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**European Animal Research  
Association  
(EARA)**

**Kirk Leech  
Executive Director**

# Background to the foundation of EARA

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- European activists and extremists have developed increasingly effective tactics and smart strategies
- European wide reduction in pro-active communication on the benefits of animal research for animals and humans
- The European Life Sciences Sector is hampered by the absence of a consistent unified voice (public and private) for research
- There are few national animal research defence groups in the EU
- As Italy & Germany shows extremists have also become a serious threat to the health of research in the academic sector.





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Home > News > UK > Horrifying BUAV video investigation shows puppies & kittens ripped apart in UK animal lab

## GRAPHIC CONTENT Horrifying video shows PUPPIES and KITTENS tested at UK laboratory

THE Sunday Express today publishes details of an undercover investigation at a Government licensed animal testing centre that shines a light on the secret world of vivisection laboratories where puppies as young as four weeks old are taken from their mothers and killed.

By: **Ted Jeory**

Published: Sun, March 2, 2014

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# European Citizens' Initiative STOP VIVISECTION

*"Citizens, NGOs and MEPs for animal welfare and human health"*

**Wednesday 26 June 2013 16.00 - 18.30**  
**European Parliament - Room A5E2**

*With a special contribution by* **Jeremy Rifkin**

**Conference hosted by:**

**Sonia ALFANO** (ALDE)

Jo LEINEN (S&amp;D)

**JO LEINEN (S&D)**  
*Former President of Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee (ENVI)*

**Cristiana MUSCARDINI** (ECR)

**Michèle STRIFLER** (*PPE*)

**Dan JØRGENSEN** (S&D)

*President of the EP intergroup on the welfare and conservation of animals*

**Michèle RIVASI** (*Greens*)



**Speakers:**

**Claude Reiss**

*Physician and cellular biologist former  
Director of Centre National  
de la Recherche Scientifique (France)*

André Menache

**Zoologist and veterinary surgeon**  
**Director of Antidote Europe**

Candida Nastrucci

*BSc, MSc, DPhil Clinical Biochemistry*

**Núria Querol i Viñas**

Biologist, President of LIMAV

Gianni Tamino

*Professor of biology, former MEP*

*Introduction by* **Fabrizia Pratesi**

(European Committee STOP VIVISECTION)

*Contributions by representatives of the NGOs supporting STOP VIVISECTION*







TATORT MDC:  
WO MENSCHLICHE  
GEWALT AN  
TIEREN KEINE  
GRENZEN  
HAT !!!

UNTER DEM DECK-  
MANTEL DER  
WISSENSCHAFT  
BLEIBT MORD  
UNGESTRAFT!

# Ingrid Newkirk, President of PETA

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**“Even if animal tests produced a cure for AIDS, we’d be against it.”**

**“There’s no rational basis for saying that a human being has special rights. A rat is a pig is a dog is a boy. They’re all animals.”**



**PETA: Animal rights are more important than human lives.**

# Foundation of EARA

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- Meeting hosted by EFPIA January 2013
- Requested expressions of interest to carry out an activity plan to help improve the current situation
- Understanding Animal Research (UK) submitted a Project Proposal
- Discussions began with non-profit and profit organisations how best to coordinate activity across Europe
- EARA established February 2014, I was hired In April



# Purpose of the EARA

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- **Facilitate:** the establishment of local animal research advocacy groups and networks in countries where they don't exist
- **Create:** a favourable climate for research using laboratory animals in Europe, through influencing national and EU decision makers
- **Maintain and improve:** a high level of public acceptance of medical research using animals, through a variety of communications means
- **Lead:** pan-European initiatives, to counter pressure on the lab animals supply chain and the license to use laboratory animals in research

# Action plan 2014

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- Countries where there are successful or growing activist campaigns against the use of animals in research, and where there are no advocacy groups



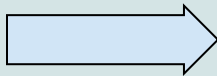
**Italy, Germany, Belgium and Spain**

- Collaborate with advocacy groups that do exist to create a pan EU network



**France, UK and Holland (Italy?)**

- Encourage greater openness with the public on why we need animal research



**Academic Sector in the EU**

- Lead campaigns to build greater choice and resilience into the transport of laboratory animals

# Concordat on Openness and Animal Research



- Over 40 organizations involved with bioscience in the UK signed a Declaration on Openness on Animal Research.
- They committed to developing a Concordat setting out how they would be more open about the ways in which animals are used in scientific, medical and veterinary research in the UK.
- This involved a public dialogue led by Ipsos MORI in order to find out what people in the UK think constitutes openness and transparency about animal research.

# Questions?

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Kirk Leech  
Executive Director

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