



Animal Welfare
Situation in Dog
Breeding in Germany





Overview



- Legal Situation in Germany
- Situation in VDH
- Current strategies

ICEC Dogs – Animal Welfare Germany



Legal Situation



German Legislation



Animal Welfare Act

- Federal Law
- Covers various areas of animal welfare (including animal breeding, § 11b)
- Applies to all animal species
- Prohibits breeding if hereditary pain, suffering or harm has to be expected in the offspring

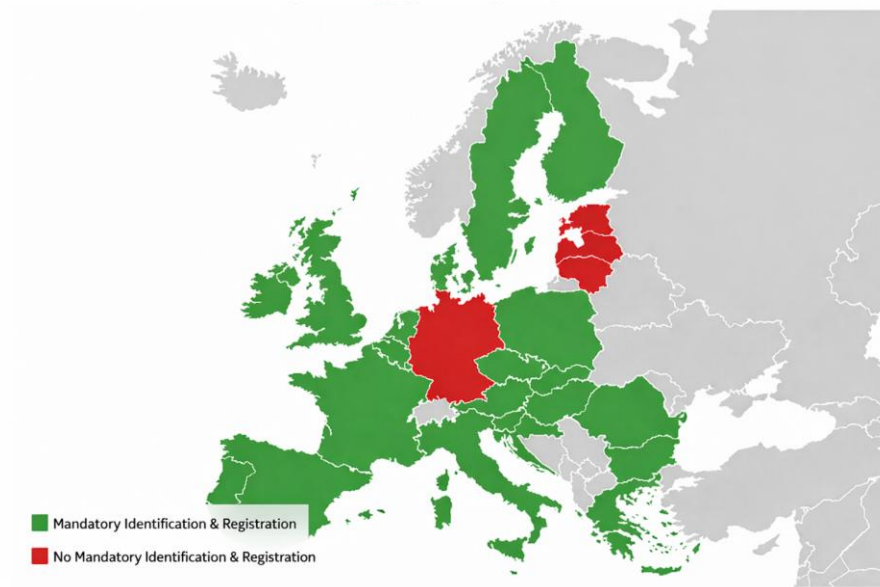
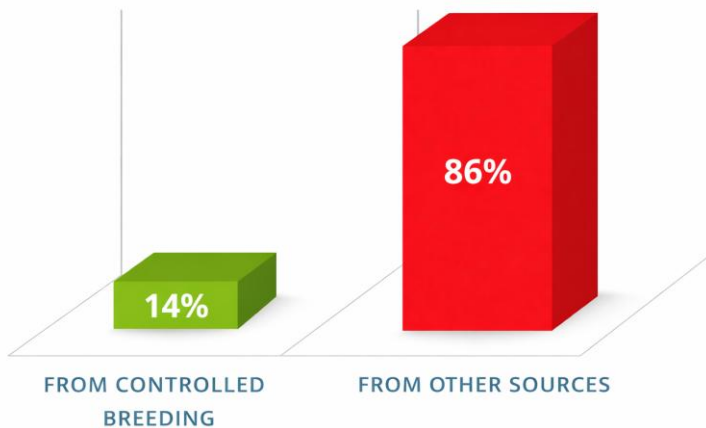
Animal Welfare Dog Ordinance

- Rules for
 1. Keeping Dogs
 2. Dog Events (§ 10)
- Prohibits showing of dogs with characteristics related to hereditary pain, suffering or harm

German Legislation

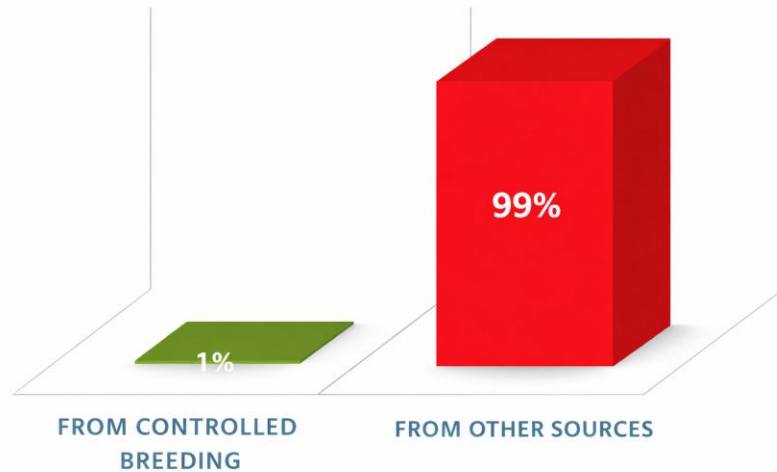


Dogs in Germany





French Bulldogs in Germany



Torture Breeding in Labradors?!

