



Greece

Identification and registration

Dogs

Permanent identification of **dogs** as soon as possible after birth is compulsory. Identification must be by microchip. Once microchipped, dogs must be registered in the national database.

Cats

Permanent identification of **cats** is compulsory as soon as possible after birth. Once microchipped, cats must be registered in the national database.

There is one **national database** for both dogs and cats managed by the Ministry of Agriculture. From 2023, there will be a wider database managed by the Ministry of Digital Government. The database is not linked to an EU-wide database.

Microchipping of dogs and cats is regulated insofar as only veterinarians can perform the insertion.

Regulation of breeding

Dog breeders

All **dog breeders** must be registered in the Government's database and licensed. Breeding establishments must comply with the rules on animal welfare, safety rules and rules on providing adequate veterinary care.

Cat breeders

All **cat breeders** must be registered in the Government's database and licensed. Breeding establishments must comply with the rules on animal welfare, safety rules and rules on providing adequate veterinary care.

There is currently no publicly-available **database** of breeders. The Sub-Register of Professional and Amateur Breeders will be operational in 2023.

Although **inspections** are compulsory, there is no competent authority assigned to inspect. For amateur breeders (two litters of dogs or one litter of cats per year), inspections are to be conducted by breeding associations.

Legislation prohibits the **breeding** of dogs and cats whose anatomical and physiological or behavioural attributes may prove to be harmful for the health and well-being of the breeding female and her offspring.

There is a compulsory **code of practice** for breeding dogs, but not for cats. The code focuses on reproduction standards, including the age at which a female dog can give birth and the wait period between litters.

Sales and advertising

Dog and cat traders

The minimum age at which **puppies** and **kittens** can be sold is 12 weeks.

It is prohibited to sell dogs or cats in **shops, markets or on the street**.

All dog and cat **traders** must be **registered** and **licensed** and comply with education and training requirements. They must comply with the rules on animal welfare, safety rules and rules on providing adequate veterinary care.

Surgical operations to modify the appearance of dogs and cats or for other non-curative purposes (e.g. tail docking, ear cropping, devocalisation, declawing) are prohibited, with no exemptions.

Online advertisements for pets for sale can only be posted by the breeder and must include the animal's microchip number, its date and place of birth, place of residence, sex, breed, vaccinations, approval number and full name of the breeder, and pedigree certificate (if certified pedigree).

Legislation: New framework for the welfare of pets; Simplification of the framework for conducting economic activities; Law on companion animals and stray animals and the protection of animals from being exploited or used for profit