

**REQUIREMENTS
FOR NON-COMMERCIAL MOVEMENT
OF 5 OR LESS DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS
TO THE EU TERRITORY FROM THE THIRD COUNTRIES
(except Finland, Ireland, Malta and the United Kingdom and Norway¹)**

In accordance with Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 June 2013 on the non-commercial movement of pet animals and repealing Regulation (EC) No 998/2003.

The animal must fulfil the definition of "a pet animal"

"the pet animal" means an animal of a species: dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*), cats (*Felis silvestris catus*), ferrets (*Mustela putorius furo*) accompanying its owner or an authorised person during non-commercial movement, and which remains for the duration of such non-commercial movement under the responsibility of the owner or the authorised person;

The maximum number of pet animals which may accompany the owner or an authorised person during a single non-commercial movement **shall not exceed five**.

By way of derogation the maximum number of pet animals may exceed five if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- a) the non-commercial movement of pet animals is for the purpose of participating in competitions, exhibitions or sport events or in trainings for such events;
- b) the owner or the authorised person submits written evidence that the pet animals are registered either to attend an event referred to in the point (a), or with an association organising such events;
- c) the pet animals are more than six months old.



¹ the country of the European Economic Area

*The movement of pets from the countries mentioned in Part 2 of Annex II to
Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013 (OJ L 178,
28.6.2013, p. 109 as amended)*

AC Ascension Island	MK North Macedonia
AE United Arab Emirates	MU Mauritius
AG Antigua and Barbuda	MX Mexico
AR Argentina	MY Malaysia
AU Australia	NC New Caledonia
AW Aruba	NZ New Zealand
BA Bosnia and Herzegovina	PF French Polynesia
BB Barbados	PM Saint Pierre and Miquelon
BH Bahrain	SG Singapore
BM Bermuda	SH Saint Helena
BQ Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba (the BES Islands)	SX Saint Maarten
CA Canada	TT Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
CL Chile	TW Taiwan
CW Curaçao	US The United States of America including:
FJ Fiji	AS – American Samoa,
FK Falkland Islands	GU – Guam,
HK Hong Kong	MP – Northern Mariana Islands,
JM Jamaica	PR – Puerto Rico,
JP Japan	VI – Virgin Islands of USA
KN Saint Kitts and Nevis	VC Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
KY Cayman Islands	VG British Virgin Islands
LC Saint Lucia	VU Vanuatu
MS Montserrat	WF Wallis and Futuna Island

1. AN INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM. Dogs, cats and ferrets must bear a **transponder** (an electronic identification system) or a clearly readable **tattoo**.

A **transponder** is the standard electronic identification system, which shall be a read-only passive radio frequency identification device, complying with ISO Standard 11784 and applying HDX or FDX-B technology and capable of being read by a reading device compatible with ISO Standard 11785.

When the transponder does not comply with those requirements, the owner or the natural person responsible for the pet animal on behalf of the owner must provide the means necessary for reading the transponder at the time of any inspection.

Since 2011, 3 July a transponder has been the only admitted system of identification of pets. An owner or a natural person responsible for the pet animal should present a document certifying that the tattoo was made before 2011, 3 July.

A **tattoo** is usually located on skin on the internal side of groin or ear. The tattoo must be clearly readable. Pets marked of legible tattoo before 3 July 2011, may continue to be relocating in accordance with applicable regulations, if during the movement are accompanied by evidence confirming the markings tattooed before 3 July 2011.



2. AN ANTI-RABIES VACCINATIONS

The document confirming validity of the anti-rabies vaccinations.

The anti-rabies vaccine must:

- a) be a vaccine other than a live modified vaccine and fall within one of the following categories:
 - an inactivated vaccine of at least one antigenic unit per dose (recommendation from the World Health Organisation); or
 - a recombinant vaccine expressing the immunising glycoprotein of the rabies virus in a live virus vector;
- b) where it is administered in a Member State, it must have been granted a marketing authorisation in accordance with Article 5 of Directive 2001/82/EC or Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 726/2004;
- c) where it is administered in a territory or a third country, have been granted an approval or a licence by the competent authority and meet at least the requirements laid down in the relevant part of the Chapter concerning rabies in the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals of the World Organisation for Animal Health.

The anti-rabies vaccination must fulfil the following conditions:

- a) the vaccine was administered by an authorised veterinarian;
- b) the pet animal was at least 12 weeks old at the date on which the vaccine was administered;
- c) the date of administration of the vaccine is indicated by an authorised veterinarian or an official veterinarian in the appropriate section of the identification document;
- d) the date of administration referred to in the point (c) does not precede the date of application of the transponder or tattoo or the date of reading of the transponder or the tattoo indicated in the appropriate section of the identification document;
- e) the period of validity of the vaccination starts from the establishment of protective immunity, which shall not be less than 21 days from the completion of the vaccination protocol required by the manufacturer for the primary vaccination, The period of validity of the vaccination is indicated by an authorised veterinarian or an official veterinarian in the appropriate section of the identification document;
- f) a revaccination must be considered a primary vaccination if it was not carried out within the period of validity referred to in point (e) of the previous vaccination.

