After another year marked by the impact of the sanitary crisis, the geopolitical tensions that hit the dairy markets heavily back in 2014 are back on the top of the agenda. Resistance and resilience of the agri-food and dairy chain as well as ‘strategic autonomy’ are key elements of the political discourse, not only under the French EU Presidency.

Throughout the covid crisis, the European agri-food sector and its resistance were praised by the EU Commission’s leadership. The European lactophère delivers!

Within the ‘geopolitical ambitions’ of our European Union, European dairy excels in supplying healthy, nutritious,
sustainable and affordable dairy food for Europe and in exporting food security to other parts of the world.

We have taken the 2015 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals seriously: our carbon net zero objectives have been published far ahead of the Green Deal, and we are on our way to make sure that we are part of the solution for achieving a climate neutral Europe by 2050 and even before. The European lactosphere delivers!

In times of tectonic shifts...

In times of tectonic shifts, we consider it even more important to safeguard the fundamental basics of our Union.

Significant parts of what we believed to be guaranteed clear lines of our European ‘acquis communautaire’ have been blurred.

Our Single Market, praised in September 2021 by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen as great enabler of progress and prosperity and as driver of good jobs and competitiveness, seems to be jeopardized. What outstanding EU officials call “purely nationalistic – even chauvinistic – instincts” seem to gain momentum over the European vision that has guided us for the last 60 years.

Science based and impact assessed policy making was clearly the trademark and guarantee of success of the European Commission’s approach in the past.

In the same way as we support the Green Deal, “Europe’s man on the moon moment”, and its objectives, that are vital for each and everyone of us, we see the need for a science based and impact assessed way forward.

So far, we miss the global vision of a holistic impact assessment of the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy.

... we keep our ambition to deliver!

The European dairy sector is built on innovation and change.

The challenges ahead will give us the opportunity to showcase our excellence and we will play our role in the ‘global ambitions’ of the European leadership.

We, the European dairy industry, have an ambition and we live up to our ambition: delivering healthy, nutritious and affordable dairy excellence through a sustainable dairy system.

Because we know: Milk & dairy are essential for your life!

Giuseppe Ambrosi
EDA President

Alexander Anton
EDA secretary general
The voice of the European lactosphère

“Uniting dairy excellence and ambition” is our new EDA motto line that embodies the essence of our EDA work and messages, that we convey via our ‘connect to the world of dairy’ strategy – a strategy that was built for both the digital and the analogue world.

Our primary role as European trade association is to facilitate the exchange and dialogue within our industry and with the Brussels based EU institutions. Next to our commitment within official consultative bodies, contacts at all levels with the European institutions and with our dairy chain partners in Europe as well as at global level are of strategic importance for us. The success of our outreach strategy is based on the reputation and the network that we have built up, together with our EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi, the EDA Presidium & Board members and our EDA membership.

We are proud to be the acknowledged voice of the European lactosphère!
Before the French EU Presidency, our EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi was part of the delegation accompanying the President of the Italian Republic, Sergio Mattarella (center) at his state visit to France and the meeting with French Prime Minister Jean Castex, Paris in July, 2021.

EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski with EDA Vice President Ingo Müller, Brussels, September 2021.

EDA secretary general Alexander Anton exchanging with First Vice President Frans Timmermans at a dairy farm visit in Gembloux (BE) in December 2021.
Our EDA Board member Gilles Gérard (CEO Luxlait) voiced our dairy perspective on global trade in the official DG AGRI podcast in November 2021.

EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi and Fonterra CEO Miles Hurrell at our EDA – New Zealand Dairy roundtable.

EDA secretary general Alexander Anton with Dr Andreas Schneider, cabinet EU COM Janusz Wojciechowski in Brussels.

EDA secretary general Alexander Anton with Dr Andreas Schneider, cabinet EU COM Janusz Wojciechowski in Brussels.
Our ‘live’ EDA Board meeting with EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski in September 2021 as well as the dairy farm visit of First Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans in December 2021, were great opportunities for us to clarify our dairy approach towards the European Green Deal and to highlight our role in this process.

In exceptional times and circumstances, Giuseppe Ambrosi took over the leadership of the European lactosphere as President of the European Dairy Association (EDA) in March 2021.

Among his priorities, Giuseppe focusses on the promotion and reinforcement of the image and reputation of milk & dairy under the new overall EDA motto line ‘Uniting Dairy Excellence and Ambition’ which is tailored for Giuseppe Ambrosi, as he is a born and bred dairy entrepreneur. With his expertise, experience, his dairy passion and his optimism, Giuseppe made sure since the very beginning of his presidency that the dairy voice is heard and understood in Brussels and beyond:

With his unrivalled energy and commitment, Giuseppe had a huge number of meetings, inter alia with Ms Brigitte Misonne and Mr Michael Scannell from DG AGRI, with our EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski the members of his cabinet, as well as with MEPs, like MEP Paolo De Castro (S&D, IT) and the members of the cabinet of EU Commissioner Stella Kyriakides and many European and global agri-food stakeholders and leaders, like Fonterra CEO Miles Hurrell and his team.

Our ‘live’ EDA Board meeting with EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski in September 2021 as well as the dairy farm visit of First Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans in December 2021, were great opportunities for us to clarify our dairy approach towards the European Green Deal and to highlight our role in this process.

"European dairy, a symbol of Europe's rich cultural and culinary heritage"

Giuseppe Ambrosi, EDA President
2021

EU-Dairy Market 2021: Start of sustainable changes?

In 2021, the long-term growth of the European milk production came to an end. For the first time since 2009, milk deliveries stagnated. After growth in the first half of the year, milk volumes fell below the previous year’s level in the second half. The supply of dairy products has tightened and prices for various dairy products have risen to their highest level since 2007. Demand inside and outside the EU has continued to follow its rising trend. Milk producer prices have recovered after three weak previous years.

Framework conditions:

• The United Kingdom is no longer part of the common European single market since 2021. The introduction of veterinary certificates was postponed several times in 2021 and may be applied from autumn 2022.
• The Russian import ban on dairy products from the EU remained in force. The US punitive tariffs on agricultural products from the EU were suspended in mid-2021 for a period of five years.
• The Corona pandemic continued to have an impact on economics and society worldwide.
• GDP in the EU recovered in 2021 but did not return to its former strength.
• The European Commission did not take any market management measures for the dairy market in 2021.
• The financial framework of the common agricultural policy (CAP) 2020 has been extended up to the end of 2022. An agreement on the reform CAP 2027 was formally adopted in December 2021.

Growth of milk deliveries stopped

In 2021, the rising trend in milk deliveries in the EU was halted for the first time since 2009. Over the past ten years, milk collection grew steadily with an average growth rate of 1.4% per year. In 2021, an estimated 144.9 million tonnes of milk were delivered in the EU-27. This represents a decrease of 0.2 million tonnes in volume compared to the previous year, but a marginal growth of 0.1% in daily average after adjusting for the leap day. Over the ten-year period, growth had been weakest at 0.3% in 2016 and strongest in 2014 at 4.6%. Milk volumes varied, depending on the country. In milk-rich countries such as Germany, France and the Netherlands, there were significant decreases, while in Ireland and Italy there were strong increases. Ups and downs were roughly balanced in 2021. Milk production was less affected by extreme weather conditions than in previous years with pronounced heat periods. However, too much wetness during the vegetation period had a negative impact on the quality of pastures and silages. In some cases, milk production is affected in the longer term by stricter environmental regulations. In 2021, dairy cow herds continued
to decline in Germany, France, the Netherlands, and Poland, but increased in Ireland, Italy, Spain and Austria. The average fat content increased again during the year and reached a multi-year high. The protein content was stable at the previous year’s level.

Healthy demand in the single market...
Total consumption of dairy products in the EU again increased slightly in 2021. Stocks continued to decline overall. However, there was less product available in total for exports to the world market. Imports of dairy products also decreased compared to the previous year. Sales of dairy products continued to be affected by the Corona pandemic and the containment measures taken. However, the changes were less pronounced than in the first pandemic year 2020. Overall, purchases of dairy products in food retail continued partly at an increased level. Liquid milk returned to its long-term decrease, while cheese purchases remained substantially higher than before the beginning of the pandemic. However, there was no panic buying as seen at the first stage of the outbreak. Food service suffered less than in the previous year, helped by the increased establishment of pick-up and delivery services. Due to the progress in vaccination, the measures were less pervasive.

... and outside
On the world market, demand for dairy products was also robust and continued to increase slightly. China’s market share of imports rose strongly. The world’s largest importer of dairy products continued to expand its imports of dairy products, with the exception of infant formula, and overall imported the highest volumes of dairy products ever. EU-27 exports of dairy products have been largely stable in 2021. Shipments to traditional third countries have partly increased further compared to previous years, while deliveries to the United Kingdom have decreased, as in the previous year. EU exports to traditional third countries of cheese, whey powder, condensed milk and milk and cream increased. Skimmed milk powder saw a decline, due to lower availability. Exports of butter and whole milk powder were lower than 2020 but higher than in 2019. Imports from the United Kingdom have also shrunk. Since leaving the Community, the UK has been the main supplier of dairy imports to the EU.

