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2009 - 2014

Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

2011/2113(INI)

2.2.2012

AMENDMENTS

1 - 14

Draft opinion
Spyros Danellis
(PE478.392v01-00)

Trade for Change: the EU Trade and Investment Strategy for the Southern
Mediterranean following the Arab Spring revolution
(2011/2113(INI))

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PE480.779v01-00

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United in diversity

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Amendment 1
Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Notes that the ongoing process of transformation of the Southern Mediterranean, triggered by the ‘Arab Spring’, holds an uncertain outcome for the countries involved and unknown repercussions for the wider region and the EU; underlines that the promotion of and support for sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the region would be decisive in securing democracy and bringing about political stability; points to the importance of agriculture and rural development in the stabilisation process, given that they contribute, especially under conditions of increased volatility in the world markets, to the advancement of food security, more equitable income generation and distribution, job creation, and the integration of women and smallholders in the economy;

Amendment

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Or. it

Amendment 2
Elisabeth Jeggle

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

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Amendment

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Mediterranean, triggered by the ‘Arab Spring’, holds an uncertain outcome for the countries involved and unknown repercussions for the wider region and the EU; underlines that the promotion of and support for sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the region would be decisive in securing democracy and bringing about political stability; points to the importance of agriculture and rural development in the stabilisation process, given that they contribute, especially under conditions of increased volatility in the world markets, to the advancement of food security, more equitable income generation and distribution, job creation, and the integration of women and smallholders in the economy;

Mediterranean, triggered by the ‘Arab Spring’, holds an uncertain outcome for the countries involved and unknown repercussions for the wider region and the EU; underlines that the promotion of and support for sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the region, ***leading to a rise in prosperity and in the standard of living***, would be decisive in securing democracy and ***the rule of law and*** bringing about political stability; points to the importance of agriculture and rural development in the stabilisation process, given that they contribute, especially under conditions of increased volatility in the world markets, to the advancement of food security, more equitable income generation and distribution, job creation, and the integration of women and smallholders in the economy;

Or. de

Amendment 3 **Rolandas Paksas**

Draft opinion **Paragraph 1**

Draft opinion

1. Notes that the ongoing process of transformation of the Southern Mediterranean, triggered by the ‘Arab Spring’, holds an uncertain outcome for the countries involved and unknown repercussions for the wider region and the EU; underlines that the promotion of and support for sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the region would be decisive in securing democracy and bringing about political stability; points to the importance of agriculture and rural development in the stabilisation process, given that they contribute, especially under conditions of increased volatility in the

Amendment

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world markets, to the advancement of food security, more equitable income generation and distribution, job creation, and the integration of women and smallholders in the economy;

world markets, to the advancement of food security, more equitable income generation and distribution, job creation, and the integration of women and smallholders in the economy; ***calls on the EU to assist this region in improving the efficiency and productivity of its agricultural sector and to guarantee food security;***

Or. It

Amendment 4
Spyros Danellis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 a. Welcomes, therefore, the Commission's intention to support rural development through the programme "European Neighbourhood Facility for Agriculture and Rural Development" that would integrate investment support and develop administrative capacities by building on EU best practice in developing rural areas, so as to facilitate the modernisation of the agricultural production in alignment with EU quality and food safety standards;

Or. en

Amendment 5
Spyros Danellis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1 b. Welcomes also the Commission's commitment stated in its Joint

*Communication of 25/05/2011
(COM(2011)303) to finance pilot
programmes for agricultural, rural, and
regional development, drawing on the
EU's extensive experience in these fields
and making the best possible use of a
close cooperation with the FAO, the
World Bank and possibly the EIB;*

Or. en

Amendment 6
Marit Paulsen, Britta Reimers, George Lyon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the EU to support both the development of healthy agricultural production and rural development in the region, in order to strengthen the stabilisation process; stresses, to that end, the importance of institutional and infrastructural (e.g. irrigation, handling, storage, packaging, transportation, marketing systems) improvements, in addition to the technological ones, as well as the significance of education and training programmes, especially for women; emphasises the role of extension services in facilitating diffusion of knowledge; underlines that global environmental and climate change concerns should direct the support to the promotion of sustainable uses of natural resources and energy, and compatible methods of production;

Amendment

2. Calls on the EU to support both the development of healthy agricultural production and rural development in the region, in order to strengthen the stabilisation process; stresses, to that end, the importance of institutional and infrastructural (e.g. irrigation, handling, storage, packaging, transportation, marketing systems) improvements, in addition to the technological ones, as well as the significance of education and training programmes, especially for women; emphasises the role of extension services in facilitating diffusion of knowledge; underlines that global environmental and climate change concerns should direct the support to the promotion of sustainable uses of natural resources and energy, and compatible methods of production; ***stresses that diversification of production to increase resilience during market fluctuations and environmental crisis should be encouraged in face of an increasing global demand for food;***

Or. en

Amendment 7
Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the EU to support both the development of healthy agricultural production and rural development in the region, in order to strengthen the stabilisation process; stresses, to that end, the importance of institutional and infrastructural (e.g. irrigation, handling, storage, packaging, transportation, marketing systems) improvements, in addition to the technological ones, as well as the significance of education and training programmes, especially for women; emphasises the role of extension services in facilitating diffusion of knowledge; underlines that global environmental and climate change concerns should direct the support to the promotion of sustainable uses of natural resources and energy, and compatible methods of production;

