The European lactosphère is committed to elaborate a coherent dairy approach to translate the “Green Deal” and its ambitious objectives into dairy reality in line with the proven economic, environmental and social sustainability of our sector.

“With the ‘Green Deal’ initiative of the EU Commission, we now have a framework with defined objectives and strategic focus areas. This ‘Green Deal’ encompasses a total of more than 120 initiatives, tackling for instance Greenhouse Gaz Emission reduction, carbon sequestration, packaging, water use, biodiversity and many others. The idea of bringing together the dairy knowledge on environmental sustainability and to draft a ‘European Green Dairy Deal’ in line with the ambitious goals and along the ‘Green Deal’ framework seems to me a good way to underline the role that Dairy plays in achieving sustainable food systems”, stated Dr. Philipp Inderhees, Global Head of Corporate Strategy at DMK.

ECJ case C-485/18: EU institutions defend Single Market against Mandatory National Origin Labelling

General Advocate Gerard Hogan has issued this morning his legal opinion in the ECJ court case C-485/18 on the French national origin labelling decree, fully defending the Single Market principle and putting the EU Commission back on track!

► Check out our Press Release.

Farm to Fork - the perspective of EU agriculture

MEP Marlene Mortler (EPP, DE) discussed with Dr Matthias Borst, head of the Bavarian Farmer Association, and EDA director Hélène Simonin on the Farm to Fork strategy and its impact on the future of agriculture. “Farm to Fork is a food chain approach, that’s why the food systems, from farming to the consumer, have to be in the centre of the discussions. Our farmers are ready to implement new approaches, but they cannot bear the overall responsibility. A new green business model can only work if the whole chain is involved”, stated MEP Marlene Mortler.
Hélène Simonin echoed this statement and underlined the weak data basis of the Farm to Fork strategy, which highlights the need for a sound impact assessment for each of the 27 initiatives within the strategy.

We have long taken the path towards a more circular economy, and its members have been engaged for years in improving the overall sustainability and resource efficiency of the dairy sector. We are active in a wide range of topics to continuously improve our circular performance and we work with other sectors on issues such as packaging and recycling, as well as by-products valorisation and water re-use. The coming years will see us increasingly committed to contribute to the achievement of the new CEAP objectives, while continuing to provide nutritious, safe, and affordable products to the European and world citizens.

15/07 European Parliament’s agriculture committee

Yesterday, German Agriculture Minister Julia Klöckner made her first appearance during the German EU presidency in the European Parliament’s agriculture committee. During her speech, she highlighted the necessity to strengthen the CAP, and to give it a more sustainable and greener approach. To reach these goals, she said, the CAP would need an appropriate budget. She also recalled the priorities of the German presidency, which among them are to wrap up the CAP transitional rules dossier for 2021-2022, to further develop the CAP post-2020, and deal with front-of-pack nutrition labelling see our EDA Dairy Focus on Germany.

New EU Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP)

Within the framework of the European Parliament’s Own Initiative Report and forthcoming discussion in the ENVI Committee, we issued our position paper on the new EU Circular Economy Action Plan.

EDA welcomes this publication and is ready to further contribute to a cleaner and more competitive Europe.

Debating the future EU-UK relationship: border checks ahead

With the negotiations on the future relationship between the EU and the UK looking gloom, EDA Secretary General Alexander Anton participated in a high-level discussion, organised by the influential Brussels think tank Euraffex on the consequences for business and trade. The growing uncertainty about the UK’s future trading relationship with the European Union forces all stakeholders to review their strategies and prepare for a worst case scenario.

Former MEP and current CEO of the British Chamber of Commerce Daniel Dalton discussed with Alexander Anton the processes and prospects that will define the future EU-UK trade relations. This Euraffex conference offered a great opportunity to point out the specific dairy situation within the Brexit context with our fully integrated dairy supply chains across the Channel and on the island of Ireland.
FAO food outlook: EU dairy takes a hit, but shows resilience in times of crisis

In its latest trade outlook report, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) forecasts a 4% decline in dairy trade in 2020 to 74 million tons of milk equivalent, the largest annual contraction in three decades. This decline was mainly due to lower imports from China, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, and Mexico, disruptions associated with the COVID-19 crisis and a general economic slowdown. EU-28 exports are expected to fall by 7.4%, mainly due to reduced shipments to Middle Eastern countries, many of which have been affected by falling oil prices.

Your favourite Dairy product?

I love Cabécou, a thin little wheel of goat cheese from my native region: protected by a Geographical indication as Rocamadour, I love it from fresh and mild to aged, dry and sharp!

— Catherine Geslain-Lanéelle
Deputy Head of EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski’s Cabinet (Agriculture)

As a proud Franche-Comté native, my favourite dairy product is without any doubt Comté cheese, the best and most flavoury cheese in the world, which summons up delightful images of Montbéliarde cows pasturing in the Jura mountains and the skillful craft of ‘fruitière’ operators.

— Philippe Musquar
Legal Adviser, European Parliament