Further growth of the cheese market
The long-term growth of the European cheese market continued in 2021. Despite stagnating milk volumes, more raw material was channelled into cheese processing. Production increased in most EU countries. It only fell in Denmark, the Netherlands, Finland, and

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**European Union: Balance Sheet of Cow Milk**

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<tr>
<td>Deliveries of milk</td>
<td>157,4</td>
<td>158,4</td>
<td>160,8</td>
<td>145,3</td>
<td>144,9</td>
<td>145,6</td>
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<tr>
<td>+ Imports in milk equivalent</td>
<td>1,0</td>
<td>1,1</td>
<td>1,0</td>
<td>3,3</td>
<td>2,9</td>
<td>2,7</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Exports in milk equivalent</td>
<td>20,5</td>
<td>22,3</td>
<td>21,8</td>
<td>25,5</td>
<td>24,3</td>
<td>23,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Change in stocks in milk equivalent</td>
<td>-0,1</td>
<td>-2,2</td>
<td>-0,8</td>
<td>-0,5</td>
<td>-1,0</td>
<td>-0,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumption in milk equivalent</td>
<td>138,0</td>
<td>139,3</td>
<td>140,7</td>
<td>123,5</td>
<td>124,4</td>
<td>124,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumption per capita</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-sufficiency (%)</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) Preliminary 2) Forecast. Source: ZMB. Berlin, Germany
Lithuania. In Germany, the largest producing country, growth was below average. Cheese production increased the most in Italy, followed by France. Cheese demand within the Community increased overall in 2021, even though demand in the retail sector did not quite maintain the high level of the previous year. In addition, demand for cheese from third countries remained high. Deliveries to the USA recovered from their decline in the previous year after punitive tariffs on various types of cheese were suspended. More cheese also went to Switzerland, Ukraine, and China. Japan is the second largest export market for the EU after the USA. Since Brexit, the UK is the biggest outlet for cheese among third countries, albeit exports fell for the second year in a row. 31% of total cheese export went to UK.

After the cheese market was quite balanced in the first half of the year, the supply became tighter in the second half of the year as a consequence of the weaker milk deliveries. Not all requests could be fully met, which led to a strong price increase, especially for semi-hard cheese, Emmental and Cheddar. The price increase of pasta filata was softer. At the end of the year, cheese prices reached historic highs, and in some cases, exceeded them. The prices for the co-product’s whey powder and whey derivates have also risen strongly in the course of 2021, which has provided additional support for cheese valorisation.

Higher butter prices
Butter prices have recovered in 2021 after contracting in the previous two years. On a yearly average, quotations have exceeded the levels of the previous two years but have not returned to the record-highs of 2017 and 2018. EU butter production in 2021 was lower in the first eleven months compared to the same period last year but exceeded 2019 levels. Commercial disappearance increased slightly compared to last year, with sales in the food retail sector falling compared to the first phase of the Corona pandemic but increasing in the other sectors. Exports to third countries decreased compared to 2020, which had a stabilising effect on availability. Butter production was reduced mainly in Germany, Belgium, Spain, and Poland. It also decreased slightly in France. Production was increased in Ireland, Denmark, and the Netherlands.

Market for whole milk powder contracted
The market for whole milk powder in the EU shrank in 2021. Lower quantities were produced, and less product was exported. The international market for whole milk powder grew at the same time as China’s imports were high. The higher demand was mainly served.
by New Zealand. The EU’s share of the international market fell again in 2021. The supply of whole milk powder was tight towards the end of the year and prices rose to historic highs.

**Skimmed milk powder short**
The market for skimmed milk powder finally turned around in 2021. Stocks had already been greatly reduced in the previous year. The market has moved from several years of oversupply to undersupply. The production of skimmed milk powder has been restricted in 2021. Especially in Germany, the largest producing country in the EU until 2020, there was a significant reduction. France has become the largest producer in the Community with largely stable production. In most EU countries, production has been reduced. Exceptions are Belgium and the Netherlands with increasing volumes.
The demand for skimmed milk powder within the EU has remained stable. From the calf-feed-industry, demand for quantities from current production has increased after stocks from previous years were absorbed. Exports to third countries decreased following the reduced availability. Prices increased with high speed in the last months of the year and reached their highest level since 2007.

**Milk prices recovered**
In 2021, farmgate milk prices followed rising dairy product revenues and increased, especially in the second half of the year. A recovery followed after three weak years. However, dairy producers’ revenue margins were squeezed by sharp increases in the cost of concentrates, fertiliser, and energy. Depending on the portfolio of the dairy, there were also differences in payments, as the price transmission in the food retail trade was delayed and did not take place completely by the end of the year.

**Outlook for 2022**
In 2022, demand for dairy products is expected to continue to meet limited supply, although the shortage may ease during the period of seasonally high supply in the second quarter. Milk production is not expected to be stimulated by higher producer prices to the same extent as in previous high price periods, as the factors that dampened production in 2021, such as high concentrate costs, below-average silage qualities, high fertiliser costs, energy costs and operating expenses are expected to continue to have an impact. Political requirements to reduce the nitrogen balance surplus as well as further environmental and animal-welfare requirements have a dampening effect on potential investments in milk production. Supply from other exporting regions is also likely to remain limited, as production in the southern hemisphere will decrease seasonally up to mid-year and expansionary trends in the USA have come to a halt.

The limited supply suggests a further increase in prices of dairy products and milk producer prices. However, there are a number of uncertainties. It is possible that the expected increase in consumer prices for dairy products will dampen consumption, especially as consumers face further massive cost increases, including for energy. Stable demand from China is of high importance for the balance of the international market.
Trade & Economics in 2021

Return to the new normal?

Back in 2020, Covid and Brexit were the buzzwords. In 2021 it was still, of course, of great influence, but things slightly returned to normal.

In the TEC meetings, the current dairy situation and structural and conjunctural factors influencing them are subject to discussion with the market services of the EU Commission. This actual state of play is made after consultations with the members and valuable contributions by ZMB.

In 2021, contrary to the year before, there was no urgency in applying the Commission’s toolbox with measures as private storage or buying into intervention. Exports helped to underpin the EU dairy markets further. During the past summer, also Horeca channels returned to a more normal situation. Against this demand background, the undynamic development at milk production level has led to further increasing prices and at the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022, we noticed price peaks.

With raw milk prices paid by the processors over 40cts, milk producers can at least compensate some of their also rapidly increasing costs, in particular energy. The cheese exports to the U.S. picked up again after they were, last year, negatively influenced by the 25% extra levy following the Airbus-Boeing dispute. EDA pleaded several times to leave dairy out of the bilateral retaliation list and we are now happy that at least five years solution has been reached.

Despite some uncertainties at the beginning of this year, exports to China showed to be much more resilient than expected. In the area of skimmed milk powder, the U.S. demonstrated its strength and due to the lack of availability, the EU lost some market position here.

Brexit: a downturn in dairy trade

Although the measures on the UK side have not been affected, the export certificates for dairy products from the EU are only obligatory from 1 September 2022 onwards, dairy trade in both directions declined. Also, the pre-notification procedure for entry of dairy products in the UK was postponed till January 2022. Due to the administrative problems, EU trade flows through Great Britain with destination Ireland are almost non-existent. The TEC followed the functioning of the agreements, including the protocol on Northern Ireland.

EU members with a historic focus on the UK have successfully reached other destinations and hence limited the trade loss that was initially expected.

New Common Agricultural Policy in a new phase

The TEC and its CAP Task Force followed the process towards the adoption of the new policy quite intensively. Whereas the interests of the milk processing industry are concentrated on the Common Market Organisation, the new elements of the CAP are also important for the dairy industry. In particular, those proposed elements which can cause an enormous administrative burden and do not contribute to the earning capacity of the industry and the supplying farmers -like margin requirements- have been criticized and altered in the final agreement.

Finally, in December 2021, the final text for the new Common Agricultural Policy was approved by the European Parliament and the Council.

Green Deal and Farm to Fork (F2F) strategy

The Farm to Fork strategy is of vital importance to the dairy industry. We voiced on all occasions that the sustainability concept has three pillars and we shared our impression that the economic component seems to sometimes lack attention in the policy framework. We pleaded for an ex-ante robust economic impact assessment. We have also made sure that our TEC work is better linked to the food policy angle and the trade and economics perspectives are well aligned with our EDA food policy approaches.

Trade items

In our TEC/Trade Task Force attention is given to newly developed trade agreements and to trade (-policy) measures that mark a barrier to trade.
Examples of the first ones are MERCOSUR and the ongoing negotiations with New Zealand and Australia to achieve an FTA. Sometimes the process is delayed like the MERCOSUR agreement. In the TEC the importance of giving attention to more offensive agreements whereby we can gain some market access was repeatedly underlined. The upcoming agreement with New Zealand has only defensive interest and will not prosper the EU dairy industry in general.

Increasingly attention has been given to all kinds of hurdles in trade. Notably, TBT and SPS related issues threaten a well-functioning trade environment. Technical barriers to trade are widespread and often difficult to tackle. For sanitary restrictions, a set of international rules exists but the interpretation can also lead to trade hindrances. Also, far-reaching requirements, which go even back to the place of origin of the cows, hamper trade. In this respect, the introduction of the EU animal health regulation could also lead to importing countries that might feel tempted to do likewise or just refuse to accept the EU rulings concerning the obligatory provenance of their herd. In the TEC/Trade TF, this has been followed and action has been taken towards the EU Commission to limit trade tensions. The latest example hereby was the looming trade conflict about imports of some vital dairy ingredients from the US. There are more examples to be given. The most important thing here is that hurdles are notified by the members in due time and that with help of the EU or the National Authorities these can be signaled and brought forward.

Recognition of the growing role of Africa in dairy trade relations is given by the work done in the sub-Task Force Africa.