Vaccination against rabies made on the unmarked animal is invalid.

3. THE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT (HEALTH CERTIFICATE)

The identity document is issued by the official veterinarian from the territory or the third country, from which the movement was indicated.

Dogs, cats and ferrets must be accompanied by a **health certificate** issued by an official veterinarian or veterinarian authorized by the competent authority.

Apply Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) [No 577/2013 of 28 June 2013 on the model identification documents](#) *for the non-commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets, the establishment of lists of territories and third countries and the format, layout and language requirements of the declarations attesting compliance with certain conditions provided for in Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council.* (OJ L 178, 28.6.2013, p. 109 as amended)

Currently the Regulation No [2019/1293](#) changes Part 1 of Annex IV Regulation No 577/2013 and contains a model certificate for non-commercial movement of five or less dogs, cats or ferrets from a territory or a third country to a Member State in accordance with Art. 5 paragraph 1 and 2 of [Regulation \(EU\) No 576/2013](#).

A model of the health certificate for non-commercial movements of more than five dogs, cats and ferrets into the Union with requirements for the health certificate can be found here:

<https://www.wetgiw.gov.pl/nadzor-weterynaryjny/podroz-ze-zwierzetami-towarzyszacyimi-zpanstw-trzecich-do-polski>

A written declaration signed by the owner or the authorised person confirming that the movement of the pet animal into the Union is a non-commercial movement shall be part of the identification document. The model of the declaration is available on our website. This is the last page of the health certificate.

4. THE RESULT OF THE NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODY TITRATION TEST

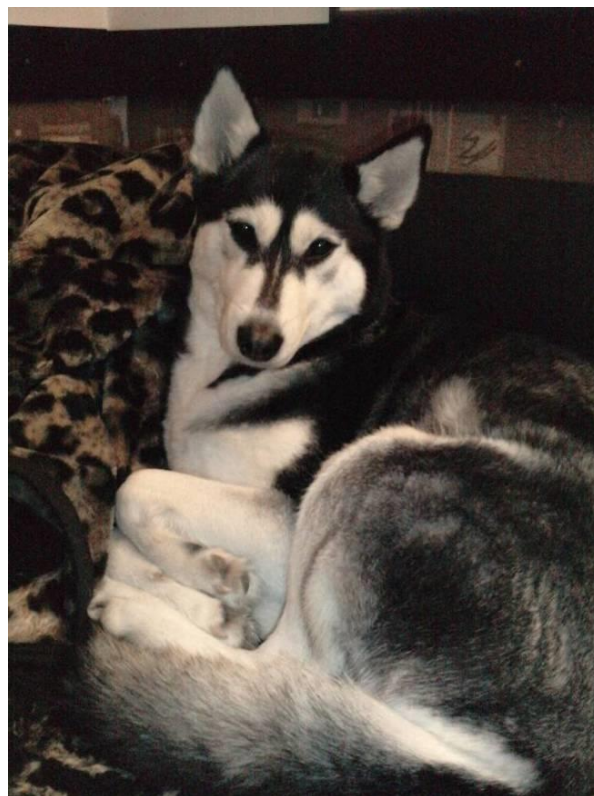
IS NOT REQUIRED. The result of this test is not required in the movement from the third countries which have been mentioned in the introduction of this guideline.

Caution!

If you go with a dog, cat or ferret by car or train from the country, from which the titration is not required, but your means of transport pass through the territory of the country where titration is required, you do NOT need to have the results of the titration provided that the owner or authorized person provides a signed declaration that during such a transit the pet animals have had no contact with animals of species susceptible to rabies and remain secured within means of transport.

If you go by plane with a dog, cat or ferret from a country which is not required antibody titration, but our plane has a stopover in the country which is required titration, you do NOT need to have the results of the titration provided that the owner or authorized person provides a signed declaration that during such a transit the pet animals have had no contact with animals of species susceptible to rabies and remain secured within means of transport or within the perimeter of an international airport.

