

I wholeheartedly support the phase out of live sheep exports now! I applaud Labor's promise at the last election.

Animals must be spared from the daily stresses of sea transport and the possibility of being fully conscious when slaughtered in importing countries.

Along with many other Australians, I want certainty that this trade will end and that the phase-out be legislated and commence in THIS term of parliament. And furthermore that it begins and ends **as soon as possible**.

I would support farmers receiving government support to help them to transition out of this inhumane practice.

Our neighbour, New Zealand, has taken the right step in banning live animal export by sea and I trust Australia will be close behind in doing the same. We are a compassionate and caring people.

As **Mahatma Gandhi** reminds us, *"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way in which its animals are treated."*

And as **Djalma Gomes**, Brazilian Federal Court Judge, recently states, "Animals are not things. They are sentient living beings, that is, individuals who feel hunger, thirst, pain, cold, anguish, fear..." Thank you for reading my submission.

Best regards  
Ramona Headifen

