



EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF YOUNG FARMERS
CONSEIL EUROPÉEN DES JEUNES AGRICULTEURS
EUROPÄISCHER RAT DER JUNGLANDWIRTE

17/06/2025

Brussels, Belgium

JOINT STATEMENT

Young farmers warn against any dismantling of the agricultural policy in the next EU budget

European young farmers want to express their dissatisfaction and frustration regarding the climate surrounding the upcoming proposals on the EU's Multiannual Financial Framework and Common Agricultural Policy post-2027. As EU agriculture is faced with a structural socio-economic and vocational crisis, and uncertainty on the trade front, the European Commission has been designing new modalities of funding, as part of a so-called "National and Regional Partnership Plans", which would seriously undermine the ambitions of young farmers for the future, and threaten to dismantle the CAP as one of the oldest and most successful EU policies ever established. CEJA calls for clear guarantees when it comes to the integrity and commonality of the CAP, as a standalone legislation, and with a clear, dedicated and commensurate budget allocated to it.

On 16th July, the European Commission is expected to publish its proposals for the future of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), **designed within an opaque process, in a limited amount of time and with very little consultation of involved institutions and stakeholders**. In light of this methodology, which questions the quality of the outcome, young farmers are unanimous: the conditions in which the policy is currently designed are unacceptable and fuel dissatisfaction and frustration.

In its Communication on *The Road to the Next Multiannual Financial Framework* published in February 2025, the EU's executive referred to the possibility of establishing single national plans for programming and delivering key EU funding policies, including the CAP. Based on the experience of the recovery funds, the project has sparked many concerns among the young farmers' community, as it risks leading to unclear targeting of public support, inefficiencies in the delivery of policies, distortions within the single market and the aggravation of democratic concerns currently surrounding the policy. Ultimately, any poor governance is to the detriment of European citizens, farmers and rural communities.

At the same time, for the first time since 1962, it has been unclear whether the EU's executive would guarantee a standalone CAP in the future. As CEJA has just finalised the design of an ambitious and progressive programme for the future of the agricultural policy, it appears urgent to clarify the European Commission's sense of priority on the dossier. As already stated, **young farmers call for clear guarantees when it comes to the integrity and commonality of the CAP, as a standalone legislation, and with a clear, dedicated and commensurate budget allocated to it**. The absence of such guarantees would not only break the strong consensus reached less than a year ago by the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of Agriculture, but it would also mean the end of the CAP and its associated objectives in the fields of economic development, environmental protection and climate action, and social inclusion.

If the EU remains seriously committed to its agriculture, it needs to break away from declarations of intention and provide farmers with adequate means to fulfil their missions. In this perspective, the proposals of 16th July will constitute a "make or break" moment for young farmers of today and tomorrow. CEJA will remain mobilised to assert the importance of agricultural policy and calls on all parties involved to join forces to take action and safeguard the sector's future.



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More information

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The European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA) represents the political interests of around two million young farmers from across Europe. Its main objectives are to facilitate the installation of young farmers, to inform and train them as well as act as a forum for communication and dialogue between them.

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