Milk Market Observatory (MMO)
The Economic Board of the Milk Market Observatory (MMO) is meeting quarterly. Its members are experts from the milk supply chain: milk producers, processors, traders, and retailers. This observatory, launched in 2014 in light of the end of the milk quota, follows and analyses past and present trends at a global and European level for topics such as milk production, supply and demand, production cost, and market developments.

Monika Wohlfarth (ZMB GmbH) is our EDA representative in the MMO and presents during these meetings our assessment of EU stock levels for butter, skimmed milk powder, and cheese and develops further our EDA input.

The facts and market data-based approach of the MMO makes it a valuable instrument in the market transparency toolbox.

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

Back in July 2018, the EU Commission proposed a CAP reform package of three regulations: CAP strategic plans and new delivery model Regulation; Horizontal Regulation on financing and managing; and Reform of the Common Market Organisation (CMO) Regulation.
The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is fundamental for dairy. EDA has been vocal throughout the three and a half years of the CAP reform about a balanced and comprehensive agreement. After intensive discussions within the COMAGRI of the European Parliament (EP), chaired by MEP Norbert Lins (EPP, DE), the plenary session of the EP voted in October 2020 on its negotiating position. The dossiers fell under the EP rapporteurship of MEP Peter Jahr (EPP, DE), MEP Eric Andrieu (S&D, FR) and MEP Ulrike Müller (RE, DE). In parallel, after seven EU Council’s rotating Presidencies, on 20 October 2020, under the German EU Presidency, the European Agriculture and Fisheries Council, agreed its negotiating positions on the CAP reform kicking off interinstitutional negotiations with the European Parliament referred to as trilogues, since the EU Commission has a rather influential facilitator role in this process. In view of the complex discussions in both legislative bodies, the European Parliament and the Council, the EU Commission’s reform proposals on CAP beyond 2023 could not been formally adopted by January 2021. The EU Commission needed to adopt a transitional package to ensure the applicability of the existing regulations of the CAP to guarantee that farmers and beneficiaries of rural development funds would continue to receive payments. Consequently, in December 2020, the EU institutions agreed to frontload all the funds made available for rural communities from the EU recovery instrument to 2021 and 2022. Around 30% of the €8 billion aid will become available in 2021, and the remaining 70% will be released in 2022 according to the agreed text.

In order to share and reinforce our EDA position during those subsequent eight months of trilogues, EDA elaborated a statement in November 2020. Newt to our more informal contacts, this statement was followed up by a letter in March 2021, which was sent to the Special Committee on Agriculture and to the EP. With that letter we shared our analysis of the most dairy-relevant amendments of the reform and our proposed EDA positioning. The echoes we received, and the final outcome shows, that our documents were well received and taken into consideration by the negotiators.

In June 2021, negotiators from the EU Council, the European Parliament and the EU Commission reached a provisional political agreement on the main elements of the revised CAP. On 28 June 2021, this agreement was finally endorsed by the EU Member States in the EU Agricultural Council, providing us with a formal agreement on the CAP.

After an intense and constructive journey, we acknowledge that the comprehensive outcome of the new CAP is not only set up to be a resilient and transforming policy in the European Union, which benefits European dairy and agriculture, but the new CAP will also lead by example at global level. Besides, the existing and renewed CAP regulatory framework with its advanced market management tools has already proven its efficiency in the past years and will continue providing the adequate opportunities for cooperation between producers for the marketing of their products in the next years.
Among the three Regulations composing the CAP reform, the Common Markets Organization Regulation (CMO) is a key component for the agricultural sector and of great importance for dairy. Its implementation is essential for the competitiveness of the European dairy sector across our Union. We are convinced that the agreement reached on the new policy provides a constructive basis for European agriculture, and we are looking forward to working together with all the European institutions and stakeholders towards the smooth implementation of the new CAP in the times to come.

In order to fully analyse the agreement reached on the new CAP, including the new CMO, EDA organised a special online workshop, in June 2021, The workshop was chaired by Mr. Luis Calabozo, Secretary General of our Spanish member, FENIL, and the chair of the EDA CAP TF, who welcomed Mr. Carlos Martin Ovilo, Deputy Head of Unit for animal products markets from DG Agri, who shared with us a dairy-tailored and insightful presentation.

EDA members clearly agreed that the deal on the new CAP will ensure a robust market-oriented future for dairy. As EDA, we are convinced that the agreement reached on the CMO Regulation last June 2021 forms a reliable basis for the future of our sector.

Strategic Plans Regulation

European dairy processors are fully committed to the European Green Deal objectives. The European dairy sector has permanently led the change towards more sustainable agriculture practices, and our members are front-runners when it comes to implementing new techniques and methods to adapt and improve our production chains. This also means strengthening the resilience of our dairy supply chain across the three pillars of sustainability, successfully delivering excellent dairy quality for regional, European, and international markets in a competitive and market-oriented environment. The new CAP Strategic Plans Regulation is the new instrument allowing the EU Member States to foster this approach at national level.

The new CAP Strategic Plans will have the mission to deliver in terms of climate change mitigation and biodiversity safeguards. The new eco-schemes—a specific tool created and integrated into the plans intended to give additional funding support to those farming and production practices which help expressly to increase greening ambitions—, compose a complementary system. This will give flexibility to European Member States to create their respective plans, in accordance with their specific agricultural profile.

The new CAP Strategic Plans are a promising tool. They are tailored nationally to the needs of each country and will be scrutinised by the EU Commission by the end of June 2022. Each country will have to detail how its plan will contribute to the European Green Deal ambitions, supporting the adaptation of its agri-food production and production methods to the new challenges. The process will be measured using performance indicators and will be cross-checked by the EU Commission, that completely re-shaped the organisation of DG AGRI for this purpose in January 2022.

Any re-nationalisation of the CAP induces the risk of creating competitive advantages / disadvantages for the agri-food chains within the Single Market — we trust that the EU Commission will pay utmost attention to keep a level playing field within the European lactosphere.

Farm to Fork Strategy

The Farm to Fork Strategy (F2F) was presented in May 2020 by the EU Commission as the flagship policy to shape European agriculture, incorporated in the European Green Deals’ ambitions in terms of environmental and climate objectives.

Based on the Commission’s communication of the F2F strategy and in the absence of a comprehensive impact assessment on
the strategy of the EU Commission, several independent scientific studies have been published by different academic institutions all over Europe and beyond – in fact, the first analysis of the potential F2F impact was published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These studies highlight the potential negative consequences of implementing the current F2F strategy as proposed by the EU Commission and show common trends. For instance, they point out that production restrictions that drive from the European Green Deal are likely to lead to a decrease of agricultural production and higher production costs for European dairy. The studies furthermore highlight that a lower domestic production could negatively impact the European trade balance by decreasing agricultural exports by the EU while increasing its imports – having a neutral or even negative impact on the European environmental & climate balance.

The European dairy sector is committed to contribute to the achievement of an European sustainable food system across the three pillars of sustainability, including the economic and social one.

Nevertheless, taking the F2F’s possible impact and consequences on European agriculture and dairy into account, we believe that any concrete action would need to be science-based, allowing for an approach that delivers quantifiable results, and be coherent in the wider context of the complexity of food and dairy production. This way we can assure full credibility and real long-term solutions in the agricultural chains.

Promotion policy – “Enjoy it’s from Europe”

The EU promotion policy was created with the aim to ensure the competitiveness of EU agricultural products and to open up new markets within the Union and abroad. This policy has successfully delivered on this objective, as underlined by both the EU Commission’s evaluation and by the EU producers.

The EU Commission launched the process of revising the promotion policy in February 2021. That exercise takes place in in the context of the Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy and aims to enhance its contribution to sustainability. To do so, the EU Commission has several times voiced the idea to leave some of the iconic European food product categories, like wine or red meat, out of this policy in the future. The Commission considers furthermore an increase in funds to certain agricultural products which they consider sustainable – without giving a definition of ‘sustainable food’.

For 2022, €185.9 million euros have been allocated to the promotion of EU agri-food products in and outside the EU. This year’s selection process will focus on programs that emphasise the climatic and environmental ambitions of the EU and which encourage the shift to a more plant-based diet.

We are actively feeding into the discussion and contributed to the two phases of the public consultation on the review of the policy in 2021. EDA Secretary-General Alexander Anton met several times with EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski and different cabinets to discuss the future setup of the EU agri-food promotion more in depth. During these discussions, Alexander Anton underlined the huge importance of the policy for the dairy sector as the campaigns have the potential to enhance competitiveness and consumption of EU agri-food products, raise their profile and increase market share in targeted countries.

Photo: EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski and EDA Secretary-General Alexander Anton discussing the EU promotion policy in January 2021.
We pointed out, in all our contributions, that no products or sectors should be excluded from the program, as all farm, food and drink products can be part of a balanced diet and incorporate sustainability elements. The exclusion of specific sectors or products would discourage their producers, who have already invested a lot in enhancing the sustainability of their production, from going even further. We also highlighted that all agricultural practices (conventional and organic) should be equally supported in order to maximise the promotion policy contribution to sustainability.

EDA will continue its efforts, stressing that the EU promotion policy is first and foremost an agri-food competitiveness policy.

EU school scheme – EU Dairy, next generation!

The EU school milk scheme plays an important role in communicating to future generations the benefits of dairy products. The scheme furthermore contributes to the long-term sustainability of the dairy sector and makes clear that dairy products are a significant contributor to the health and wellbeing of children and adolescents, especially in the critical period of growth and development.

The EU Commission launched in 2021 a revision of the scheme under the Farm to Fork (F2F) Strategy. The revision aims to enhance the schemes contribution to “more sustainable agri-food production and consumption”.

