



CAP Reform 2020 – An Opportunity for European Democracy

Civil society meets European institutions

19 September 2012, European Parliament, Brussels

For the first time, a joint decision will be taken by the **European Parliament** and the **Council of the European Union** on the future Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). With Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) being elected by European citizens and the Council comprising Europe's national agriculture ministers, the opportunity for civil society to enter into the debate and call for a more democratic, fair and green CAP has never been greater. Our conference intends to provide an opportunity for an open exchange of views between civil society and representatives from European institutions at a crucial moment in the debate on the future of the CAP.

The conference will be held at the European Parliament in Brussels under the patronage of the **President of the European Parliament, Martin Schulz**. It will be opened by a keynote speech from **Dacian Cioloş, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development**. He will be followed by a **representative from the Cyprus Presidency of the Council (tbc)**, as well as **Carlo Petrini, President of Slow Food**.

Further contributions will come from Members of the European Parliament, the **Agriculture and Rural Convention (ARC2020)** and **participants in the Good Food March**. Starting on 25th August in Munich, farmers, citizens and young people from across Europe will travel to Brussels by foot, bicycle or tractor, taking part in events, actions and initiatives demanding good food and good farming along the way.

Programme – Wednesday 19th September, 2012

14.00-15.00

Registration of participants (Place du Luxembourg entrance)

15.00-15.30

Session 1 – Opening and keynote speeches

15.00-15.10

Welcome from the President of the Parliament, **Martin Schulz**

15.10-15.20

Keynote speech by **Dacian Cioloş**, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development

15.20-15.30

Keynote speech by a representative of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council (tbc)

Video message from **Olivier De Schutter**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to food

15.30-16.30

Session 2 – Civil society: main demands and concrete proposals

Civil society's key demands and proposals for CAP reform that guarantees fair farm prices in the South and in the North, environmentally sustainable farm practices, healthy food and a sound development of rural regions. Several areas of concern will be addressed by speakers from civil society organizations and Good Food March participants, who will focus on the most pressing issues:

- Regulating food markets and ensuring fair prices for farmers and consumers.
- Supporting sustainable farming and linking subsidies directly to social, environmental and animal welfare criteria.
- Strengthening the sustainable economic development of rural areas including the protection of landscapes and ecosystems and the promotion of cultural and culinary heritage.
- Attaining a stronger coherence of EU policies at a global level, ensuring a holistic approach towards food security, global land use, climate and food justice.

Conclusions: "A real paradigm shift" – Slow Food President **Carlo Petrini**

16.30-17.45

Session 3 – CAP reform and European democracy

Plenary panel discussion with the European Parliament

The last session will be devoted to a fair and open dialogue between civil society and their Members of Parliament on the most urgent issues highlighted during the previous session. How can their demands be met?

The key proposals made by the rapporteurs of the Agricultural and Rural Committee on CAP reform will be summarized by the session moderator (Benny Haerlin, Foundation for Future Farming).

Reactions – panelists

Paolo De Castro, chair

President of the European Parliament Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Michel Dantin

Rapporteur for single Common Market Organisation regulation, European Parliament Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Giovanni La Via

Rapporteur for horizontal and financial regulation, European Parliament Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Karin Kadenbach

Rapporteur for the European Parliament Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

17.45-18.00 – Closing remarks



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