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What's on next week?

- 8 April: <u>COMAGRI</u>
- 8-9 April: CEJA working group & "EU Young Farmer Speed Dating" event
- 9 April: University of Perugia visit
- 9 April: ASAJA visit
- 9 April: CDG International Aspects of Agriculture
- 11-12 April: <u>networX</u> event
- 12 April: CDG Sugar

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?



CEJA's next working group will take place on **8 and 9 April in Brussels**. <u>Here</u> is the final 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.

CEJA will also launch its <u>EU elections manifesto</u> with Rural Youth Europe and MIJARC Europe.

Registration is now closed. We look forward to seeing those of you attending next week!



ASAJA Congress and JA visit

2-4 April: CEJA President Jannes Maes and Jeunes Agriculteurs delegate Samuel Masse attended ASAJA's Congress in Jaen, Spain, this week. Jannes presented CEJA and the young farmers' measures in the future CAP. Attendees also had the opportunity to meet King Felipe of Spain.

Meanwhile in Brussels, the CEJA Secretariat welcomed a Jeunes Agriculteurs group from Cher in central France, and presented CEJA to them.

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 <u>allusers@ceja.eu</u> 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 <u>link</u>. Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Thank you!

What's happening in the EU?

CEJA discouraged by the young farmers' measures in CAP Strategic Plans report





2 April: Following Tuesday's vote on the CAP Strategic Plans report, which was passed by COMAGRI MEPs (27 votes in favour to 17 against, with one abstention), CEJA <u>expressed</u> its disappointment at the lack of ambition shown for generational renewal in the agricultural sector despite it being one of the key objectives in the future Policy.

The measures for generational renewal outlined in the report will be **insufficient** to ensure young farmers enter and remain in the sector.

According to the report, the secured budget for young farmers' measures will only apply to the Complementary Income Support for Young Farmers, whereas **crucial Pillar II instruments** that assist young farmers in setting up will have **no guarantee of a fixed financial allocation**, while also becoming available to new farmers and rural businesses.

On 1 April the **CMO report was passed by COMAGRI MEPs** (29 votes in favour to 7 against, with one abstention). MEPs will vote on the **Horizontal Regulation** (financing, management and monitoring) report on **8 April**.



Brexit updates

5 April: UK Prime Minister Theresa May **looks set to ask the EU for a further extension to the Article 50 process**, beyond the current limit of 12 April , when

she travels to Brussels for an Extraordinary Summit on 10 April.

MPs recently rushed through a bill designed to force May to request a further delay, beyond the current deadline of 12 April.

Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker told MEPs in Brussels that the EU could accept a delay until 22 May, as long as the UK Parliament can approve the withdrawal treaty by 12 April.

More information on Brexit is available <u>here</u>.

EU Geographical Indications Database



1 April: DG AGRI announced the launch of a new public database called **'eAmbrosia - the EU Geographical Indications register'**, providing information on all European GIs.

The database will give easy access to information on all EU GIs, including their status (applied, published or registered), their product specification, and a direct link to the legal basis when they are officially protected.

Throughout 2019, the launch will be in three phases. Initially, the database will only comprise EU GI wines. By summer 2019, it will include EU GI spirit drinks. Finally, by the end of 2019, all EU GI agri-food products will be part of eAmbrosia.

For further information is available <u>here</u>.

EU-Mercosur talks to resume





15-17 May: EU-Mercosur negotiators will gather in Buenos Aires in May for an inter-sessional round of trade talks, with the possibility of a further round in Brussels before the summer.

This will be the second series of meetings with the new Brazilian administration since President Jair Bolsonaro took office on 1 January.

EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström previously stated in November 2018 that the Commission was "fully committed to the successful conclusion of an ambitious, balanced and sustainable agreement with Mercosur **before the European elections.**

More information on the EU's negotiations with Mercosur is available <u>here</u>.

Calls & Opportunities

- CEJA's associate member, the Serbian Young Farmers Association (SUMP), is inviting CEJA representatives to the **"Young farmers from Serbia and EU" conference on 11 May 2019** during an international <u>agricultural fair</u> in Novi Sad, Serbia. Meals and accommodation will be covered by SUMP. Here is the <u>agenda</u> and <u>invitation</u>. Email <u>allusers@ceja.eu</u> **before 15 April** if you would like to attend.
- Wageningen University & Research is organising the fourth edition of the <u>Wageningen Soil Conference</u>. The theme this year is "<u>Understanding soil</u> <u>functions: from ped to planet</u>". Early bird <u>registration</u> is now open. It will

take place on **27-30 August**.

• Three new publications produced by the advisory platform <u>fi-compass</u> provide new insight in the flexible use of financial products as a potential solution to economic challenges during times of price volatility. The publications are on the following subjects: <u>"flexi" products, financial instruments providing flexible loans</u>, and <u>credit</u> <u>guarantee instruments</u>.

Video of the week!



Here is Enrico Calentini from Italy explaining why he will be voting in the EU elections!

Civil Dialogue Groups

CDG and Market Observatory notes from CEJA experts

CEJA experts Susanna Suonio and Atso Ala-Kopsala from MTK, have kindly sent us their **reports** from the <u>CDG on Quality & Promotion</u> and <u>Milk Market</u> Observatory last week.

If you would like to share your CDG or market observatory reports, send them to <u>allusers@ceja.eu</u> and we'll include them in the newsletter!

CDG documents available

The **documents and presentations** concerning all the Civil Dialogue Groups that CEJA experts attend are available on the European Commission's <u>website</u> to view and download.

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