parliamentarians voted against fur farming. Tell Finland's parliamentarians that this time they vote in favour of a ban, and put an end to fur industry once and for good.

For more information please visit the following video:

<http://www.peta.org/videos/finnish-fur-farm-investigation-2/>

A link to the source of the photo, and useful information about fur farming in Finland:

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/video-real-price-fur-coat-3171710>

<http://www.tarhauskielto.fi/english>

<http://www.tarhauskielto.fi/blog/turkistarhasta-tehty-rikosilmoitus>

Therefore we demand that Finland bans fur farming by 2025 as suggested by Animalia ry and SEY (Suomen Eläinyhdistysten Liitto) Finland. We trust that you will forward our demand to the parliament of Finland. Bont voor Dieren fully support Finland's aims to ban fur farming. Thank you so much for hearing our demand and by acting to stop animal abuse in Europe.

Yours sincerely and waiting for your response,



Nicole van Gemert

Director Bont voor Dieren