EDA is an active voice in the discussion and the ongoing consultation. In our clear and comprehensive statement, we pointed out the increasing bureaucratic and administrative work that comes with the scheme. This might in the future disincentive stakeholders to take part in the scheme and increase the possibility of leaving children without an adequate consumption of milk and dairy products.

We highlighted that the review of the school scheme policy must be used to achieve two goals. It is firstly important to educate our young generation about healthy eating habits, nutrition and our EU farming and food system. Secondly, we suggest improvements to the current organisation of the scheme. Improvements are necessary in those Member States where it currently runs suboptimal. We need to uncork the full potential of the scheme all over Europe.

EU marketing standards

EU marketing standards and common product definitions (sales descriptions and protected denominations) have proven very instrumental in assuring concise & transparent consumer information, guaranteeing a level playing field and facilitating trade.

The EU commission launched a revision of the EU marketing standards in January 2021 in order to encourage the supply of ‘more sustainable products to consumers’. EDA contributed to both phases of the public consultation. We made clear that European marketing standards covering dairy are based on the Codex Alimentarius rules and have been assessed in 2020 by the EU Commission via a very specific and in-depth analysis. Codex rules have the clear objective to facilitate trade at European and international level. Therefore, any unilateral modification of the EU marketing standards for dairy would necessarily lead to a complication of the system.

In our meetings with the relevant services of the EU Commission, we made it very clear that for this reason alone, dairy marketing standards must continue to be based on composition. Any inclusion of ‘sustainability’ elements into the product standards would in any case pre-require a clear definition of these elements and an agreement at international level / Codex Alimentarius level.
Sustainability criteria can be added – and are added today! - via contractual specifications and should not be confused with the compositional requirements which define a product.

Incorporating ‘sustainability criteria’ into marketing standards will also raise serious issues in terms of international trade and compliance with WTO rules.

The EU Commission would also like to enhance marketing standards to cover plant-based protein products. We support this initiative as these new marketing standards will increase the regulatory framework of these type of products which, currently, are not subject to the same European rules protecting consumers.

We expect a legislative proposal in the summer of 2022.

Contingency plan for ensuring food supply and food security

Milk and dairy have proven essential during the covid19 crisis – milk and dairy were the citizens’ choice when they rushed into the supermarkets getting the true ‘essentials’ for their families: nutritious, healthy, tasty and convenient foodstuff. The European milk and dairy sector has proven resistant (and would for sure have been resilient, if the operations would have come to a halt) - the European milk & dairy sector has kept the operations running, from the milk collection at farm level to the supply to retail and other outlets, during all stages of the covid19 crisis within the Single Market.

As part of the Farm to Fork (F2F) strategy, the EU Commission announced its intention to step up its coordination of a common European response to crises affecting food systems to ensure food security and safety, reinforce public health and mitigate their socio-economic impact in the EU.

The EDA Secretariat contributed to the EU Commission’s public consultation as we acknowledge that the 2020 Covid-19 experience has shown that supply chain’s fundamental principles, first of all our Single Market, must be kept as operational as possible in non-crisis times in order to keep the dairy chain strong and hence resistant in times of crisis.

The contingency plan’s communication published by the EU Commission on 12 November of 2021, highlighted the overall resilience of the EU food supply chain, it identifies existing shortcomings and proposes actions to improve preparedness at European level.

The creation of the Expert group on the European Food Security Crisis Preparedness and Response Mechanism (EFSCM), by the EU Commission in 2022, is the next step in preventing and tackling food crises in the EU. The work of the group leans on two pillars. The first is the prevention of a possible food crisis through a detailed analysis of vulnerabilities in the food supply chain. Secondly, the gathered experts will exchange information on best practices and national
contingency plans in order to develop recommendations to address crises with the objective of improving coordination, cooperation, and communication on food supply chains. EDA put our Secretary General, Alexander Anton, forward as a member of this expert panel.

Geographical Indications
European cheese and dairy products are rightly perceived as premium quality by the consumer around the world. EU dairy products also reflect the rich diversity of different traditions and regions in Europe. European dairy is the guardian of a unique culinary heritage and a cultural treasure: next to the legal protection of dairy terms like ‘milk’, ‘cheese’ or ‘whey’ more than 300 designations of cheeses and other dairy products are protected as Geographical Indications through the EU quality policy and the Geographical Indication (GI) protection scheme – these iconic cheeses are the ambassadors of the overall EU dairy excellence!

Back in October 2020, the EU Commission launched a revision of the EU GI protection scheme that was already highlighted as one of the priorities of the EU Commission by President Ursula von der Leyen when she took office in 2019. Under the proposed initiative, the EU Commission intends to simplify and reduce administrative burdens and also tries to merge the technical and procedural rules on GIs. This should provide for a single GI registration procedure and digital submission of applications by EU and non-EU applicants, with the view to shortening registration times.

EDA contributed to the two phases of the public consultation opened by the EU Commission. We highlighted that the current EU GIs scheme has already proven its capacity to help small production areas to uncork the full potential of their unique savoir faire and their specific dairy products. Secondly EDA explained that the procedural length of the registration processes can be explained by insufficiently substantiated ‘cahiers des charges’ or by justified legal hurdles. Speeding up the processes, for instance by shortening the procedural rights of third parties, would hence jeopardize the quality and/or legality of the register and cannot be an objective as such. We are also very sceptical about any idea to ‘outsource’ this core policy field and to confer this policy to other institutions than the EU Commission.

The EU Commission’s legislative proposal is expected in the first quarter of 2022.

Taxonomy
In order to meet the European climate and energy targets for 2030 and reach the objectives of the European Green Deal, the EU Commission is trying to direct investments towards ‘sustainable projects and activities’.

The EU taxonomy is a classification system, establishing a list of economic activities that the EU qualifies as environmentally sustainable – the proposed listing within the energy sector made this taxonomy project quite prominent beginning of 2022.

Taxonomy aims to play an important role in helping the EU scale up sustainable investment and implement the European Green Deal. The EU taxonomy intends to provide companies, investors, and policymakers with definitions of which economic activities are considered environmentally sustainable by the EU.

The Taxonomy Regulation establishes six environmental objectives: Climate change mitigation; Climate change adaptation; The sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources; The transition to a circular economy; Pollution prevention and control; The protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

In our contact with the EU institutions, we stated that the European dairy sector should be included in the taxonomy due to the significant potential for reducing GHG emissions through good practices on the farm and the huge carbon stockage potential of dairy pasture land.
The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
Proposed by the EU Commission as part of the Green Deal framework and published in June 2021, the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) aims at reducing carbon leakage ensuring that the price of imports in the EU reflect more accurately their carbon content. Carbon leakage occurs when companies in energy-intensive industries relocate from the EU to jurisdictions with less stringent emissions regulations due to the costs incurred under EU GHG emissions reduction policies. The CBAM aims to replace the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) for certain products imported into the EU.

The transition period for the CBAM is expected to be of three years, beginning on 1 January 2023, followed by a phasing out period of the ETS system while the CBAM strengthens its position as the new border carbon mechanism of the EU. The sectors covered by the CBAM are said to be cement, electricity, iron, steel, aluminium, and fertiliser production. The European Parliament aims to include agriculture among the sectors to be affected by the new tax.

The European dairy sector shares the EU’s climate ambition of achieving a carbon neutral economy by 2050. However, EDA considers that economic and social sustainability should be equally ensured as well. We need to ensure that the European dairy remains competitive on the internal and external market along our journey towards carbon neutrality. This includes the need to match the World Trade Organizations’ (WTO) rules. Further negotiations are expected from the side of the European Parliament and official position from the co-legislator expected by the second half of the year.

Trade and Market Access
Bilateral Trade Issues and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) Negotiations
A pro-trade attitude is enshrined in the DNA of the European dairy sector. With over 12,000 processing sites and home to 10 out of the global top 20 dairies, the European dairy industry represents about 30% of the world’s milk and dairy exports, creating 45,000 jobs that depend directly on these exports and creating added value for the EU dairy sector and beyond.

Common trade and investment policy is an exclusive EU competency. This means that bilateral and regional Free Trade Agreements are negotiated by the EU Commission and that the EU Commission speaks for all EU Member States. FTAs also try to solve trade barriers that prevent European operators from properly accessing a partner’s market. EDA is the EU Commission’s point of contact when it comes to dairy-related input in trade negotiations and in resolving trade barriers affecting our dairy exports.

To support the EU trade and our positions on trade agreements, we analyse, within EDA, the ongoing trade negotiations between the European Union and third countries, compare market access provisions of free trade agreements signed by our main competitors, and liaise with the European institutions on overall market access for European dairy exports and the EU trade policy.

EDA is also a member of the EU Market Access Advisory Committee (MAAC) and Market Access Working Group on Sanitary and Phytosanitary issues (SPS MAWG); Our membership of these advisory bodies gives us a direct line of communication with the relevant services in the EU Commission’s DG TRADE and DG SANTE. This can be done in an attempt to eliminate trade barriers or to protect our market against unfair competition from outside the EU. Meetings take place every month and are attended by the EU Commission, the EU Member States, and European business associations.
EU – U.S. RELATIONSHIP: A NEW TAKE OFF AFTER THE TURBULENCES IN THE AIR

The five-year truce which has been struck in the long-running trade dispute over subsidies for Boeing and Airbus was one of the highlights of 2021.

The dairy industry was taken hostage in this trade dispute, even though dairy had no relation at all to the disputed aircraft subsidies. Our involuntary involvement meant that a significant number of EU dairy tariff lines were since the beginning of October 2019 subject to an additional tariff of 25% on arrival in the U.S. The additional tariffs imposed on EU dairy exports reached hundreds of millions of dollars and negatively impacted the U.S. and EU economies. All of this was during a period when both economies were already experiencing instability from the COVID-19 pandemic.

