Annotated Outline

**Introduction**

**Thesis:** Zoonotic diseases are diseases that emerge from animals and can be harmful to human health. Many zoonotic diseases emerge from wildlife trade markets that are breeding grounds for harmful diseases. There have been many zoonotic diseases that have emerged from wildlife trade such as swine flu, Ebola, bird flu and more specifically COVID-19. It is believed COVID-19 emerged from the wildlife trade in China due to the unsanitary conditions and practices in the market. Therefore, there is a call for a ban on wildlife trade and or stricter government regulation. After careful research, it is clear that COVID-19 emerged from the wildlife trade in china, and there needs to be a ban or call for stricter government regulation on wildlife trade.

1. **COVID-19 and the wildlife trade**
2. **Wildlife trade issues that lead to zoonotic diseases**
3. Safety precautions and Sanitation measures

- “live meat markets are perfect laboratories for creating new viruses. Stressed animals shed more viruses and are more susceptible to infections, and cages are often stacked on top of each other, facilitating exposure” (Aguirre AA, Catherina R, Frye H, Shelley L., 2020).

- “Diverse groups of wild animals are collected in wild animal wet markets across Asia, particularly southeastern and eastern Asia often transported over large distances and crammed together into cages” (Perveen N, Muzaffar SB, Al-Deeb MA, 2020).

- “Markets that sell wildlife illegally and without food handling biosafety measures, are considered high-risk sites for the emergence of zoonotic diseases, since they increase the likelihood that pathogens will jump hosts and infect humans” (Córdoba-Aguilar A, Ibarra-Cerdeña CN, Castro-Arellano I, Suzan G., 2020).

1. **Emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases**
2. Animal and human interactions
* “The disease COVID-19 is caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2, which is a zoonosis that is likely acquired by the consumption of wild animals for food and/or the interaction between residents of rural areas and the wild animals in those areas” (Córdoba-Aguilar A, Ibarra-Cerdeña CN, Castro-Arellano I, Suzan G., 2020).
1. Probability of animal carrying a pathogen
* “The virus responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic, were among the wildlife species sold and killed in a live-animal market in Wuhan, where many of the initial COVID-19 cases were associated” (Morcatty TQ, Feddema K, Nekaris KAI, Nijman V., 2021).
1. **Zoonotic diseases from wildlife trade**
2. HIV
* “The hunting and the butchering of non-human primates led to the major pandemic of HIV” (Halbwax M., 2020).
1. SARS
* “We demonstrate how local biodiversity loss and increasing rates of animal trafficking and trade may increase the probability of global epidemics such as SARS” (Swift L, Hunter PR, Lees AC, Bell DJ., 2007)
1. **COVID-19 and Chinese wildlife trade**
2. Tradition

- “These markets are prevalent because consumers view wet markets as fresher, not expensive, and providing rare types of creatures that serve as status symbols or are believed to possess unique healing elements” (Aguirre AA, Catherina R, Frye H, Shelley L., 2020).

- “As a result of the recent episodes of animal virus transmission to humans, wet markets, popular in China (e.g., in Wuhan) that offer wild animals for consumption and for their use in traditional medicine have become the cause of intense international debate on zoonoses” (Halabowski D, Rzymski P., 2020).

1. **Regulations and ban of wildlife trade**
2. New legislation in China
* “The wave of new wildlife legislation in China is a major opportunity to mitigate the risks of future epidemic outbreaks of zoonotic disease within the global community and advance wildlife biodiversity conservation in China” (Fang G, Song Q., 2020)”.
* “The revised law has the potential to change the prospect of wild animals, not only in China but worldwide, a variety of challenges still exist” (Fang G, Song Q., 2020).
* “At the brink of the global coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the Chinese legislature adopted a decision to ban all terrestrial wildlife for food consumption. This decision set the tone for the revision of the Wildlife Protection Law (WPL), planned for release in late 2020” (Huang Q, Wang F, Yang H, Valitutto M, Songer M., 2021).
1. Ban of wildlife trade and consumption
* (The bad result of banning wildlife trade)“If banning wild meat trade and consumption was likely to prevent future pandemics, some might argue that the potential social and economic impacts would be unfortunate but necessary collateral damage” ( Roe D, Lee TM, 2021).
* “The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, at the brink of the global coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, adopted a decision to ban farming, trading, and consumption of all terrestrial wildlife for food consumption” (Huang Q, Wang F, Yang H, Valitutto M, Songer M., 2021).
* “Most of the early patients developing the acute pneumonia caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus had been exposed to wildlife and livestock in that market” (Huang Q, Wang F, Yang H, Valitutto M, Songer M., 2021).

**Conclusion**

 Wildlife trade in China is responsible for COVID-19 and has been responsible for other zoonotic diseases as well such as HIV and SARS. The wildlife trade negatively affects human health due to unsanitary conditions and lack of safety precautions. With this, the wildlife trade is a breeding ground for diseases. As a response, there needs to be stricter regulations in place and an overall ban on wildlife trade to prevent future pandemics.