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## What's on next week?

- **13 May:** "The Common Agricultural Policy and Challenges for Young European Farmers" [conference](#)
- **14 May:** [AGRIFISH Council](#)
- **14 May:** CDG Wine
- **15-17 May:** AgriCord AGM (The Netherlands)
- **16-17 May:** SEMA II project meeting (Lithuania)
- **17 May:** CDG Sheep & Goat Meat, Beekeeping
- **27-28 May:** CEJA Presidium
- **27-29 June:** CEJA General Assembly

### Save the date - CEJA General Assembly

The CEJA General Assembly will take place in Sweden this year in collaboration with LRF and DeLaval.

Here's what you need to know in terms of the practicalities:

**27 June:** arrival and welcome dinner in Stockholm

**28 June:** conference in the morning and general assembly in the afternoon (all

at Hamra Farm, 30 minutes from Stockholm)

**29 June:** farm visits

**30 June:** departure

More information will be sent to you in due course.

## What's new with CEJA?

**CEJA Presidium and working group - register before 20 May!**



The CEJA Presidium and working group will take place in **Brussels on 27 and 28 May**. [Here](#) is the **draft agenda**. Make sure you [register](#) before 20 May.

Only **two representatives from each member organisation** can attend the **Presidium**, a third representative may be accepted subject to the prior agreement of the Presidency (in this case, a written request must be sent to the Presidency at least one week before the meeting).

National organisations must **select a head of delegation**, preferably a farmer (see Article 8.2 of CEJA's [Internal Regulations](#)).

**Comparative study - call for participants!**



[Euromontana](#) is conducting a comparative study on the **sustainable management of mountain grasslands** across Europe.

They are collecting **good practices to sustainably manage mountain grasslands**, considering current economic, social and environmental issues (e.g. depopulation, changes in land use and climate change). For instance, they have been looking into **pastoral schools, conservation of mountain pastures, tourism diversification**, etc.

They would like to receive **good practices from young farmers** (either agricultural/ environmental technical practices or local initiatives).

It would be especially interesting if there is something on **knowledge transfer, land mobility** or **generational renewal** in mountain grasslands.

If you are interested, fill in the [template](#) and send it to [lauren.mosdale@euromontana.org](mailto:lauren.mosdale@euromontana.org).

### Final 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](mailto: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](https://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?

### Informal European Council Summit in Sibiu



**9 May:** An informal European Council meeting of heads of state or government took place in Sibiu (Romania) this week, during which discussions were had on the EU's strategic agenda for the period 2019-2024.

European Council President Donald Tusk focused on four priority areas: **protecting citizens and freedoms; developing the EU's economic base; building a greener, fairer and more inclusive future; and promoting Europe's interests and values in the world.**

The [agenda](#) is to be adopted in June.

The [Sibiu Declaration](#), aiming to reaffirm the unity of Europe and the responsibility of making the EU stronger, was taken on board at the

meeting. **Heads of state or government agreed on 10 common commitments for the future.**

The next summit will take place on 28 May in Brussels to discuss the outcome of the European Parliament elections.

## Commission adopts common methodology to measure food waste



**6 May:** During the sixth EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste, Commission Vice Presidents Jyrki Katainen and Frans Timmermans presented a [Delegated Act](#) laying down a common food waste measurement methodology to support the Member States in quantifying food waste at each stage of the food supply chain.

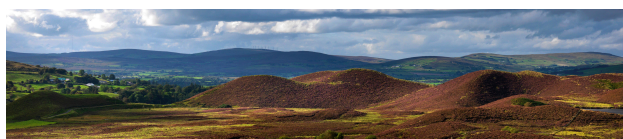
The target is **to tackle the 20% of food produced each year that is lost or wasted.**

The Commission intends to closely **follow the implementation of the Delegated Act, organising regular exchanges with the Member States** in order to facilitate practical implementation.

Member States are expected to **put in place a monitoring framework with 2020 as the first reporting year** in order to provide the first new data on food waste levels to the Commission by mid-2022.

The Delegated Act will be sent to the Parliament and the Council by the end of July. More information is available [here](#).

## A million animal and plant species face threat of extinction





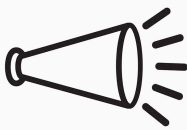
**6 May:** The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services ([IPBES](#)) published a [report](#) stating that around **1 million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction**.

The assessment's authors have ranked the five direct drivers of change in nature with the largest relative global impacts so far: **changes in land and sea use; direct exploitation of organisms; climate change; and pollution and invasive alien species**.

Current negative trends in biodiversity and ecosystems will undermine progress towards 80% of the assessed targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, related to poverty, hunger, health, water, cities, climate, oceans and land. Loss of biodiversity is therefore shown to be **not only an environmental issue but also a developmental, economic, security, social and moral issue**.

The report also identified **the evolution of global financial and economic systems to build a sustainable economy** as a key element of more sustainable future policies.

## Calls & Opportunities



- Feedback on an EU Commission [roadmap](#) for **EU quality schemes** can be submitted **until 27 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**.



- **Two new consultations** have been published related to EU state aid: an [evaluation](#) of state aid instruments and a [review](#) of agricultural state aid guidelines. The **deadline for feedback is 19 July**.

## Video of the week!



Here are Iris Bouwers and Andre Arfman from the Netherlands explaining why he will be voting in the EU elections!

## Civil Dialogue Groups

### 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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