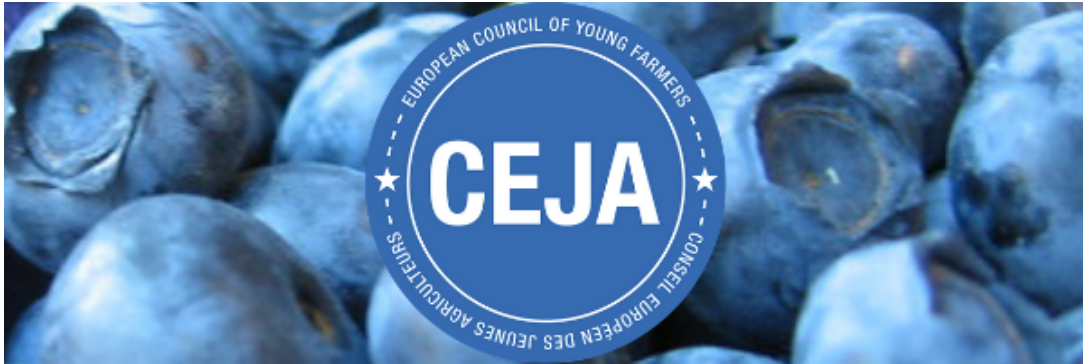


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To: Margita Törnroth <margita.tornroth@slc.fi>;



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What's on next week?

- **22 July:** CEJA office closed for national holiday
- **23 July:** [COMAGRI](#)
- **22-25 July:** The Good Looby's [Lobbying Summer Academy](#) (Spain)

What's new with CEJA?

**Next CEJA working group: 16 and 17 September in
Brussels!**



After a busy General Assembly in Sweden last month and the EU elections in the spring, things in Brussels are slowly winding down for the summer.

That said, you can already **save the 16 and 17 September in your agendas** for the next CEJA working group. The new Presidency will present its **aims for the coming two years** and the **CAP Strategic Plans** will be discussed. CEJA will also be hosting the final conference of a project on multifunctional agriculture, [SEMA II](#), that it has been a partner in.

Keep an eye out for registration details, they'll be coming your way at the end of July.

CEJA President and former Vice President in the US



CEJA President Jannes Maes and former Vice President Christoph Daun met **US young farmers coalition** in DC. They took the opportunity to visit Capitol Hill, to meet up with **members of congress and senate** to discuss important issues: **young farmers policy**, risk management, trade issues and more.

What's happening in the EU?

First AGRIFISH Council under the Finnish Presidency

15 July: The first [AGRIFISH Council](#) under the Finnish Presidency took place this week. It was chaired by Finnish Agriculture Minister, Jari Lëppä. Ministers discussed African Swine Fever (ASF) and animal welfare, integrated pest management, the sugar market, the **CAP reform** and **Mercosur** trade deal.

Concerning the **CAP reform**, Finland declared the intention to **build on work done** by previous presidencies and “advance the negotiations as far as possible during the second half of 2019”. Due to uncertainties on the Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF) and the outcome of Brexit, Lëppä was cautious to indicate clear deadlines. However, he stated that **a Council general approach by the end of the year** could not be excluded.

Commissioner Phil Hogan questioned the level of commitment of ministers on the climate and environmental ambitions in the future CAP as it was lower than previously expressed. During the debate on the **green architecture of the post-2020 CAP**, ministers expressed **divergent positions** on the mandatory character of eco schemes, on the exemption of smallholders from conditionality and on the financial budget. For more information, you can consult CEJA's [briefing note](#) about the meeting.

Regarding the **EU-Mercosur agreement**, many ministers recognised the wider economic importance of the deal and of observed its environmental and climate provisions. Commissioner Hogan affirmed the intention to **debunk myths and allay fears** about it, stressing that “there is a lot of **misplaced information** and misplaced facts”. In this direction, a revised cumulative impact will be published in 2020. CEJA's [policy brief](#) on the Mercosur agreement is available here.

CEJA President Jannes Maes will be speaking at the [Informal AGRIFISH Council](#) in Helsinki on 22-24 September. The topic of the meeting is **"Reshaping farmers' role in climate action: promoting sustainable farming through soil carbon sequestration"**.

Von der Leyen elected Commission President



16 July: Ursula von der Leyen, the outgoing German Minister of Defence, was elected by the European Parliament as President of the next European Commission. It is a first time a woman has been elected to the position.

She received 383 votes in favour, 327 against and 22 abstentions. She was supported by the biggest pro-European political groups (EPP, S&D, Renew Europe), but not by the Greens and GUE/NGL.

During her post-election speech, von der Leyen **asked the Member States for a real commitment on gender balance** inviting them to send many female candidates for the Commissioner roles.

Von der Leyen in her document '[A Union that strives for more - My agenda for Europe](#)', stressed the need for a **European Green Deal**, a **Europe fitted in the digital age** and the **reinforcement of European democracy**.

The College of Commissioners will be created following votes in the European Parliament. The new Commission will enter into force in November 2019.

COMAGRI Coordinators announced



17 July: During the European Parliament's Plenary session this week in Strasbourg, some political groups appointed their coordinators for the AGRI Committee.

The S&D group decided to give the role to Italian MEP **Paolo de Castro**, while the EEP also appointed Italian MEP, **Herbert Dorfmann**.

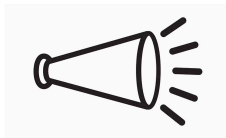
For the other political groups, the coordinators are German MEP **Ulrike Müller** for Renew Europe and **Martin Häusling** for the Greens/EFA, Irish MEP **Luke**

"Ming" Flanagan was appointed for GUE/NGL.

The Identity and Democracy and ECR political groups still haven't announced their Coordinators, but it will almost certainly will be Czech MEP **Ivan David(ID)** and **Veronika Vrecionová(ECR)**.

The next COMAGRI meeting is scheduled for **23 July**. During the meeting the **third and fourth Committee Vice Chairs** are to be elected.

Calls & Opportunities



- The European Commission is inviting stakeholders to contribute to co-designing and helping shape future research and innovation investment by responding to its questionnaire "[Horizon Europe Co-design 2021-2024](#)". The results will inform the work on the first strategic plan of Horizon Europe. **Submissions will be accepted until early September.**
- The European Commission's DG SANTE has launched a [consultation](#) to interested stakeholders on the evaluation of the legislation on feed additives. **Those interested in completing the survey have until 7 September to do so.**

Photo of the week!



This week we did some filming for the Info Pac project at the CEJA office!

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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