Torture Breeding Characteristic	Recommended Enforcement Measure
Entropion	
Ectropion	
PRA	Genetic Testing
Canine Ceroid Lipofuscinosis	Genetic Testing
Copper Storage Disease	Genetic Testing
Cystinuria	
Craniomandibular Osteopathy	Genetic Testing
Chondrodystrophy, Chondrodysplasia	Genetic Testing
Hip Displasia	X-Ray



Guidelines PG-AGT – current Version:

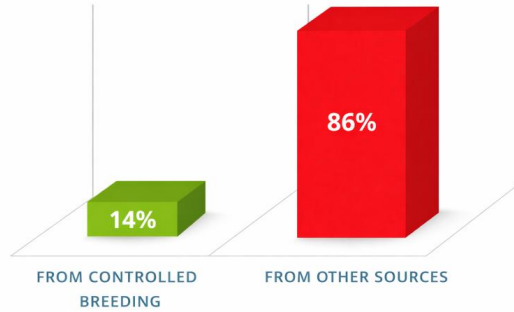
slightly improved, still very problematic

- Contain medical and genetic **mistakes**
- Demand mandatory **examinations for clinically healthy dogs**
- include **potentially harmful procedures** (MRI, electrodiagnostics, biopsies)
- **Pose a risk to controlled breeding in Germany**

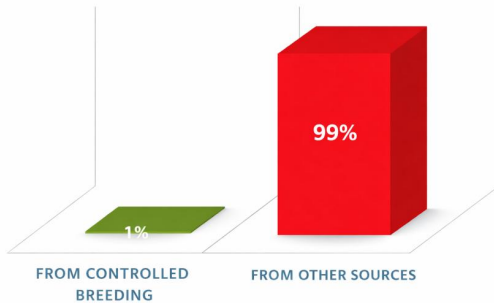
German Legislation



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French Bulldogs in Germany



Rules for Dog shows largely ineffective, no effective actions taken to address uncontrolled dog breeding and illegal puppy trade

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Situation in VDH



- extensive breed-specific health examinations for breeding within the VDH for many years
- close cooperation with veterinary specialist societies
- mandatory implementation of the University of Cambridge Respiratory Function Grading Scheme
- comprehensive databases of examination results demonstrating that breeding strategies are effective



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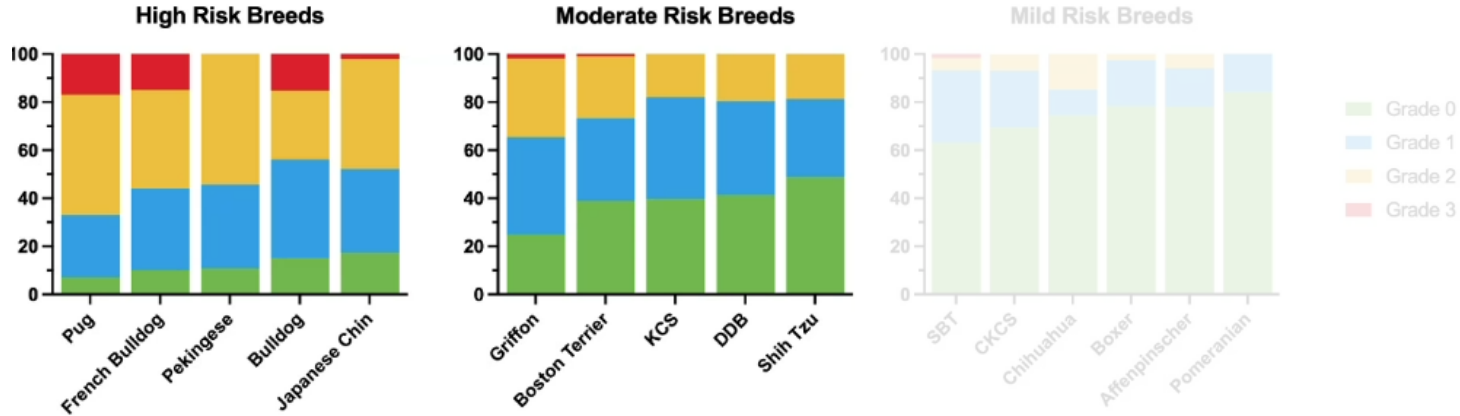


**Current Strategies in
controlled breeding**



- Continuation of mandatory health examinations in dog breeding
- Adaptation of breeding programs to new scientific findings

Brachycephaly



¹ Liu NC, Adams VJ, Kalmar L, Ladlow JF, Sargan DR. Whole-Body Barometric Plethysmography Characterizes Upper Airway Obstruction

Image source: Tomlinson et al., A cross-sectional study into the prevalence and conformational risk factors of BOAS across fourteen brachycephalic dog breeds; PLOS ONE (2026), Licensed under CC BY 4.0.

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Vielen Dank für die Aufmerksamkeit!

