

Why ANTIBULLFIGHTING?

Spain supports and subsidises cruel traditional events involving animals with huge amounts of public money. Government, territorial authorities and city halls spend thousands of euros while investment in education, research, safety, and social benefits are the lowest in Europe.

In addition to the State imposed "National Festival", i.e. bullfights, which surveys show that 70% of Spaniards are against, there are even crueller festivals with animals throughout the country. It is the people themselves, inexperienced and brutalised, who cruelly kill animals to honour the Virgin or their patron saint. Horses, donkeys, pigs, goats, turkeys, ducks, rabbits, ostriches are killed for fun, although it is bulls and young cows that fare the worst.

Note the two spears that go through the animal.



The "Toro de la Vega" held in Tordesillas (Valladolid), is one of the most barbaric. The animal is speared by a crowd of people armed with medieval spears which cause a slow painful death.

On 11 September 2005 PACMA headed the first demonstration held in Tordesillas to protest against the festival. The reception demonstrators received was quite similar to the one the bull got only a few days later. Violence causes more violence!

Extremadura's "Toro de Coria" is just as cruel; the animal is riddled with darts and sharp objects until it bleeds to death.

The "Bulls on fire" or "embolados", is another variety of torture which consists of placing huge balls of fire on the bull's horns. Sparks burn the animal's skin and eyes. Fireworks are sometimes placed on the horns as well, causing the bull to be absolutely terrified.

The "Toros ensogados" (roped bulls) or "enmaromados", are tied by their horns and violently dragged through the town streets. During the route, the bull is hit and stabbed by participants, who are sometimes children, as they unleash all their violence and aggressive feelings on the animal. Most of these bulls are then killed as the crowd looks on.



"The greatness of a nation and its level of civilisation and moral progress can be measured by how its animals are treated". (Mahatma Gandhi)

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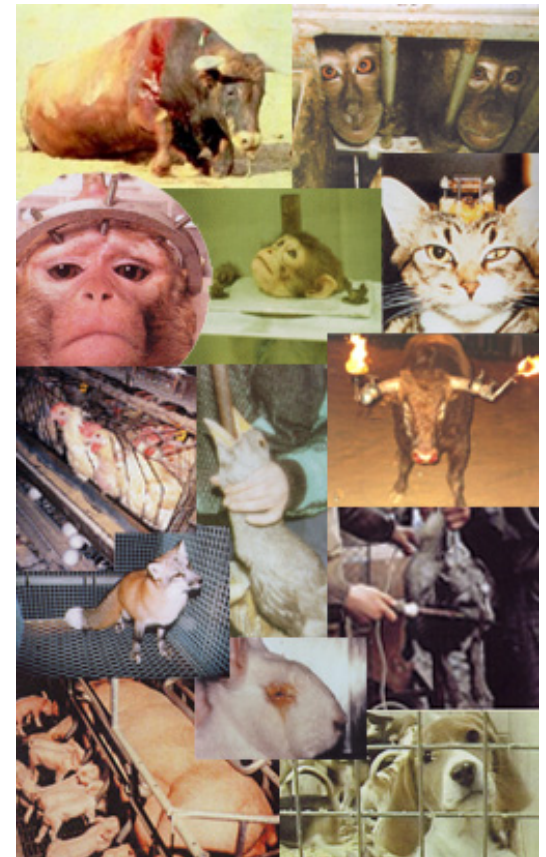
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Partido Antitaurino Contra el Maltrato Animal
Party Against Bullfighting Cruelty and Mistreatment to Animals

The party that defends the rights of all animals

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Join PACMA and help us fight for animal rights!



The political party that defends ALL animal rights.

Animals can't wait any longer. They deserve better.

What is PACMA?

PACMA (*Party Against Bullfighting, Cruelty and Mistreatment to Animals*), is a nationwide party formed from the union of different animal protection groups all over Spain.

In view of the horrible suffering animals in our country are subjected to (the worst in the EU), and the total lack of concern shown by government to date, we set out on this new path to defend animal rights.

Our goals include: **drawing up new animal protection laws, monitoring that existing laws are enforced and fostering education about universal respect for all living beings, including animals.** We firmly believe that these steps would improve society as a whole and help us to approach the levels of civilisation and moral progress in other more advanced European nations.

PACMA ran in the 2004 elections for the Senate. Our aim was to allow citizens to cast the third vote for animal rights without having to renounce voting for the party of their choice. (Three options can be marked on Senate ballots).

Our electoral campaign was extremely modest and the budget was practically nonexistent. However, the work and dedication from our representatives in the 16 provinces where we managed to present candidates yielded very satisfactory results. We were the second extra-parliamentary group in the final tally and the experience reinforced our commitment to continue fighting for animal rights and for a fairer society for all.

