

MEDIA RELEASE

After the fur farming ban in Croatia, the breeders responded to the homing appeal

45 Chinchillas Rescued from the Fur Industry!

- Fosters from Zagreb, Split, Rijeka and other Croatian towns embraced the gray furry things

In carefully organized and implemented action, Animal Friends Croatia (AFC), in collaboration with the Association Mrkvica, homed 45 chinchillas! Upon the ban on breeding animals for fur, which came into force on January 1, some breeders responded to the Animal Friends Croatia's appeal, showed compassion to remaining animals and gave them for adoption. Before sentenced to death because of their fur, saved chinchillas will spend their remaining lives in the caring homes of the families in Zagreb, Split, Rijeka, and other towns.

Luka Oman, president of AFC said: "This year's fur ban was heartily welcomed by the public which waited ten long years of a transition period for the ban to be enforced. This ban saves many animals from suffering in breeding and death by gassing, neck-breaking or electrocution. Obeying the legal provision, the great majority of breeders stopped farming chinchillas long before the transition period had ended. Some of the remaining breeders now allowed them to have carefree live without fear from skinning."

Many individuals contacted Animal Friends Croatia offering chinchillas a new home. That way, 45 chinchillas got a chance for the first time in their life to leave small cages, jump, cuddle and feel the solid ground under their feet instead of grids of the cage.

Welcoming a successful homing of chinchillas, president of the largest animal rights organization in the world People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) said: "We congratulate Animal Friends Croatia and everyone who helped rescue these 45 individuals from a terrible life and a bad end. Knowing that these chinchillas were going to be killed, but now that they are going to live and be loved tips the balance back a bit from evil to good. Just looking at them enjoying life makes the very idea of buying or wearing real fur revolting."

Animal Friends Croatia and Association Mrkvica thank everyone who supported the homing action and above all the foster families who gave a lifelong care to these suffered animals. Special thanks goes to the international organizations Fur Free Alliance and PETA who for months monitored and supported the enforcing of the fur farming ban.

This is a clear NO to the killing of animals for fur. After Slovenia, Croatia and other countries, the ban on breeding of animals for fur is expected to come into force in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia as well.