EDA constantly urged the policymakers and politicians at all levels and on both sides of the ocean to make it a top priority to resolve this trade dispute and repair the vitally important trading relationship between both economies. The EU is by far the most important agri-food exporter to the United States of America – just as the EU is the most important U.S. agri-food export destination.

We remained in close contact with the cabinet of EU Trade Commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis and with our colleagues from the Cheese Importers Association of America (CIAA), to exchange on the impact of the dispute on the European dairy sector, and EDA joined a wider coalition of stakeholders which were hit by, but in no way related to the disputed aircraft subsidies.

On 30 December 2020, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative announced that additional tariffs would be imposed on European products from 12 January 2021. The day after Washington started collecting new duties on French and German goods, EDA, and the Cheese Importers Association of America (CIAA) jointly sent a letter to then US President-Elect Joe R. Biden and to the EU Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, calling for an end to the unfair targeting of dairy within the civil aircraft battle. This letter has been followed up by an additional letter sent in June 2021, calling upon U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai (which an EDA delegation had met already in 2018) and EU Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis to conclude the negotiations, that were underway, in a satisfying matter. These negotiations finally bore fruit later that month. We believe that the agreed five-year moratorium on retaliatory tariffs in this dispute should give a sufficient timeframe to reshape and restart our U.S.-EU trade relations.

For May 2022, we plan a high-level EDA delegation visit to Washington DC to discuss with key U.S. dairy stakeholders and with representatives of the U.S. administration, but also with the EU Commission’s delegation and EU Member States’ representatives in the U.S.A.

MERCOSUR

After two decades, Mercosur (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay) and the European Union have finally reached an agreement on the trade environment for more than 780 million citizens.

EDA welcomed the comprehensive trade agreement as concluded between the EU and Mercosur in July 2019 – to reach an agreement that includes the Paris climate goals was in those days a real landmark event. The deal, when entering into force, has a certain potential to increase our EU dairy presence in these overseas markets by removing high tariffs on cheese, milk powders, and infant formula and by making food safety procedures clearer, more predictable, and less cumbersome for EU exporters.

The adopted legal safeguards to protect over 350 high-quality European food and drink products from imitation in Mercosur countries will also strengthen the well-deserved excellent reputation of all our European premium dairy products.

The final ratification of the agreement between the two regions is currently, and unfortunately, delayed due to political resistance. The EU Member States paralysed the processes by requesting additional clarity on the implementation of sustainability provisions in this agreement. The clear commitment of both partners to the Paris Agreement (COP21) and its objectives is a good step in the right direction.
EDA, as part of a European trade association coalition representing several sectors, remains a constructive partner and we are confident that a positive outcome is within reach. In 2021 EDA met with H.E., the Ambassador of Argentina in Brussels as well as with H.E., the Ambassador of Brazil in Brussels, to share our assessment of the EU–Mercosur trade agreement. The future implementation of this new trade framework, part of a wider Association Agreement, will be beneficial for the two economies.

Click here to read the EDA Trade Focus “Dairy Trade and Mercosur”

Mexico
The EU and Mexico reached an ‘agreement in principle on the trade part of a modernised EU-Mexico Global Agreement in April 2018. The new agreement will replace the one between the EU and Mexico from 2000. All texts have been by now been finalised and published on DG Trade’s website. Ratification and entry into force are now foreseen for the third quarter of 2022.

The new agreement aims to protect, in the Mexican market, 340 distinctive food and wine denominations from specific regions in the EU, such as Gouda Holland and Danablu. Furthermore, the agreement opens the Mexican market without a limit for blue cheeses, for 5,000 tonnes of fresh and processed cheeses, and 20,000 tonnes for other cheeses. So far, dairy products are generally subject to high tariffs when exported from the EU, with up to 60% tariff duty on some cheeses and milk powders. The agreement would especially be welcomed as the US and Chile already secured preferential access for their dairy exports through their own free trade agreements with Mexico.

EDA has been an active and constructive partner throughout the negotiations, and we look forward to swift ratification and implementation of the agreement.

Click here to read the EDA Trade Focus “Dairy Trade and Mexico”

Average dairy herd size
Cows per farm

Mexico

EU 27 & UK

36

Mexico

81%

EU 27 & UK

100%

Self-sufficiency in milk

European trade associations meet with the Brazilian Ambassador to the EU Marcos Galvão on the state of play of the EU–Mercosur ratification process.
NEW ZEALAND: DOWN UNDER DEMANDING DAIRY ACCESS

Following the start of trade negotiations with Australia, then EU Commissioner Cecilia Malmström launched negotiations with New Zealand in June 2018. The difficult sanitary situation in 2021 did not stop the EU Commission and the NZ government to speed up the process and 2022 now seems to be the year in which the free trade negotiations between the EU and New Zealand could be finalised – despite the rather unenthusiastic approach of the French EU Presidency.

EDA has followed these negotiations closely since their opening in 2018 and provided the EU Commission, especially in 2021, with the necessary market insights through alignment calls with the EU’s competent services as well as through our detailed position papers.

EDA additionally engaged with our friends in New Zealand. EDA Secretary-General Alexander Anton discussed trade relations with Damien O’Connor, New Zealand’s Minister of Agriculture at the New Zealand Embassy, and Laurens van Delft, EDA’s head of trade and economics, took part in a virtual lunch with Chris Carson, New Zealand’s Agricultural Counsellor in the New Zealand Mission to the EU. Our EDA – New Zealand Dairy Roundtable in Brussels in October 2021 was – once again – a great opportunity for an exchange with Fonterra CEO Miles Hurrell, EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi, and EDA Board member Albert de Groot (CEO Vreugdenhil Dairy Foods) – a discussion that went far beyond trade issues, since NZ and EU dairy have also a solid ground of shared concerns.

New Zealand is the world’s second-largest dairy exporter, and it represents around one-third of the global dairy trade. The trade of dairy products between the EU and New Zealand consists mostly of EU exports of milk powder and whey, and EU imports of butter and cheese, both having preferential access to the EU through TRQs, whose historical basis can be questioned today.

It does not come as a surprise that New Zealand has negotiated all over the world favourable market access conditions in its free trade agreements, especially for dairy. On the global dairy markets, the EU dairy sector does therefore not compete on a level playing field in terms of Free Trade Agreements. Market access for New Zealand’s dairy exports is likely to form the capstone of the negotiations and EDA has constantly reiterated its call to the EU Commission to remain vigilant.

EDA acknowledges the efforts of the EU Commission to support our dynamic sector in international trade despite the limited resources of the EU Commission to implement a broader trade strategy and to engage in trade negotiations with more countries. In this context, the market access efforts must focus on trade negotiations with countries that have a real market access potential, like China and other markets in South-East Asia.

The dairy sector is one of the sectors of the European economy that has undergone the deepest policy reforms over the past years and is today challenged by the implementation of the EU Green Deal ambitions. While the EU dairy sector, the milk producers, and their milk processors, have achieved huge progress in terms of global competitiveness towards most of our competitors around the globe, the New Zealand dairy export has – also because of its concentration and its favourable trade conditions with China – a competitive advantage and its dairy sector is far from having already exploited its full production potential.
Australia
The trade negotiations between the EU and Australia were launched in June 2018 and the terms of the agreement are now under discussion. Current trading still takes place under the EU-Australia Partnership Framework which was agreed upon in 2008. The EU and Australia held 11 negotiation rounds by the end of 2021.

EU exports of dairy products to Australia mainly include cheese, milk powder, and whey, but overall EU dairy exports to Australia remain at a rather small volume. Both scenarios described in an impact assessment carried out by the EU – full liberalisation or liberalisation excluding some selected sensitive agricultural products – show a significant increase in EU exports. In terms of percentage, a strong increase of Australian exports to the EU under the full liberalisation scenario is to be expected but it will be limited in overall value due to the small amount of current Australian dairy exports.

EDA and Dairy Australia held several alignment calls in 2021 to see if we could streamline our positions in the ongoing negotiations. EDA highlighted its wish for a veterinarian agreement which should clarify which certificate and testing results should accompany dairy products exported to Australia to remove unnecessary administrative burdens. Dairy Australia, from their side, explained that they are not willing to accept the EU’s protection of geographical indications.

We look forward to continuing our discussions in 2022 and hope that the negotiations can be finalised in the coming year.

Indonesia
An EU–Indonesia Free Trade Agreement is being negotiated since 2016. Between then and November 2021, eleven rounds of negotiations took place.

The Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) Draft Inception Report carried out for the EU Commission showed that a future agreement offers chances for dairy products in the form of lower tariffs and solving trade barriers. Tariff reductions would allow the EU to compete with Australia and New Zealand, which have lower transport costs.

One of the outstanding issues from a dairy perspective is the implementation of Indonesia’s Halal law as well as sensitivities around the import of palm oil from Indonesia. We updated and shared our position paper on the Indonesian Halal legislation in 2021 and provided the EU Commission with our overall assessment of a potential free trade agreement. It is not to be expected that a deal will materialise in 2022, but Indonesia remains an attractive market for European dairy exports.
India
Negotiations for a trade agreement with India were launched in June 2007 but came to a hold in 2013.

On 8 May 2021, the EU and Indian leaders agreed to resume negotiations for a "balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and mutually beneficial" trade agreement, and negotiations are expected to start in 2022.