Amendment

2. Calls on the EU to support both the development of healthy agricultural production and rural development in the region in ***the fight against poverty, a persistent evil in the countryside, and*** in order to strengthen the stabilisation process; stresses, to that end, the importance of institutional and infrastructural (e.g. irrigation, handling, storage, packaging, transportation, marketing systems ***and access to services***) improvements, in addition to the technological ones, as well as the significance of education and training programmes, especially for women, ***including situations where producers are poorly organised and civil society is weak, which also slow down the development of an efficient agri-food system***; emphasises the role of extension services in facilitating diffusion of knowledge; underlines that global environmental and climate change concerns should direct the support to the promotion of sustainable uses of natural resources and energy, and compatible methods of production;

Or. it

Amendment 8
Michel Dantin

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Calls, furthermore, on the Commission to take *the* necessary measures to *enhance* the *export potential of the* Southern Mediterranean, *by helping it* achieve regulatory convergence in priority areas for the EU and the region – including competition, investment, and trade related standards and procedures – as well as alignment of production to the EU standards for quality and food safety, environmental protection and animal welfare; underlines, however, the imperative of simultaneously protecting sensitive sectors in EU agriculture from the potential of full liberalisation;

Amendment

3. Calls, furthermore, on the Commission to take necessary measures to *help* the Southern Mediterranean achieve regulatory convergence in priority areas for the EU and the region – including competition, investment, and trade related standards and procedures – as well as alignment of production to the EU standards for quality and food safety, environmental protection and animal welfare; *believes that these changes would strengthen those countries' potential to export to the European Union*; underlines, however, the imperative of simultaneously protecting sensitive sectors in EU agriculture from the potential of full liberalisation;

Or. fr

Amendment 9

Marit Paulsen, George Lyon, Britta Reimers

**Draft opinion
Paragraph 3**

Draft opinion

3. Calls, furthermore, on the Commission to take the necessary measures to enhance the export potential of the Southern Mediterranean, by helping it achieve regulatory convergence in priority areas for the EU and the region – including competition, investment, and trade related standards and procedures – as well as alignment of production to the EU standards for quality and food safety, environmental protection and animal welfare; underlines, *however*, the *imperative of simultaneously protecting sensitive sectors in EU agriculture from the potential of full liberalisation*;

Amendment

3. Calls, furthermore, on the Commission to take the necessary measures to enhance the export potential of the Southern Mediterranean, by helping it achieve regulatory convergence in priority areas for the EU and the region – including competition, investment, and trade related standards and procedures – as well as alignment of production to the EU standards for quality and food safety, environmental protection and animal welfare; underlines *that, in parallel*, the *regional trade potential* in the *Southern Mediterranean should be further encouraged, facilitating an increased access to markets for producers in the*

region;

Or. en

Amendment 10
Giovanni La Via

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Calls, furthermore, on the Commission to take the necessary measures to enhance the export potential of the Southern Mediterranean, by helping it achieve regulatory convergence in priority areas for the EU and the region – including competition, investment, and trade related standards and procedures – as well as alignment of *the* production to the EU standards for quality and food safety, environmental protection and animal welfare; underlines, however, the imperative of simultaneously protecting sensitive sectors in EU agriculture from the potential of full liberalisation;

Amendment

3. Calls, furthermore, on the Commission to take the necessary measures to enhance the export potential of the Southern Mediterranean, by helping it achieve regulatory convergence in priority areas for the EU and the region – including competition, investment, and trade related standards and procedures – as well as alignment of production to the EU standards for quality and food safety, environmental protection and animal welfare *in compliance with the reciprocity principle*; underlines, however, the imperative of simultaneously protecting sensitive sectors in EU agriculture, *particularly those of Mediterranean countries*, from the potential of full *market* liberalisation;

Or. it

Amendment 11
Elisabeth Jeggle

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

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Amendment

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Mediterranean, by helping it achieve regulatory convergence in priority areas for the EU and the region – including competition, investment, and trade related standards and procedures – as well as alignment of production to the EU standards for quality and food safety, environmental protection and animal welfare; underlines, however, the imperative of simultaneously protecting sensitive sectors in EU agriculture from the potential of full liberalisation;

Mediterranean, by helping it achieve regulatory convergence in priority areas for the EU and the region – including competition, investment, and trade related standards and procedures – as well as alignment of production to the EU standards for quality and food safety, environmental protection, **plant protection**, and animal welfare; underlines, however, the imperative of simultaneously protecting sensitive sectors in EU agriculture from the potential of full liberalisation; **points out that trade must be stepped up in a balanced fashion for all stakeholders in order to avoid giving greater advantage to one particular side**;

Or. de

Amendment 12

José Bové

Draft opinion

Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Calls also - so that there is no social and environmental dumping between the countries concerned and with the EU - for the measures proposed by the Commission to step up the introduction of innovative actions for the promotion of local know-how, training for the organisation of producers and the development of local and regional markets as part of exchanges of good practices between countries and with the EU, as previously practised in pre-accession procedures and relations with the EU neighbourhood countries;

Or. fr

Amendment 13
Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4a. Requests the Commission to support the special programmes for young people and women in agriculture and stresses the need to take measures at European level to attract young people in particular to work in agriculture;

Or. ro

Amendment 14
Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4b. Calls on the Commission to evaluate, in close collaboration with the Southern Mediterranean Member States and with national players in the agricultural sector, the innovative actions that they can adopt for promoting the need to act to encourage the involvement of agriculturalists and farmers, coupled with the creation of local and regional markets;

Or. ro