



speaker/president: **Davorko Feil**

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«Zivot» («Life») Society For Protection of Animals was founded in Osijek in 1998.

It was the first professional Animal Welfare NGO in Croatia and the whole region that based it's animal care on the principles of humanity and opened the crucial question about creating a legislative by which animal welfare would be under the jurisdiction of the state and with permanent monitoring by the NGO's.

Since the year 2000, “Zivot” has been managing it's own Shelter for abandond dogs with about 250 dogs per day.

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When comparing the situation in the EU and Croatia, we are still behind in animal welfare but there are some bright changes:

- regulation on bordercrossing traffic and trade on protected species,

- EU directive on Commercial import of seal skins, skin products and other products made from seals,

- Regulative on ways of keeping and marking protected animals in captivity,



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- the new Animal protection Law (starting from 1.1.2007) which is the result of lobbying from the “Zivot” NGO and “Animal Friends” aswell as Animal Liberation,

Draft of the new Law however isn't good enough because it still treats animals as things instead of living creatures that can feel fear, suffering, pain, hunger, thirst, joy, sorrow, need for care, home and company.

Only some vertebrates are included in the law.



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- In 1999 we joined RSCPA which enabled us to gain financial aid in order to open the Shelter for abandoned dogs in Osijek,



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Important facts about “Život” NGO

-in 2000 we became a member of WSPA and with their help we organized the first national campaign against breeding animals for fur with an emphasis on chincillas and the Chincilla company from Cakovec as well as fur shops in Zagreb and farms in Osijek and Brod.

-In this campaign many other NGO's joined us like Prijatelji životinja and also many citizens. Result of this campaign was the implementation of the EU directive on ways of killing chincillas with gas instead of twisting their necks.



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Important facts about “Zivot” NGO

That same year (2000) we undertook an international campaign in order to stop the Gartner circus to import two Asian elephants from the Croatian Briuni national park.

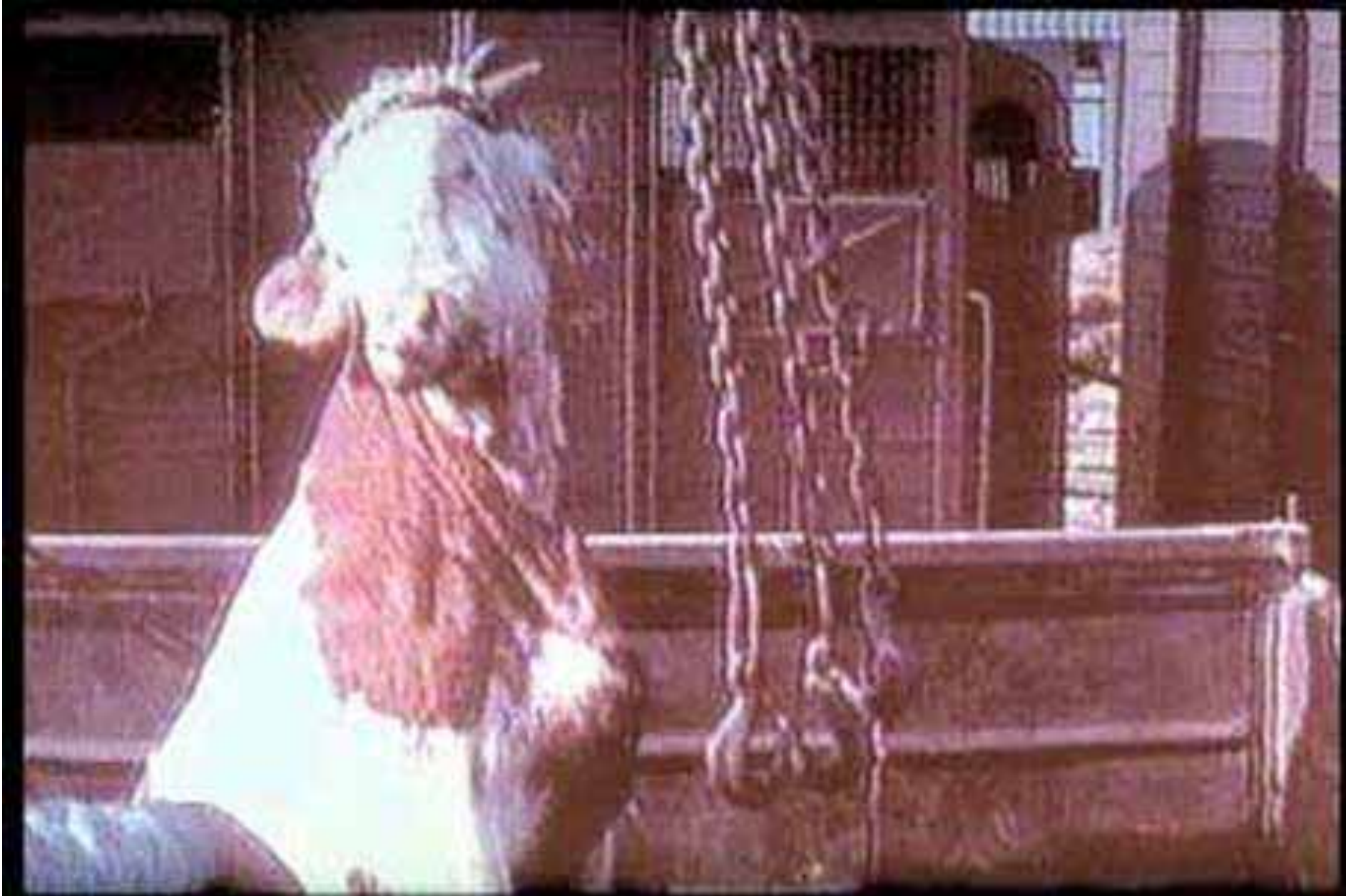


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Important facts about “Zivot” NGO

- in 2001 we participated in the international East European Coalition for Farm Animals in a campaign that took place in all countries between Lithuania and Italy. That campaign was completed with the help from the Regional Environmental Center, CIWF and Animals Angels.



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Important facts about “Zivot” NGO

- In 2002 the local authorities in Osijek tried to bring two elephants from Sri Lanka to the Osijek ZOO but with the help from WSPA and Born free NGO's we managed to stop that.

We also gain help from the authorities in charge from India, Sri Lanka and Croatia.



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Important facts about “Zivot” NGO

-in 2003 and 2004 we concentrated our capacities and finances into our Shelter for abandoned dogs in Osijek which was built in 2000 with the help from the city government which gave us the land for building.

-The Shelter was built for 50 dogs per day but now we are coping with as much as 250 dogs per day which is completely unadequate.

-The local authorities are not showing almost any intention for helping us even though they are obligated by Law (Veterinary law) to do so, or build a new shelter.



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Important facts about “Zivot” NGO

-in 2005 we became member of SSN and organized a transfer of 8 wolves from Rijeka ZOO to the Osijek ZOO, State wild life refuge in Brod and Bioparco in Rome



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Important facts about “Zivot” NGO

Apart from our work in the east Croatian counties we are active in national campaigns for protection and salvation of animals:

- in 2005 we campaigned to save dogs from the laboratory of the Veterinary faculty in Zagreb



- That same year we also held a campaign against the use of animals in circuses together with the Prijatelji zivotinja NGO from Zagreb





- and undertook an on-field fight against the uncivilized way of destroying birds potentially infected with avian flu.



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Important facts about “Zivot” NGO

- in 2006 our campaigns were and are directed into education of citizens about the new Animal protection law

- Also much of our work will be directed into our co-operation with the SSN and CEEWEB working group.

