

Animal Law Worldwide

Federico Dalpane · Maria Baideldinova
Editors

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Key Issues and Main Trends Across 27
Jurisdictions



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Preface

The contributions collected in this book report on the state of animal law and its implementation in 27 world jurisdictions: Belgium, Bolivia, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, India, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and Uzbekistan. The authors, prominent legal experts and activists, discuss a wide range of animals ranging from wild animals to pets, from experimentation animals to farm animals, to service animals.

The contributions offer a differentiated picture of the relationship of animals with the law. Whatever the issues, which are most topical in each jurisdiction, however, and whatever the authors' specific interests and methodological approaches, the contributions share the fundamental assumptions that animals have intrinsic value and dignity, and must therefore be shielded from human greed and cruelty; and that the law, that age-old instrument, alternately, of human domination and of human liberation, is due for a robust updating in light of new scientific knowledge and new ethical concerns about animals.

To paraphrase a great philosopher, then, the emergence of animal law is the lawyers' leaving their self-incurred blindness about animals. It is part of a wider effort against humanity's self-serving refusal to acknowledge animal sentience and against our deliberate ignorance of the plight of billions of creatures under our direct or indirect control. First of all, however, it is a burgeoning field of legal scholarship, having the potential to innovate on many branches of the law ranging from constitutional, to civil, to administrative, to criminal, to tourism, to international law, family law, and other. We believe that the contributions collected in this book perfectly exemplify this potential, and indeed the maturity of this field of legal scholarship. The book

will be of keen interest to legal comparatists, legal theorists, activists, policy makers, judges, attorneys-at-law, law enforcement officials, veterinary doctors, and of course to the worldwide animal law community. May the recommendations formulated by the authors receive prompt and effective implementation.

Almaty, Kazakhstan
May 2024

Federico Dalpane
Maria Baideldinova

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