The fact that India produces almost as much milk as the EU does not make it less of an interesting market. EDA started in 2021 a first consultation among our members to provide the EU Commission with an initial assessment of our interest. The Indian market offers chances for the export of infant formula, dairy ingredients, cheeses, and whey derivatives.

Removing trade barriers will also be part of the negotiations. We are in good contact with the competent services of the EU Commission in Brussels and New Delhi highlighting as EDA the administrative burdens when exporting to India, the ban on the use of cow rennet, as well as other technical issues.

China
The Chinese market has been and will be in the foreseeable future a major importer of EU dairy products, even though China has seen substantial growth in domestic production and processing. This increased production however is still unable to meet the growing demand and it is to be expected that the growing Chinese middle class will keep fuelling demand for European high-quality dairy products.

At the same time, it is important to keep an eye on the challenges of the Chinese market. In 2021 EDA extensively worked on new registration requirements that are being introduced in China, China national GB standards for food as well as on the registration of new recipes.

We also have to keep an eye on our global competition. The European dairy industry experiences competition on the Chinese market by major dairy exporting countries such as New Zealand, Australia, and the US. The favourable market access conditions that these competitors have should be an additional stimulus for the EU Commission to focus its efforts on trade negotiations resulting in additional market access to the Chinese market.

Ukraine
The basis for our current trade with Ukraine is the Association Agreement, between the EU and Ukraine, which was negotiated between 2007 and 2011 and signed on 21 March and 27 June 2014. The agreement was provisionally applied since 1 January 2016 and formally entered into force on 1 September 2017.

This agreement was an excellent opportunity for EU dairy exports, and we have seen robust growth in the last year.

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### Milk production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milk production (tonnes, 2019)</th>
<th>EU 27+UK</th>
<th>China</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>171 million</td>
<td>27.1 million</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milk yield per cow (tonnes, 2019)</th>
<th>EU 27+UK</th>
<th>China</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>5.77</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dairy cows (in 2019)</th>
<th>EU 27+UK</th>
<th>China</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23 million</td>
<td>4.7 million</td>
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<tr>
<th>Consumption per capita (kg ME/year, 2019)</th>
<th>EU 27+UK</th>
<th>China</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>315</td>
<td>30.2</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Self sufficiency in milk (2019)</th>
<th>EU 27+UK</th>
<th>China</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>114 %</td>
<td>70 %</td>
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<table>
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<th>Population (2019)</th>
<th>EU 27+UK</th>
<th>China</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>511 million</td>
<td>1398 million</td>
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In 2021 Ukraine requested a review of the scope of trade liberalisation under the trade agreement. EDA provided input to the EU Commissions’ consultation and informed them that we see export opportunities for milk and cream, butter, cheese, and whey derivatives.

In December 2021, Ukraine triggered a safeguard investigation into the import of certain types of cheese, claiming that increased imports between 2018 and the first half of 2021 damaged their domestic industry. EDA, in response, contacted the relevant EU Commission services in DG Trade, DG AGRI as well as the EU delegation in Kyiv. EDA offered their full support to the EU Commission, who on behalf of the EU requested to be registered as an interested party, in defending the legitimate interest of our exporters.

Our dairy bond beyond Brexit - EU – UK relationship
The United Kingdom legally left the European Union on 31 January 2020, so 2021 has been the start of a new phase in the relationship between the EU and the UK. A relationship for which we have been preparing ourselves together with our partners in DairyUK since 2016.

For the last years, the EDA Board Brexit task force, together with the Trade Task Force and Trade & Economics Committee, have been actively feeding the debates and provided both administrations with concrete workable solutions. 2021 was the year in which EDA worked on limiting non-tariff barriers to trade (SPS/TBT) as much as possible. Since 1 January, UK goods entering the EU have been subject to full SPS checks and have required a veterinary certificate. EU goods entering the UK will face the same barriers once the UK full implements their border operating model, requiring that EU goods be accompanied by veterinary certificates 1 September 2022.

EDA is reporting problems that arise in the run-up of the introduction of the announced checks and documentation on a rolling basis. These types of problems include translation issues in TRACES, the need for physical documentation for unaccompanied freight as well as unjustified requests from British importers. EDA also asked Ms Sandra Gallina, Director General for Health and Food Safety in the EU Commission, to push for full digitalization of the processes for veterinary certificates and other required documentation to ensure that the process is as smooth as possible and to eliminate complications caused by the requirement that the original physical certificate must travel with the goods.

“After 47 years of a shared common market and in a “no quota, no tariff” set-up, is there really a need for border control and checks?” the question we have asked along the process is still relevant.

SPS and TBT issues
Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures are in principle adopted by governments to ensure food safety, as well as animal and plant health. Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) are measures adopted to achieve policy objectives such as human health and safety (e.g. labelling of products). These measures can apply to both domestically produced and imported goods and can heavily impact exports to these countries.

The WTO SPS and TBT agreements aim to ensure that such measures do not create unnecessary trade obstacles and give the possibility to WTO members to comment on the proposed regulations.

EDA puts a lot of energy and time into working with the EU Commission on ensuring that the European dairy sector has a say in this process, preventing obstacles that can disrupt international trade flows. In the last year, thanks to the expertise of the actors in the dairy industry, EDA has been able to soften or avoid PS & TBT related trade issues with partner countries such as China, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bolivia, the U.S., and Indonesia.

We will keep providing input to the WTO consultations on the SPS/TBT measures and we will make sure to provide all possible support to the competent services of the EU Commission with the technical expertise of our sector to continue preventing trade obstacles for European dairy companies.
Africa

Today, the 54 countries of the African Union (AU) face an ever-growing demand for dairy products and according to macroeconomic projections six of the expected world’s 12 fastest-growing countries are in Africa (Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Rwanda). This means that half of the global population growth between now and 2050 is expected to occur on the continent. This is why the dairy sector in Africa is at a pivotal point in its history. In most of the 54 countries, the growing demand for high quality dairy cannot be met by the national dairy industry. Our European dairy industry can therefore make a difference by contributing to a responsible and sustainable food production in Africa.

In 2021, EDA created a dedicated EDA Africa task force to deal with the numerous specific challenges linked to our EU dairy trade relations with the African Union. The task force continuously monitors and analyses the EU-Africa Relationships from a political and from a market access point. EDA participated in a number of business events organised by the EU Commission and the African Union and prepared a comprehensive overview of the African dairy landscape. EDA was additionally responsive to a number of trade issues that hampered our exports, such as technical barriers to trade (TBT) and sanitary and phytosanitary barriers (SPS). Together with our African partners, the European dairy sector can modernise the dairy industry in many, if not most of the 54 countries of the African Union that can thereby increase their performance.

WTO – Waiting for reform

“A top priority will be to lead the reform of the World Trade Organization. We should aim to launch a broad initiative with a view to reaching a comprehensive agreement by 2022”, stated EU COM President Ursula von der Leyen when taking office in 2019.

The 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) with a special session on global agriculture, originally planned for June 2020, then rescheduled for sanitary reasons to November 2021, is now postponed ‘indefinitely’.

Nevertheless, agriculture is still "the hot potato at the WTO" and our EDA Board member Gilles Gérard (CEO Luxlait) delivered in the official DG AGRI podcast our perspective of global trade in food and farm commodities.

"Luxlait, a mid-size dairy cooperative in Luxembourg exports products to the highly competitive markets of China and Africa, and is therefore heavily dependent on a rules-based system that enables fair competition and high standard."

Laurens van Delft
Head of Trade & Economics

Iñigo Lizarraga
Policy Officer

Strengthening the EU-Africa relationship through market driven sustainable development
Food, Environment and Health in 2020/21

How can we make food systems more circular and sustainable?

The Green Deal and Farm to Fork reflections are intending a strive towards more Sustainable Food Systems, in Europe and beyond. In the context of the preparation of a future legal framework on sustainable food systems our work is reflecting the deep questions on how to do it – the need of it not being impugned. At the heart of it all stands the challenge of the apparent contradiction between an economic system based on growth and planetary boundaries that are limited.

As European Dairy Industry we have faced challenges before, and I am convinced that through change we will be able to overcome this challenge as well – as it is my conviction that it is possible to have growth-based systems within the planetary boundaries – to the benefit, wealth, and prosperity for us all.

Changes will be needed, but change is good – let’s let it happen. We hope and want to help that it is being done correctly and respecting the broad diversity of our European landscapes, climates, behaviours, and citizens’ choices.

A central priority needs to be the recognition of food (and drink) as primary basic needs, and the priority of food and nutrition security for EU citizens, and beyond. This has also been declared in the Paris agreement (the Climate agreement of Paris states that the parties are “Recognising the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security and ending hunger, and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change”). This food and nutrition security is valid short- and long-term, and across all situations (making a link to resilience of our food systems, the recent times with the pandemic have shown once more how important it is). Food and healthy nutrition cannot be compared to other tools of daily life; it is a strong minimum requirement for everyone.

The EU food systems are numerous and geographical, climatical, soil and habitat differences are huge, as well as dietary preferences and habits. This diversity is essential, and its durability will be a sign for the wellbeing of the EU food system(s) (and could be used as an indicator for a check of the framework).

A real transition can only take place if the actors in the field can find a reasonable place and pace in this framework and the movement of continuous change – as sustainability is never a given or a status but closer to an everlasting improvement. Assuring food business actors – newer and older ones – to live in a truly viable manner, is the basis of sustainability. Shared responsibility in and for the change, support in special funds, and a system change that keeps the idea of competitiveness are essential.