		PORCENTAJE DE VOTOS	NUM. DE VOTOS
CATALUNYA	BARCELONA	0.76 %	23.132 votos
	TARRAGONA	0.52 %	1.532 votos
CM. VALENCIANA	ALICANTE	0.56 %	4.776 votos
	VALENCIA	0.33 %	4.782 votos
ANDALUCIA	SEVILLA	0.36 %	4.124 votos
	CADIZ	0.59 %	3.777 votos
	HUELVA	0.33 %	891 votos
MADRID	MADRID	0.24 %	8.775 votos
EUSKADI	BIZKAIA	0.31 %	2.136 votos
	GUIPUSCOA	0.47 %	1.747 votos
	ALAVA	0.80 %	1.431 votos
CASTILLA Y LEÓN	VALLADOLID	0.54 %	1.888 votos
	BURGOS	0.42 %	1.013 votos
CANTABRIA	CANTABRIA	0.54 %	2.036 votos
NAVARRA	NAVARRA	0.48 %	1.660 votos
CANARIAS	CANARIAS	0.19 %	798 votos
NUMERO TOTAL DE VOTOS			64.947 votos

Total number of votes without including votes by post from abroad.

The number of PACMA members and representatives is still growing. If you want to improve the situation of animals in our country, join the party and vote PACMA!

Why PACMA?

PACMA's name and logo refer to the torture bulls suffer as emblematic mistreatment in Spain. However, our objectives focus on ALL animals, since they all need urgent help.

Thousands of animals are abandoned each year, the result of our society's lack of responsibility and widespread negligence. Many others are abused and tortured to death while authorities and Government look on impassively. No solutions are sought, no efforts are made to eradicate the causes and no information is offered if steps are taken. The problem is growing worse as there is an increasing number of citizens who can no longer tolerate this cruelty.

Animal Shelters are full up, receiving no government aid or financial help. The majority work with the sheer effort and dedication of small groups of people who do what they can so most of these centres offer very poor conditions. They do not foster adoption or make people aware of the need to sterilise their pets so that no new litters are born, perpetuating the cycle of too many animals and not enough good homes, resulting in abandoned pets.

Uncontrolled trade and sale of animals continue to take place, and private individuals often offer young animals irresponsibly on any street corner or square, making any possibility of control to avoid overpopulation extremely difficult.

However, city dog pounds receive public money and are more expensive to run than shelters. Animals in pounds live in very poor conditions and end up being put down after only a few days without having any opportunity for adoption.

The same thing happens with urban colonies of cats and pigeons, which are cruelly exterminated by government authorities that fail to control these populations by sterilisation, recommended by the WHO as much more effective and cheaper in the long run than massive extermination.

Nor are the existing scientific alternatives fostered to replace cruel experiments with animals, which are both unnecessary and ineffective as has been demonstrated by some drugs which have proven to be deadly for man and harmless to animals. And this practice continues in spite of the fact that most of the experiments are carried out for the cosmetic and defence industry rather than medicine.

The fashion of wearing unnecessary fur coats boosts hunting and fur farms where animals live in horrifying conditions and are put to death with extremely cruel methods like electrocution, gas or poisoning to avoid damaging their skins.

The ways in which animals to be used as food live and die is also hair-raising. There is absolutely no concern for improving their situation and decreasing overconsumption of animal products. The public should be informed about the benefits and possibilities of vegetarian diets, which are much healthier and more ethical for the population.

PACMA electoral programme (Summarised)

• LEGISLATION

- Draw up new laws on animal protection.
- Classify animal mistreatment as a criminal offence in the Penal Code, with prison sentences for offenders.
- Animals should legally be allowed to access public transport.
- Foresee punishment banning offenders from having animals in cases of abandoned animals, killing or cruelty.

• AWARENESS AND CREATION OF AGENCIES.

- Create an agency, office or department for defence of animal rights. Permanent campaigns to make the public aware.
- Develop an Educational Plan based on respect for animals.

• PUBLIC SPECTACLES.

- Total ban on public festivals with animals.
- Ban on circuses with animals, zoos, delphin pools and aquariums.
- Abolish bullfights. Discontinue subsidies for this purpose.
- Declare antibullfighting cities and animal friendly cities.

• BAN THE USE OF ANIMALS IN COMPETITIONS.

- Ban on existing competitions, greater difficulty to renew permits with stricter conditions.
- Licence for hunting and fishing.
- Veto on any type of campaign or course, etc. that encourages hunting and fishing.
- Police control of hunters demonstrating improper behaviour (abandoning dogs, hunting protected species, poaching, environmental pollution).

• FURS.

- Shut down fur farms. Tax the fur industry and related goods. Ban all fur advertising. The animal trade.
- Absolute ban on animals in shop windows, which favours impulse buying.
- Strict control on the animal sales and breeding. Ban travelling sales of animals. Veto any action to make pets a trend.

• DOGS, CATS AND PIGEONS.

- Control colonies of street cats by sterilising.
- Control pigeons by feeding them substances to make them sterile.
- Dog and cat shelters should be in top condition, with ongoing campaigns against abandoning pets.
- Obligatory identification and sterilisation of pets.
- Police persecution for dog fights. Prison sentences and make offenders liable with their property.
- Ban dogs being tied up for life.

• EXPERIMENTS

- Immediate stop to experiments with animals.
- Subsidise research that does not make use of animals and findings that allow other methods to be used.

• LIVESTOCK.

- Return to extensive livestock practices. No intensive breeding.
- Continuous campaigns to encourage less meat and animal product consumption. Promotion of vegetarian diets.
- Information campaigns about foie gras, which entails extreme cruelty for production.
- Transport that minimises anxiety and pain.