

Directive 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and of the  
Council of 22 September 2010 on the protection of animals  
used for scientific purposes (Text with EEA relevance)

CHAPTER I

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

*Article 4*

**Principle of replacement, reduction and refinement**

- 1 Member States shall ensure that, wherever possible, a scientifically satisfactory method or testing strategy, not entailing the use of live animals, shall be used instead of a procedure.
- 2 Member States shall ensure that the number of animals used in projects is reduced to a minimum without compromising the objectives of the project.
- 3 Member States shall ensure refinement of breeding, accommodation and care, and of methods used in procedures, eliminating or reducing to the minimum any possible pain, suffering, distress or lasting harm to the animals.
- 4 This Article shall, in the choice of methods, be implemented in accordance with Article 13.