

## Rethinking European policy towards food sovereignty

*Current geopolitical challenges require a rethinking of the continent's strategic autonomy, the reterritorialisation of food systems, and the restoration of food sovereignty in EU policy decisions. ECVC wishes to present these priorities to the European Commission:*

1. The EU cannot continue to ignore the issue of low, indecent and unliveable incomes for farmers. The recurring agricultural protests in the EU since 2024 will not disappear until the EU addresses this key issue.
2. The agricultural sector strongly opposes free trade agreements. The EU must reject Trump's blackmail and oppose the opening up of agricultural markets to Mercosur. On the contrary, it is imperative that it defend the internal market, reduce its dependencies and support resilient food systems rooted in local areas. The provisional application of the EU-Mercosur treaty is a red line.
3. The regulation of agricultural markets must be at the heart of EU agricultural policy:
  - a. The next CAP must include a far-reaching reform of the CMO to ensure remunerative and stable prices.
  - b. The UTP Regulation must be revised to prohibit, without exception, buyers from purchasing at prices below production costs.
4. The CAP must remain truly common and retain a strong, separate and fair European budget. Fair distribution of CAP payments must be guaranteed: payments must be capped and redistributed, giving priority to small and medium-sized farms, in particular through flat-rate payments, which allow for greater fairness and simplification.
5. ECVC opposes the unequal distribution of POSEI aid. This aid must be redistributed in favour of all farmers and food sovereignty.
6. ECVC welcomes the generational renewal strategy. However, we call for concrete measures to facilitate access to land and improve income for young farmers.
7. In this context, ECVC calls for the EU to participate in the International Conference on Agrarian Reform (ICCARD) and to guarantee the democratisation of access to agricultural land through a European directive on agricultural land.
8. ECVC opposes the waves of deregulation in the EU and denounces in particular the deregulation of GMOs obtained through new genomic techniques. This is a strategic mistake for food and seed sovereignty. ECVC calls on the European Parliament to reject this dangerous deregulation.
9. The European strategy for livestock farming must give priority to small-scale farming, specifically support small and medium-sized livestock farms and promote production models adapted to the territories, such as systems based on grazing and pastoralism.