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What's on next week?

- **29 April:** “Addressing price volatility and financing needs of young farmers and agriculture” [conference](#) (Brussels)
- **29 April - 5 May:** [European Youth Week](#) (Brussels)
- **1 May:** CEJA office closed

Dates for your Diary

27-28 May: CEJA Presidium in Brussels
28-29 June: CEJA General Assembly in Sweden

What's new with CEJA?

CEJA President at the International Summit of Young Farmers



15-17 April: Young farmers from around the world, including CEJA President Jannes Maes, gathered in Paris for an international summit of young farmers. Participants drafted a [manifesto](#) and created a **network** in order to continue to exchange knowledge about setting up a farm, value chains and climate change.

They called for **better measures concerning access to land** and a greater **representation of young people at negotiating tables**. They also advocated for the creation of a global exchange programme to deal with climate change and an agricultural sector that remunerates producers fairly.

The next summit will take place in Africa in 2021.

CEJA Policy Briefs on CAP legislative reports



CEJA has prepared policy briefs on the three CAP legislative reports. They can be downloaded here:

[CMO](#);
[Strategic plans](#); and
[Horizontal regulation](#).

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: **#thistimeinvoting**

If you want to register on the thistimeinvoting.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?

AGRIFISH Council summary





15 April: EU agriculture ministers gathered in Brussels for a [Council meeting](#) during which they had a public exchange of views on the **CAP's green architecture** focusing on enhanced conditionality, eco-schemes and the Policy's increased environmental ambition.

A discussion about the **TFRA (Task Force Rural Africa)** followed , its final report was supported and ministers reflected upon the importance of tackling corruption and boosting the potential of the EU initiative. Talks concerning **an action plan between the EU Commission and the African Union** have been set for **21 June at the FAO in Rome** .

Concerning the **market situation**, the biggest difficulties are in the **sugar market** where some Member States asked for a high-level group and the Romanian Presidency suggested measures of voluntary reduction of production. Regarding the **beef and veal** market, if evidence of market disturbance is found in the next months there may be an intervention. The **poultry meat sector** has generated a lot of uncertainty, especially in relation to imports from the Ukraine. **Pig meat** demand is growing in China and the African Swine Fever situation seems to be stable. **The wine sector** is going well and a market observatory is to be set up.

Ministers exchanged views on the **impact of large carnivores on agriculture** and raised other topics like the **problem of deforestation**.

Slovakia raised the topic of **biofuels related to transport with regard to the new renewable energy directive**.

The next AGRIFISH Council will take place on **14 May**.

Green light for EU-US trade negotiation





15 April: The Council approved mandates for the Commission to open negotiations with the United States on two agreements. **One is a trade accord for industrial goods, specifically excluding agricultural products, and the other is a deal on assessing conformity designed to make it easier for companies to meet technical requirements.**

The mandates also clarify that the negotiating directives for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) **must be considered obsolete and no longer relevant.**

The Commission should produce a **sustainability impact assessment as soon as possible** which would examine the potential economic, environmental and social impacts of this agreement. The **EU will not conclude negotiations with the US as long as the current tariffs on EU exports of steel and aluminium remain in place.**

More information is available [here](#).

MEPs approved revised General Food Law deal



17 April: MEPs have [approved new rules](#) to ensure reliability and transparency

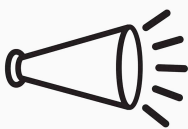
in EU food safety risk assessment procedure. In the plenary session in Strasbourg, the report received 603 votes in favour, 17 against and 27 abstentions.

The revision of the General Food Law (GFL) **seeks to address concerns raised during the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) on glyphosate** regarding the transparency of scientific studies used to evaluate pesticides.

The new rules **will create a common European database** of commissioned studies to deter companies applying for authorisation from withholding unfavourable studies and **supports the implementation of a new pre-submission advisory procedure** that enables EFSA to advise applicants on how to submit their application for authorisation correctly.

The Council of Ministers now needs to formally approve the text before it can enter into force.

Calls & Opportunities



- [EIP-AGRI](#) has opened a call for **suggestions for possible topics for discussion in focus groups**. Have an idea to spark innovation? Then fill in [this form](#) before 6 May.
- [Calls for proposal](#) for the **LIFE programme** which is the EU's funding instrument for the **environment and climate action**, have been launched, with the **deadline for concept notes on 17 June 2019**.

CEJA in the press

Will the post-2020 CAP be a missed opportunity?

DISCLAIMER: All opinions in this column reflect the views of the author(s), not

By Luke 'Ming' Flanagan

Apr 10, 2019 (updated: Apr 10, 2019)



The EU's proposed reforms to the CAP in its next seven-year budget risk being a missed opportunity, says Luke Flanagan. [SHUTTERSTOCK]

Comments Print f 12 in G+ Twitter

MEPs need to overhaul the European Commission's plans to reform the Common Agricultural Policy, to attract young farmers, give farmers a fair wage, and protect the environment, argues Luke Flanagan.

Luke 'Ming' Flanagan is an independent Irish MEP, and a member of the GUE/NGL group in the European Parliament.

There's a fierce battle raging in the corridors of Brussels on the future shape of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The current policy expires at the end of next year and much is at stake.

10 April: Independent Irish MEP Luke "Ming" Flanagan published an [opinion piece](#) in EURACTIV highlighting **the challenges young farmers are facing** and quoting the [Rural Coalition document](#) CEJA was instrumental in writing.

Video of the week!



Here is María Llorens from Spain explaining why she will be voting in the EU elections!

Civil Dialogue Groups

CDG on Sugar report from CEJA expert

CEJA expert Otso Heikola from MTK in Finland has kindly provided a [report](#) of the **CDG on Sugar** he attended on 12 April.

If you would like to share your CDG or market observatory reports, send them to allusers@ceja.eu 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 [website](#) to view and download.

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