Priority needs to be given to food safety and quality for humans, while not excluding animals and feed. Human health in the wider...
sense and environmental perspectives will be part of the wider context of the framework for change. Based on a sound and science-based, but holistic methodology, these criteria should all improve; special situations of balancing them out may still arise and need to be part of the assessment for successful steps.

And let us not forget the freedom to follow – or not – the different steps of change. Each one is ready at a different moment and will do it differently. The importance is to launch a movement, and allow for the own decision of moving, knowing that this ‘free collective intelligence’ will help doing it right, compensating and filling and clearing the pieces by itself. And the best is: we will all be surprised by the result (better than anyone of us – let alone the whole of the Brussel’s inteligencia - could have planned!)

The place of dairy in our diet and our world – feeding the world and assuring healthy diets for everyone

Dairy is most important to help feeding the world well – and in the current global context this is more important than ever to underline (again and again!).

In current policies the ‘basic’ aspects of dairy need to be given renewed support: giving healthy and nutritious food to all population groups, in an affordable and sustainable manner is our contribution.

We have published two factsheets that show the importance for nutrition security and dietary sustainability. The latter is looking at sustainable diets for a single person or a smaller group, the other one gives an idea of the global view of food and nutrition security in a sustainable manner for a wider population, and the relevance of dairy for it. Inside Europe and for the rest of the world our European dairy production is contributing in a relevant manner to the nutrition, environmental and social parts of our sustainable development.

Click here to check out both factsheets:

- Feeding the world with dairy
- Sustainable diets
Special webinars combining nutritional and environmental experts allow us to close the knowledge gap and evaluate step by step in a better way the true impact of dairy foods on our body and health and the environmental dimension. This will be the basis for allowing legislation – on even wider sustainable food systems (see below) – based on benefits for humans, animals, and the planet.

**The European Green Deal and changes inside the EU and globally**

The EU Commission published in December 2019, only weeks after it came into office, its overarching strategic approach for the five years term (2019 – 2024), the European Green Deal.

On the day of the publication of the European Green Deal, EDA was prepared and shared its dairy assessment of the Green Deal and its ambitions.

The Green Deal encompasses a wider variety of strategies and strategic plans and follow-up proposals, with the aim to assure a change of the European economic system into one being more sustainable (in all three pillars: economic, social, and environmental).

For the European lactosphere, we have as EDA prioritised the multitude of single pieces for our work: we will face around 120 legislative initiatives, stemming from the Green Deal, that are of high relevance for the dairy sector.

We are now halfway through this European Commission’s term and its Green Deal and wish to remain hopeful that the consistency and vision of a real change will not be lost in this avalanche of pieces of legislation and the multitude of different sectors and interests involved.

**Farm to Fork Strategy and Sustainable food systems**

The European Commission released in May 2020 its Farm to Fork Strategy. Launched as part of the Green Deal package, the strategy is aimed at strengthening the sustainability of the food sector, covering all the stages of the food chain and ensuring that all actors actively contribute to the transition.

The strategy encompasses what is seen as key subjects for the food systems such as healthy and sustainable diets, consumer information, organic production, pesticides and fertilisers use restrictions and food waste.

One of the main purposes of the strategy is to reduce the environmental and climate footprint of the European food sector. In this context, the EU Commission will propose a legislative framework for sustainable food systems, with the aim of increasing robustness and resilience of the sector when facing future sustainability challenges.

The promotion of carbon sequestration practices at farm level and the reduction of food waste are also primary objectives of the strategy.

As EDA we were deceived that the Farm to Fork strategy it is not the one and coherent strategy for the whole agri-food sector, as originally planned. We support the overall objective of making the European food system more sustainable. The transition towards...
a European sustainable food system is needed now more than ever and the dairy sector will continue to play a key role in this transformation – a journey the EU dairy is already embarked on for quite some time and acknowledged as global frontrunner.

Sustainable dairy livestock production will allow consumers to benefit from healthy and nutritious products, while at the same time reducing the impacts on the environment and climate. It is our mission to continue providing nutritious, safe, and affordable products to the European and world market.

The ‘Code of conduct for responsible business and marketing practice’ is the first outcome of the F2F package. Strangely it is non-legislative and simply a business code, but was pushed from EU side towards the UN Food Systems summit in autumn 2021. It shows commitments of industry partners on mainly two aspects, so-called ‘food improvement/reformulation’ and environmental aspects, mainly climate related. These sound like steps in a good direction. The overall goal of changing into more sustainable food systems including public health changes seems to require much broader approach though.

The EU Commission’s publication on Farm to Fork is strongly interlinked with the other strategies of the Green Deal and needs to be seen in conjunction especially with the Circular Economy Action Plan and the Biodiversity Strategy. Only a consistent and coherent approach across the wide range of measures proposed on the different strategies of the Green Deal will effectively allow reaching the target of a more sustainable and resilient European food system.

We will continue to contribute in an active and constructive way to the discussions on future developments of the European food system, proactively providing input to the work of the EU Commission and Parliament.

The Dairy Sustainability Synopsis and the positive image of milk and dairy

Milk and dairy products have been known for centuries to carry unique and extremely positive attributes. In recent years though, the image and specificities of milk and dairy have been increasingly misused by plant-based products. Too often such ‘ersatz’ blurred the characteristics and the nutritional benefits of dairy.

In order to keep and improve the positive image of dairy, it will be vital to actively communicate the unique and specific qualities of our products.

One of the baselines for our dairy communication is what we refer to as the Dairy Sustainability Synopsis. With it, we have been looking deeper into the three pillars of our positive contribution to the world: providing healthy nutrition, societal as well as environmental benefits, and have been actively engaging to further enforce all of these pillars in the support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations and input to the upcoming work on Sustainable Food Systems (SFS).

Our industry is taking a responsible position in this global framework and proud of the great contribution it can give to sustain these goals, both inside and outside the EU.

By identifying wrong or semi-false information that is circulating, we seek to respond with scientifically based arguments in the most effective manner. This is being used in our factsheets, as on sustainable diets and nutrition security, the factsheet on the Societal role of dairy, the importance of dairy for climate change and the environment and our views on the SDGs. We will also be able to publish a revised version of our Dairy Sustainability Synopsis in spring 2022.
Assuring a sustainable production all along the dairy chain

The Dairy Product Environmental Footprint (#DairyPEF) and Green Claims

The Dairy PEF and its Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) - coordinated by EDA - was finalised in 2018 and is now in its transition phase, aimed at assessing the potential applications of the methodology. The project had been going on for nearly 4 years. The success of the Dairy PEF was recognised by the successful vote by the EU Commission in April 2018, that defined the Dairy PEF as the reference methodology in the sector. It attests and recognises the European dairy sector’s continuous effort for improving not only its economic performance, but also its long-term sustainability within a field of 17 environmental indicators, and hence beyond GHG emissions.

EDA, along with six dairy processors and other institutional and private stakeholders, has developed a comprehensive set of rules for the assessment of the environmental footprint of products. This is a scientifically based and harmonised basis to evaluate the environmental performance of the products and raise awareness along the supply chain. It will also allow them not only to improve the overall footprint of products, but also to help each actor in directing their work on sustainability more efficiently.

As part of the 15 Cycle Impact Assessment (LCA) categories, the Dairy PEF takes into consideration a broad range of environmental issues. The added value of this methodology is not only to look at carbon footprint – an important, but only one indicator – but to have a wider understanding of actions to improve the footprint also for water, land use, fertilisers use, etc.

Since its induction in 2013, the framework of the Dairy PEF has been taken up by the EU Commission’s DG Environment in its Single Market for Green Products initiative, which is set to provide the basis for any further European regulations in this context.

Just as environmental performances are communicated for most electronic goods, the EU Commission had launched a pilot phase for a pre-assessment of similar schemes for other food and non-food products. EDA and the dairy pilot actors have taken this opportunity
to co-create and shape the methodology for the assessment of dairy products.

The project passed the testing of different communication tools and was independently revised by a panel of four global experts.

The EU Commission is currently assessing different options for future applications of the methodology, and EDA is actively contributing to the discussions. A consumer test and a public consultation on environmental (green) claims have been performed by the EU Commission, as part of the new Circular Economy Action Plan. A legislative proposal is expected to be published in the first quarter of 2022.

EDA favours the use of the PEF method for establishing a harmonised approach to measure environmental performances of products, to be applied on a voluntary basis. We support a voluntary-mandatory approach: communication on the environmental performance of a product should be voluntary, but once a claim is made, it has to be substantiated by PEF. We also favour the communication of at least the 3-5 most relevant impact categories. Absolute and aggregated values can be misleading for consumers and other stakeholders.

Moreover, the method as it stands now is also a good tool for improvement calculation over time and internal assessment, as well as business-level relationships. It could thus be used for voluntary off-pack information to stakeholders, while it is not ready to allow for meaningful and quantitative comparability between products, also because relevant aspects of concern (e.g. nutritional value) are not included in its scope.

EDA has been the driving force in this project and we will continue to contribute actively and constructively to reflections and discussions on future developments on the potential policy applications of the PEF methodology.

We are reassessing the need to renew our specific dairy category rules, as new data is being gathered, continuously improving the method, and would need to be taken up. This revision will need to be finalised by the end of 2022 to allow companies to continue using the dairy rules.

**Climate action**

As part of the Green Deal package, the EU Commission presented in 2020 a proposal for a European Climate Law, enshrining the 2050 climate neutrality objective into law, and a more ambitious target for 2030, aiming at a 55% emissions reduction compared to 1990.

After the negotiations between the EU Commission, the Parliament and the Council, the Climate Law Regulation was finally adopted in July 2021. It is the first legislative outcome of the Green Deal.

