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What's on next week?

- **1-2 April:** [COMAGRI](#)
- **2 April:** Jeunes Agriculteurs visit
- **3 April:** Crops Market Observatory
- **3-4 April:** ASAJA Congress
- **5 April:** CDG Fruits & Vegetables

What's new with CEJA?

CEJA young farmer speed dating and working group on 8-9 April



EU YOUNG FARMER SPEED DATING

Join us to discuss our EU elections manifesto and enjoy a farmers' picnic.

When?

8 April (12:00 - 14:00)

Where?

Garden of the Museum of Natural Sciences
(entrance via Parc Léopold)
29 Rue Vautier, 1000 Brussels

D © Grinn unter ruhbar hotel



1. 10. 2019 10:00 - 12:00

RSVP to allusers@ceja.eu by 3 April



CEJA's next working group will take place on **8 and 9 April in Brussels**. [Here](#) is the draft agenda. It will be combined with a “**Young Farmer Speed Dating**” event in which delegates will have the opportunity to meet **candidates for the European elections** and discuss issues that are the most important to them.

Make sure you [register](#) before 1 April!

CEJA publishes press release before next week's COMAGRI vote

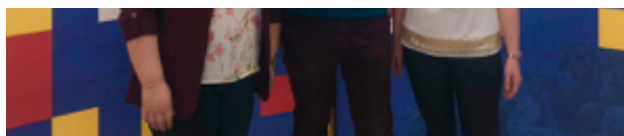


29 March: CEJA published a [press release](#) in light of next week's **COMAGRI vote on the CAP Strategic Plans report**. The document says that **little has been done to fulfill the future CAP's generational renewal objective** and calls on MEPs not to leave young farmers behind.

Read CEJA's note on the **state of play of generational renewal in the CAP reform** [here](#) and the list of **compromise amendments** [here](#).

CEJA President in Bucharest





27-29 March: CEJA President Jannes Maes attended the **EU Youth Dialogue** meeting in Bucharest, Romania, where discussions centred around the increase of youth adaptability to the **challenges posed by the future of work** and preparations for the **special focus on rural youth** under the Croatian Presidency of the Council next year. Also present were Anja Mager and Anja Fortuna from CEJA's Slovenian member organisation ZSPM.

While in Burcharest, Jannes also attended the informal [meeting](#) of rural development directors where participants debated how the Strategic Plans should implement the future CAP's **generational renewal objective**. There was also an encounter with Romanian young farmers to explain how CEJA operates.

CEJA to participate in networX - Inspiring Rural Europe



11-12 April: CEJA will have a stand at ENRD's networX event in Brussels which will gather stakeholders from across the agricultural spectrum for workshops, demonstrations and interactions through a “marketplace” set-up.

The **final ceremony of the Rural Inspiration Awards** will also take place. These recognise inspiring initiatives funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) that demonstrate the contribution of rural development policy towards a more competitive, sustainable and inclusive rural Europe.

You can vote for your favourite project [here](#)

Call for videos!





Dear members,

In the run-up to the **EU elections on 23-26 May**, we would like to share **videos** of you explaining why you will be voting.

The video should be:

1-minute long (maximum) and can be filmed on a phone
Ideally one version in English and one in your native language

Start by introducing yourself

Answer the question: Why are you voting?

[Here](#) is an example.

Please send your videos to allusers@ceja.eu or via WhatsApp (Fiona: 0032470432904) as soon as possible.

We will **share them on social media** using the hashtag: **#thistimeimvoting**

If you want to register on the thistimeimvoting.eu website you can do so via this [link](#).

Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Thank you!

What's happening in the EU?

Brexit Updates





29 March: UK MPs have voted to reject every one of a range of options put before them in a series of indicative votes designed to find out which “Brexit strategy” was most popular.

“We need to get the deal through and deliver Brexit,” Theresa May said. “I ask everyone in this room to back the deal so we can complete our historic duty.”

Northern Ireland’s Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), on which May’s Conservative Party depends to keep it in power, said that it **still won’t vote** in favour of the Prime Minister’s Withdrawal Agreement with the EU-27.

The European Council formally agreed on 22 March to **extend the UK’s Article 50** deadline to 22 May, if the Withdrawal Agreement is voted through by the House of Commons or to April 12 if MPs reject the deal again. At the same time, the **European Commission** confirmed this week that it **had completed its preparations for a “no deal” UK exit on 12 April**.

On 29 March, the original day marking the UK’s exit from the EU, May will attempt to pass **half of her Brexit deal** (the EU divorce treaty covering citizens’ rights, the £39 billion divorce bill and the Irish border, but not the non-binding declaration on future relations) through parliament with another significant defeat looking likely.

Green light for the food school schemes



27 March: The national allocations under the school food schemes for the 2019-2020 academic year have been [formally adopted](#). The **EU decided to dedicate €250 million** to tackle the decline in consumption of fruit, vegetables and milk across Europe.

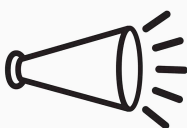
Latest figures show that nearly **20 million young people from 160,000 schools**

participated in the scheme in the 2017-2018 academic year.

Under the rules, national authorities are free to transfer a proportion of 20-25% of the budget allocated from one sector to another and can also top up EU aid with national funds to finance the scheme.

Money that is allocated to a country but not requested, for whatever reason, **can be allocated elsewhere within the scheme** by the Commission. Countries wishing to take part in the initiative must notify the Commission **by the end of January with their request for support**.

Calls & Opportunities



- The European Commission has published a [consultation](#) on regulatory cooperation activities between the EU and the United States. All interested stakeholder groups are invited to comment on potential areas for regulatory co-operation with the United States. **The deadline for submissions is 23 April.**
- The European Commission's services are starting to launch the [reflections](#) for the definition of the priorities for the Annual Work Programme for 2020 concerning the promotion of agricultural products. You can send your written contributions to AGRI-BI-PROMOTION@ec.europa.eu **before 25 April.**
- Wageningen University & Research is organising the fourth edition of the [Wageningen Soil Conference](#). The theme this year is "[Understanding soil functions: from ped to planet](#)". It will take place on **27-30 August**.
- In February, the ENRD organised a workshop titled "**Attracting Young Farmers and Fostering Generational Renewal in Rural Areas**". The workshop report is now available to read [here](#).

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Video of the week!



Here is Kathrin Muus from Germany explaining why she will be voting in the EU elections!

Civil Dialogue Groups

New market observatories - call for applications

The European Commission has decided to set up the two following Market Observatories: **the Fruit and Vegetables Market Observatory and the Wine Market Observatory**. Therefore, CEJA is opening a selection procedure among its Member Organisations to nominate experts for the following:

Fruit and Vegetables Market Observatory

Tomatoes (2 seats)

Citrus fruit (2 seats)

Pip fruit (2 seats)

Stone fruit (2 seats)

Market Observatory for Wine

Wine (2 seats)

[Here](#) is the call for expressions of interest, the [new code of conduct](#) and the [application template](#).

MO Secretariats are kindly asked to send in their application **by 1 April**.

CDG documents available

The **documents and presentations** concerning all the Civil Dialogue Groups that CEJA experts attend are available on the European Commission's [website](#) to view and download.

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