[The declaration is available in the Part 2 of Annex I of Regulation \(EU\) 577/2013](#)



**The movement of pets from the countries mentioned in Part 1 of Annex II to
Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013 (OJ
L 178, 28.6.2013, p. 109 as amended)**

AD	Andorra	IS	Iceland
CH	Switzerland	LI	Liechtenstein
FO	Faroe Islands	MC	Monaco
GI	Gibraltar	SM	San Marino
GL	Greenland	VA	Vatican City State

- 1. AN INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.** Imported dogs, cats and ferrets must bear a **transponder** or a clearly readable **tattoo** (*see above in part 1 of this presentation*)
- 2. AN ANTI-RABIES VACCINATIONS** (*see above in part 1 of this presentation*)
- 3. THE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT – PASSPORT.** Imported dog, cat or ferret must be accompanied by a passport issued by a veterinarian authorized by the competent authority certifying **valid anti-rabies vaccination** or revaccination if applicable.
- 4. THE RESULT OF A NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODY TITRATION TEST IS NOT REQUIRED** (from above mentioned countries)



*The movement of pets from the countries NOT mentioned in Annex II to
Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013
(OJ L 178, 28.6.2013, p. 109 as amended)*

(ie . from third countries not mentioned earlier in the presentation)

1. **AN INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.** Imported dogs, cats and ferrets must bear a **transponder** or a clearly readable **tattoo**. *(see above in part 1 of this presentation)*
2. **AN ANTI-RABIES VACCINATIONS.** The document, certifying validity of anti-rabies vaccinations must be attached to the health certificate. *(see above in part 1 of this presentation)*
3. **THE IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT - HEALTH CERTIFICATE** *(see above in part 1 of this presentation)*. Imported dog, cat or ferret must be accompanied by a **health certificate** issued by a veterinarian authorized by the competent authority certifying **valid anti-rabies vaccination** or revaccination if applicable and a neutralizing antibody titration at least equal to 0,5 IU/ml. The documentation confirming detailed identity data of animal, details concerning vaccination and the result of the titration test must be attached to the health certificate.
4. **THE RESULT OF THE NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODY TITRATION TEST**
IS NECESSARY - **at least equal to 0,5 IU/ml** carried out in an approved laboratory on a sample taken by an authorized veterinarian, at least 30 days after vaccination and three months before importing an animal.

The result of titration test must be documented in the appropriate section of the identity document by an authorized veterinarian. The document with the result of this test must be attached to the HC.

The blood sample must be examined in the laboratory approved by the European Commission. The list of approved laboratories can be found here:

https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/movement-pets/designated-laboratories-performing-rabies-antibody-titration-tests_en

This three-month period shall not apply to the re-entry of a pet animal whose passport certifies that the titration was carried out, with a positive result, before the animal left the EU territory.

The antibody titration does not need to be renewed on a pet animal, which has been revaccinated in recommended time, mentioned in the appropriate section of the accompanying animal health certificate without a break in the vaccination protocol required by the manufacturing laboratory.

A neutralizing antibody titration must be equal to or higher than **0,5 IU/ml**

Caution!

- **Animals under three months old are not allowed to be imported to Poland, without valid anti-rabies vaccination.**
- In case of exit from Member State to the third country and return to the EU territory the required identity document for pest accompanying travelers will be the EU passport for pets filled up properly, containing all of the necessary information and current vaccination etc. filled in before exit from the EU.
- If you go with pets from Poland to the third country from which the neutralizing antibody titration test is required or you will go through the territory of such a country- you have to make the test before exit from EU. The result of the test must be written into the pet passport. In the above mentioned situation the 3 months period from making the test is not required.
- Consignments of five pet animals or less (an exception included on the beginning of this presentation), which are the subject of non-commercial movement, need to be checked by the National Revenue Administration (Customs Officers) at the travellers' point of entry into territory of European Union. The pets can be moved to the EU from the third country through designated travellers' point of entry. Designated points of entry of travelers can be found here:
https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/movement-pets/travellers-points-entry_en
The control takes place at the border crossing, where the EU border is exceeded (in the first point (country) of the entry into EU territory – in case of transfer at the airport without leaving duty free zone- the control takes place in the destination country- i.e. the country which is the entry to EU. Please remember about the appropriate language version of the health certificate.

- Pets animals - consignments of animals:
 - which are the subject of non-commercial movement, where the total number of animals exceeds five,
 - which are the subject of commercial movements of animals,
 - which are traveling without the owner of pets or a natural person responsible for such animals on behalf of the owner during their movement by plane; need to be checked by the **veterinary border officer.**

More information on the website: https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/pet-movement/eulegislation/non-eu-imports_en

Where such checks reveal that the pet animal does **not meet the necessary requirements**, the competent authorities shall decide in consultation with the official veterinarian:

- to return the animal to its country of origin,
- to isolate the animal under official control for the time necessary for it to meet the health requirements, at the expense of the owner or the natural person responsible for it,
- as a last resort, to put the animal down, without financial compensation, where its return or isolation in quarantine cannot be envisaged.

All information regarding the movement of pets is available on the website:

The European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/pet-movement_en

The General Veterinary Inspectorate: <https://www.wetgiw.gov.pl/english/travelling>

The general information concerning movement of pets is available on this website: <http://www.iata.org>

Useful information on crossing the border can be found at: <https://granica.gov.pl/?v=en>