



Newsletter

Focus

Teamwork behind negotiating success on Common Agricultural Policy reform



Dear Reader,

Prior to the summer break, the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development was immersed in the trilogue negotiations on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The political agreement reached on 26 June has demonstrated that the new decision-making procedures introduced by the Lisbon Treaty can be made to work, even for the most contentious of dossiers. Our negotiating

success was testament to a huge collaborative effort within the Parliament, including a remarkable contribution from Policy Department Structural and Cohesion Policies, with its internal and external expertise underpinning every stage of the legislative process. It was also notable how many Members of the European Parliament paid tribute not just to the cooperation among the rapporteurs and their shadows, but also to the members of the Committee Secretariat, the political advisers and assistants. By pulling together in this way, we can face the challenges ahead with renewed confidence.

Paolo De Castro

Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Aspect of Durability in the Assessment of Effectiveness of Support for Businesses under Structural and Cohesion Funds

Presentation of a study
 17 September 2013 - 15:00 to 18:30 - JAN 6Q2

The long road towards an EU-India Free Trade Agreement

Workshop
 24 September 2013 - 10:00 to 12:30 - ASP 1G2

Plastic Waste

Workshop
 26 September 2013 - 12:30 to 15:00 - PHS 7C050

Judicial training and independence of the judiciary

Workshop
 28 November 2013 - 09:00 to 12:30 - ASP 3E2

[More workshops](#)



FORTHCOMING STUDIES

Committee	Title	Publication date
AFET/ INTA	G20: Strong European Union at a disappointing Summit	September 2013
TRAN	The impact of Megatrucks	September 2013
FEMM	Access to shelters of undocumented migrant women fleeing domestic violence - the legal and practical situation in the Member States	October 2013
ECON	The Contribution of Competition Policy to Growth and the EU 2020 Strategy	October 2013
CONT	Nuclear Decommissioning	January 2014

Link to the studies: www.europarl.europa.eu/studies

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SELECTION OF NEW STUDIES

European Council Conclusions on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 and the CAP

Policy Department on Structural and Cohesion Policies



This is the second working paper written by Policy Department B on the CAP inside the Multiannual Financial Framework for the 2014–2020 period. The purpose of this document, published in July 2013, was to provide a comparison between the European Council Conclusions of 7–8 February 2013 and the positions of the EP at the current stage of the financial and sector specific CAP negotiations. The aim was to provide qualitative and quantitative information to COMAGRI Members relating to the financial concerns of the CAP in order to support the ongoing trilogue negotiations.



Strasbourg-Lisbon-Chicago: NATO quo vadis?

Policy Department on External Policies



The past three NATO summits have witnessed the rather turbulent development of the alliance's strategic environment. NATO has become much more focused on sustainable high-end operations abroad, but the likelihood of more action if this type is rather slim. With the financial crisis and the concentration of the US on Pacific security interests, European allies need to do more for European security. Today, NATO and the EU must develop a profound and mutually beneficial cooperation. With the Lisbon treaty, which abolishes the pillar divides between the Union's security and defence policy and its other policies, the EU may now exercise a complete security role. A reflection on the question is today more important than ever before.



Occupational health concerns and the existence of stress-related and psychological problems associated with work

Policy Department on Economic and Scientific Policy

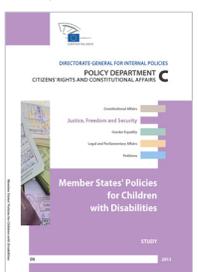


The study presents recent trends on stress at work as well as an overview of EU and national measures to tackle this problem, especially in the context of the economic and financial crisis. It also includes a number of case studies illustrating initiatives that proved successful in improving workers' mental well-being, in particular during restructuring. Given the growing concerns on the impact of the economic and financial crisis on workers' mental health, one of the main recommendations put forward in the study is that the next Strategy, or any other relevant European framework, should include stress at work as a priority area.



Member States' Policies for Children with Disabilities (incl. 18 country reports)

Policy Department on Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs



This study presents the comparative analysis of case studies conducted in 18 Member States regarding their policy for children with disabilities. Member States' and the Union's legal frameworks were examined in relation to the obligations arising from the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child and on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The research identified a broad recognition of the rights of children with disabilities under national legal systems either through general or specific legislation. However, their practical implementation revealed to be problematic in most Member States resulting in obstacles faced by children with disabilities in their day to day life. This led to a set of recommendations for EU action to enhance the situation of children with disabilities. The 18 country reports are made available separately.



The Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) – Peer Review

Policy Department on Budgetary Affairs



The study summarises the results of a peer review of the CIP and EIP evaluation reports. The peer review was conducted in two stages: first, the general CIP evaluation and, second, a detailed review of the EIP evaluation with regard to the specific needs of SMEs and how the EIP programme has targeted these needs. The peer review process was conducted with consideration of the heterogeneity and complexity of the nature of SMEs. The conclusions and recommendations highlight themes for the focus of future evaluations and make suggestions for future SME support on a European level.

