# **Special Issue**

# Everlasting Battle against Animal Cruelty: Are We Making Progress?

# Message from the Guest Editors

Animal cruelty is a social phenomenon whose extension and impact are mostly still unknown. Only a few cases are reported even if some countries have adopted animal protection laws and had law enforcement against animal abuse. Pet animals as well as livestock and horses are often the victims but in some countries, even wild animals are the target of cruel actions. Animal cruelty has multiple and developing facets, sometimes not so noticeable because it is driven by excessive anthropomorphization or justified by cultural and economic reasons. Today, we know that intentional cruelty towards animals is strongly correlated with other crimes including violence against children and women, homicides and drug trade. Sometimes animal abuse is even a sign of mental disorders in humans or it can be the sentinel of social degradation in human contexts.

# **Guest Editors**

## Dr. Simona Normando

Department of Comparative Biomedicine and Food Science, Università degli Studi di Padova, Viale dell'Università 16, Agripolis, 35020 Legnaro, PD, Italy

# Dr. Laura Contalbrigo

National Reference Centre for Animal Assisted Interventions, Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie, Viale Dell'Università 10, 35020 Legnaro, PD, Italy

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (28 February 2025)



an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.7 CiteScore 5.2 Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/158370

Animals
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
animals@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/animals





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.7 CiteScore 5.2 Indexed in PubMed



# **About the Journal**

# Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. Animals adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. Animals is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

# Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Clive J. C. Phillips

Institute of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences, Estonian University of Life Sciences, Kreutzwaldi 1, 51014 Tartu, Estonia
 Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute, Kent St., Bentley 6102, Australia

# **Author Benefits**

# **Open Access:**

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

# **High Visibility:**

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, Embase, PubAg, AGRIS, Animal Science Database, CAB Abstracts, and other databases.

# **Journal Rank:**

JCR - Q1 (Veterinary Sciences) / CiteScore - Q1 (General Veterinary)

