



CONFERENCE OF THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE OF THE PARLIAMENTS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN MEMBER-STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

30 May 2025, Nicosia • Plenary of the House

Miljø- og Fødevarerudvalget 2024-25
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JOINT DECLARATION OF THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEES OF THE PARLIAMENTS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Nicosia, 30 May 2025

We, the Chairpersons of the Committees on Agriculture of the Parliaments of Cyprus, Spain, Croatia, Italy, and the Vice-President of the Committee on Economic Affairs of the French National Assembly, convened at the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus on 30 May 2025, reaffirm our common commitment to collectively addressing the pressing challenges facing the agricultural sector in our region;

Acknowledging

the escalating impact of climate change, water scarcity, soil degradation and biodiversity loss on Mediterranean agriculture and the increasing vulnerability of farmers in the face of geopolitical shocks, economic pressures and global market instability,

Recognizing

the Mediterranean's vital contribution to the EU's food security, rural vitality, cultural heritage, and strategic autonomy, and the urgent need for tailored EU responses to the specificities of our region and our shared responsibility to safeguard food security, ensure the sustainability and resilience of our agri-food systems and uphold the economic and social fabric of rural areas,

Recalling

the commitments set forth in the Strategic Agenda of the European Council (June 2024), the Political Guidelines for the Next European Commission (July 2024), the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of Agriculture (September 2024), and the European Commission's Vision for Agriculture and Food (February 2025),

Welcoming

- the European Union's efforts to provide emergency support, revise the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), and initiate the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of Agriculture, and **acknowledging** the strategic importance of these initiatives for our region,
- the upcoming adoption of the European Water Resilience Strategy, which provides a crucial framework for improving water efficiency, addressing scarcity and pollution, and managing water-related risks in Europe,
- the European Parliament's resolution on the 2026 EU budget guidelines, which calls for enhanced support to climate-vulnerable sectors, including targeted funding for irrigation modernization and sustainable water use in agriculture



We **jointly call** on the European Institutions to:

1. **Establish a climate and water-resilient agricultural policy framework** that places Mediterranean challenges at the core of EU priorities. Climate adaptation, water resource management and support for drought-affected regions must become central to the post-2027 CAP and other funding instruments. Ensure that the specificities of Mediterranean agriculture are fully integrated into EU funding mechanisms, including CAP and Horizon Europe.
2. **Embed Mediterranean priorities in the post-2027 CAP**, support targeted measures for climate adaptation and mitigation, water resilience, innovation, and income stability in drought-prone and structurally disadvantaged areas.
3. **Strengthen the social and economic resilience of farmers** by ensuring fair remuneration, improving their bargaining power within the food supply chain, and supporting cooperative models that foster local and regional value creation.
4. **A strong and ambitious implementation of the European Water Resilience Strategy**, fully taking into account the specific needs of Mediterranean region and supporting investments in infrastructure, precision irrigation, water reuse, desalination, and nature-based solutions, as well as investments in new infrastructure for water storage (reservoirs, ponds, etc.) and for connecting watersheds.
5. **Establish dedicated funding for water resilience** in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), with strong coordination across EU instruments to avoid overstressing the CAP and to meet environmental and climate goals effectively.
6. **Support generational renewal and innovation**, by improving access to land, granting housing support for young farmers, finance, and training for young and new farmers, strengthening applied research, promoting drought- and pest-resilient crops, and expanding the use of smart and digital technologies in agriculture, as well as encouraging the integration of agricultural and environmental subjects within education systems and developing regulations and establishing aid for the recovery of abandoned housing in rural areas.
7. **Ensure fair trade and equitable market access** by protecting primary producers from unfair practices, systematizing mirror clauses in all EU trade agreements, advocating for fair pricing mechanisms, preventing market distortions, and strengthening EU trade policies to safeguard the competitiveness of Mediterranean agricultural products.
8. **Reinforce EU rapid response mechanisms** to support farmers affected by climate-related agricultural losses and transition toward a more proactive model of risk reduction and resilience-building.



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9. **Support farmers in the green transition** by providing targeted financial assistance, incentives for sustainable farming practices, and stronger protections for small-scale farmers to ensure an inclusive transition.
10. **Increase investment in agricultural research**, particularly in climate adaptation, and precision farming to secure food security and sustainability for future generations and to support more sustainable production models.
11. **Advocate for a stronger role of national parliaments** in shaping and monitoring CAP Strategic Plans, ensuring that regional needs and the voices of primary producers are fully reflected in EU decision-making.

We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to fostering close cooperation among our parliaments, exchanging best practices and working collectively to achieve a resilient, competitive and sustainable agricultural future for the Mediterranean region.

We call upon the European Institutions to take these recommendations into full consideration in their ongoing work on the future of European agriculture and rural development and to place Mediterranean agriculture at the forefront of the Union's political agenda.

Adopted in Nicosia on 30 May 2025.

Mr. Joseba Andoni AGIRRETXEA URRESTI, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, **Congress of Deputies of Spain**

Mr. Jorge Domingo MARTÍNEZ ANTOLÍN, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, **Senate of Spain**

Mr. Pascal LECAMP, Vice-President of the Committee on Economic Affairs, **National Assembly of France**

Ms. Marijana PETIR, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, **Parliament of Croatia**

Mr. Luca DE CARLO, Chair of the Industry, Trade, Tourism, Agriculture and Agrifood Production Committee, **Senate of the Republic of Italy**

Mr. Yiannakis GAVRIEL, Chair of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources, **House of Representatives of Cyprus**