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What's on next week?

- **1-2 October:** CEJA [working group](#)
- **1 October:** Special Committee on Agriculture [meeting](#)
- **3 October:** CEJA presentation at Wageningen University
- **3-4 October:** ASAJA congress
- **5 October:** CDG Direct Payments & Greening

REGISTER!

- **12 October:** "Grow Your Own Entrepreneur Conference"; Deadline to register is 30 September
- **22 October:** Staff Workshop; Deadline to [register](#) is 1 October
- **3-4 December:** CEJA's 60th anniversary celebration; Deadline to [register](#) is 31 October

See below for additional event information

Dear member organisations,

CEJA would like to invite you to the **"Grow Your Own Entrepreneur" conference** on **12 October** (9:00 - 15:00) at the University of Warsaw's School of Economics in **Warsaw, Poland**.

Organised as part of the [Creating Entrepreneurs in Food project](#), the main focus of the event is to address the demand for **innovation and entrepreneurship** within Europe's agri-food sector.

The CEF project outputs will be presented. These promote and support those involved in **short food supply chains** by providing them with **entrepreneurial work-based training** and collaborative opportunities.

Speakers include **CEJA Vice President Tomáš Ignác Fénix** and **former CEJA President Matteo Bartolini**.

€100 will be reimbursed to the first 10 registered participants from CEJA not based in Poland.

Interested in attending? Send an email to allusers@ceja.eu by **30 September**.

What's new with CEJA?

Informal Council in Schloss Hof, Austria



25 September: Agriculture and fisheries ministers gathered in Schloss Hof, Austria, for an [Informal Council](#) meeting to discuss the future CAP and the

need to ensure high food quality along with vibrant rural areas.

CEJA President, Jannes Maes was also present and addressed the ministers directly. In his [speech](#), stating, “it is up to all of us as a community in Europe to make sure that those in rural areas have the same view of the future, the same opportunities as their urban colleagues, especially for young people.”

He insisted on a **greater budget for young farmers** in the CAP, more risk management tools, a stronger definition of active farmer and access to 21st Century technologies for those in rural areas.

At the meeting, agriculture ministers also argued that the **role of producers** in the value chain must be strengthened.

CEJA's press release about the event is available [here](#).

Activities of our Vice Presidents

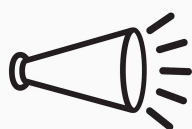


24 & 25 September: Parallel to the Informal Council, the [12th European Organic Congress](#) took place in Vienna. The new organic regulations, as well as the CAP reform, were discussed through panel discussions and lectures. CEJA Vice President, Tomáš Ignác Fénix, was a panellist during the opening plenary titled **Fair Play and Fair Pay for a more sustainable European agricultural and food system**.

CEJA Vice President, Iris Bouwers, presented at two events as part of [European Biotech Week](#). The first was titled **Digital and Precision farming for farmers and smart villages**. The second was a workshop in the European Parliament to

discuss **innovation in agriculture**. She emphasised how important technology and innovation are to **propelling agriculture into the 21st century**.

Calls & Opportunities



- The European Commission is inviting stakeholders to complete a [questionnaire](#) on **market transparency in the agri-food supply chain** addressed to undertakings and specific organisations. The one addressed to consumers can be found [here](#). For both, the **deadline has been extended to 14 October**.
- The [GROW Observatory](#), an **EU Horizon 2020 project**, is looking for participants. Successful applicants could receive up to €100,000 of funding to develop their idea for six months. The **deadline for applications is 2 October**.

What's happening in the EU?

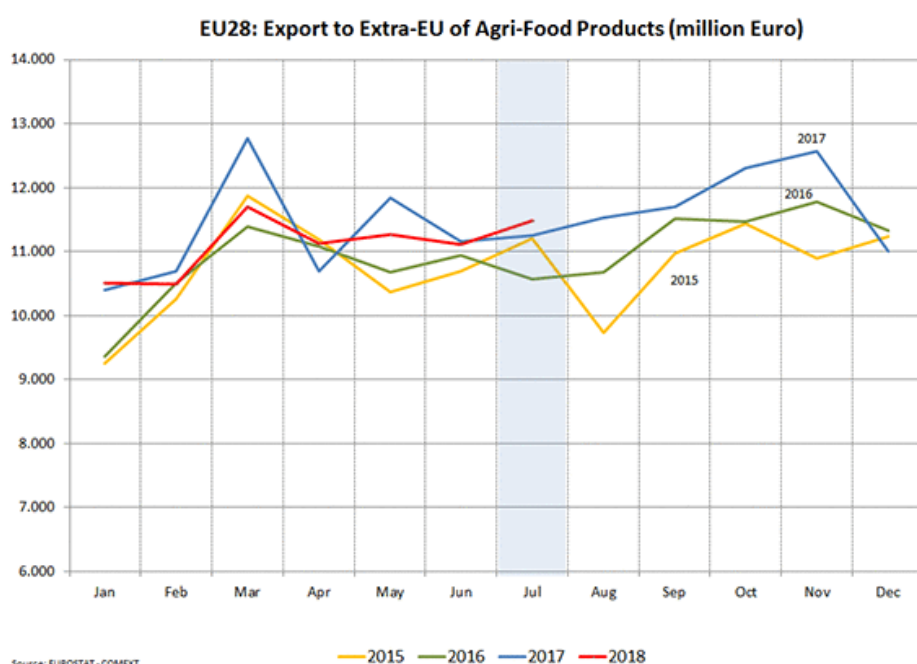
COMAGRI meeting on the economics of UTPs





24 September: At this week's COMAGRI meeting, the chief economist at [DG Competition](#), Professor Tommaso Valletti, [presented](#) to MEPs the economic impact of the proposal in question on **farmers, processors, retailers and consumers**.

EU agri-food exports continue to perform well



25 September: The European Commission [published](#) its latest monthly [trade report](#), from July 2018. According to this report, the **value of exports was 2% higher** compared to July of 2017. In other words, the agri-food trade surplus increased by 15%. The highest increases in export values were to Libya, Singapore, and Japan. Exports to China fell by the largest amount. Export products that are **increasing** include wine and spirits, and wheat and cereals. Export products that are **decreasing** include rawhide, milk powder and vegetables.

Slaughter of 4,000 pigs ordered in Belgium

25 September: Belgian Federal Minister Denis Ducarme, ordered the slaughter of around 4,000 pigs to control the potential spread of African Swine Fever (ASF) on the territory and further afield. **No pigs have been affected** yet. Controlling

the highly contagious viral disease is going to take significant biosecurity measures, the costs of which may be offset by funding by the Commission of up to 50%. The location of the outbreak is so far contained in **Étalle**, in southern Belgium.

EESC calls for budget of at least 1.3% of GNI



19 September: The President of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), Luca Jahier, called for a **more ambitious budget proposal of 1.3% of GNI**. Budget Commissioner Günther Oettinger, however, insisted that budget cuts were inevitable due to Brexit and Member States' unwillingness to contribute more.

Photo of the week!





During the Informal Council in Austria, CEJA had the pleasure of spending part of the day with the AgrarThinkTank!

Civil Dialogue Groups

CDG and MO documents available

The **documents and presentations** concerning all the CDGs that CEJA experts attend are available on the European Commission's website to view and download. You can access all the CDG documents and presentations divided according to sector using this [link](#).

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