In the same period the EU Commission published the Fit for 55 package, a set of legislative proposals aimed at aligning the EU legislation to the updated climate target for 2030. It includes, amongst others, a revision of the main pieces of legislation regulating greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions in Europe, such as the Emission Trading System (ETS) Regulation, the Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR) and the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) Regulation.

EDA has actively provided input to the work of the European Commission on climate action. We contributed to the public consultations and shared the concerns of the dairy sector towards...
some of the proposals. We highlighted the support to the wide EU strategy to limit GHG emissions and we reiterated the importance of adequate support to achieve such policy objectives. The 2050 Carbon Neutrality objective at the core of the new Green Deal is a very ambitious target to which EU dairy is committed to contribute. GHG emissions from dairy operations have significantly decreased in the past decades thanks to the efforts of all the actors in the chain, making the carbon footprint of EU dairy one of the lowest in the world. First climate neutral dairy processing sites are already running in our Union. European dairies are frontrunners at global level when it comes to climate action and many dairy companies have already signed up for the commitment of carbon-neutral dairy chain by 2050 or even 2035.

Energy efficiency measures to reduce usage of fuels and electricity, renewable energy production on farm, sustainable feeding options and better manure management are only some of the practices which are implemented for reducing the carbon intensity of dairy. The European Commission’s Fit for 55 package also includes the proposal for a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) to limit the risk of carbon leakage. The mechanism will ensure that the price of imports in the EU reflects more accurately their carbon content. Although dairy products are not in the current scope of the proposed measure, both FEP and TEC departments have monitored closely the developments in the covered sectors, in the light of possible future extensions of the measure, and we have highlighted to the EU Commission the importance of ensuring that the economic viability of all actors is made possible in this transition. Moreover, we have underlined how any proposed system should be compatible with WTO rules and other international obligations of the EU, in order to secure international trade flows.

EDA is proud to highlight the relevance of dairy also in the wider context of environmental actions – including climate, but also looking to the broader picture with water and land uses, biodiversity and animal welfare, amongst others. A holistic environmental strategy is of paramount importance in order to ensure that the efforts deployed effectively lead to an improvement of the performance across all environmental indicators. In this context, the Dairy PEF (Product Environmental Footprint) is a fundamental tool for driving environmentally sustainable practices in the dairy sector and allowing to quantify the improvements.

We will continue monitoring the policy development on climate action, sharing with the EU Commission best practices and mitigation strategies undertaken by the EU dairy sector, highlighting also the carbon sequestration potential of dairy farming and its contribution to the climate goals.

However, it is fundamental to reach such objectives without compromising on food safety, security, quality, and nutritional value, which remain of paramount importance in our sector and in European agriculture in order to provide safe and affordable food.

**Carbon farming**

With the term carbon farming are indicated the agricultural practices that sequester atmospheric carbon and store it in the soil. Together with industrial and technological solutions, carbon sequestration of European land will contribute to the achievement of the EU climate targets. In its strategy published in December 2021, the EU Commission highlighted the need to upscale carbon farming practices in Europe and introduce a new business model in which land managers are rewarded for the climate friendly practices they implement, enhancing the carbon sequestration
Potential of EU land and contributing to the climate neutrality target. By end 2022, the EU Commission will also propose an EU regulatory framework for the certification of carbon removals, with the aim to ensure the transparent identification of carbon farming and industrial solutions that unambiguously remove carbon from the atmosphere in a sustainable way.

Natural carbon sinks such as pastures will play a key role in the transition towards a carbon-neutral continent by 2050. Carbon sequestration of dairy grassland can offset a significant share of residual dairy livestock emissions. Many existing projects at dairy farm level in Europe are aimed at enhancing carbon sequestration through developing reliable calculation methods and implementing carbon farming practices. EDA has also worked with the European Commission on exchanging best practices and contributing to the analysis and mapping of such carbon farming approaches across Europe.

EDA has contributed to the EU Commission’s consultations and continues to follow and provide active input to the work of the institution on carbon farming. We believe that adequate incentive should be provided to farmers for facilitating the uptake of more climate-friendly agricultural and forestry practices, while the production of ecosystem services, including safe nutritious food, is maintained.

Mitigation of methane emissions in dairy

The EU has reduction targets for 2030 for all greenhouse gases, with anthropogenic methane emissions covered by binding national emission reduction targets under the Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR). However, there is currently no specific policy dedicated to the reduction of anthropogenic methane emissions. To tackle this issue, the EU Commission presented in 2020 the EU Methane Strategy, aimed at cutting methane emissions in the energy, agriculture and waste sectors.

Methane emissions from enteric fermentation and manure management represent the majority of GHG emissions from dairy. The European dairy sector is proud to have significantly reduced its emissions in the past decades and is fully committed to scale up the initiatives to limit the amount of methane that is released in the atmosphere from dairy operations. According to the official EU GHG inventory, a reduction of approximately 27% in absolute emissions of methane from dairy enteric fermentation has been achieved from 1990 to 2019. Improvements of animal diets, herd management, breeding, herd health and animal welfare are just a few examples of mitigation actions undertaken by the sector. A better management and storage of manure also contributes to limit emissions. Already in November 2020 our internal EDA workshop on methane emissions gave the possibility to reflect on the new Methane Strategy from the EU Commission and explore further mitigation opportunities in the dairy sector.

In April 2021 EDA organised together with FEFAC (the association of compound feed producers) and UECBV (the association of meat traders and processors) a joint webinar on reducing methane emissions from livestock enteric fermentation. The webinar provided the opportunity to discuss methane reduction solutions in livestock and highlight the wider agro-ecological services provided by ruminants in Europe. EU Parliament AGRI Rapporteur for the Methane Strategy MEP Asger Christensen (Renew, DK) chaired the event.

In June 2021 we also organised a webinar on feed additives and solutions for reducing livestock emissions, giving the possibility to EDA members to exchange with companies and a research institute developing feed additives and exploring feeding options aimed at reducing methane emissions from ruminants’ enteric fermentation.

The dairy industry is not only working for reducing emissions, it also contributes to the production of natural energy. Methane from manure can generate heat, power and vehicular fuel. In large-scale dairy operations, anaerobic digestions can produce enough energy to cover internal requirements and feed back into the public energy grid. These technologies allow the dairy sector to provide sustainable and renewable energy.

However, we point out that the current scientific basis for the assessment of the global warming potential of methane dates back more than 40 years and might not correctly represent anymore the behaviour of this short life gas in the atmosphere and its climate impact. It is important that any policy development takes this into account and that the right scientific basis are put behind EU policies.

Together with other international associations we will continue the discussions on the scientific basis of EU policies, and we will further explore the potential of mitigation actions within the dairy chain.

The dairy industry efforts on food wastage reduction and the special EU platform

Food losses and waste, the first during the production process and the second mainly in private households, continues to be a hot topic and has become an essential component of the EU’s sustainability efforts. For example, halving food waste by 2030 is one of the targets of the Farm to Fork Strategy. This has also translated into our work, and we have released EDA factsheets on the continuous efforts and achievements of the dairy sector in reducing food losses and waste, not only during the production cycles, but also at consumer level.
EDA has been bringing this knowledge and will to further strive towards dairy wastage reduction at all levels – in line with SDG target 12.3 – into the EU Stakeholder’s Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste, led by DG SANTE. Moreover, better food waste measurement is key to reduce food waste, and this will be simpler with the implementation of the EU common food waste measurement methodology adopted in 2019. The dairy sector can contribute by providing Members States with better data.

The efficient use of resources is an integral part of the sustainability strategies of many dairy companies and overall dairy strategic approach. In this framework, the dairy sector is committed to contribute to prevention and reduction of food wastage along the value chain, for profitability reasons as well as ethical and environmental (for example linked to CO2 emissions). To reach this goal, actions and initiatives have been taken – targeted at optimising production processes, increasing food donation as well as the use of previously discarded dairy by-products. With a significant part of food wastage taking place at the end of the chain, the dairy sector has also engaged in raising awareness at consumer level. In addition, close cooperation occurs with other partners in the supply chain, NGOs and governmental bodies.

**Biodiversity protection and deforestation-free supply chains**

The European Commission launched in 2020 its Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. It is aimed at protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems at European and global level. Strongly interlinked to the Farm to Fork strategy, it proposes, among others, an action plan on organic farming, a new EU Soil Strategy for 2030 and measures to promote deforestation-free supply chains. With regards to the last two items, the EU Commission published in November 2021 a legislative proposal to minimise the impacts on deforestation of products sold and consumed on the EU market, together with the new EU Soil Strategy, aimed at preventing soil degradation.

Biodiversity and soil quality are crucial for safeguarding European and global food security and the role of dairy in halting and reversing ecosystems degradation is of paramount importance. As an example, grasslands are extremely rich in biodiversity and contribute to preserving soil quality in most areas of Europe. Our dairy pastureland is a very carbon-rich ecosystem and plays a key role in sequestering and storing atmospheric carbon.

Biodiversity is, of course, also one of the relevant indicators of our Dairy PEF (see page 32). Even though no harmonised biodiversity assessment exists yet, the PEF has the potential to become the relevant method for assessing the impacts on ecosystem services in the EU.

The European dairy sector is also working with other stakeholders on promoting deforestation-free supply chains, especially in the context of sustainable soy sourcing.

We will also continue providing input to the work of the EU Parliament and Commission on biodiversity, soil protection and deforestation, to make sure that the positive impacts of dairy farming on ecosystem services are properly acknowledged by EU policy makers.

**Animal welfare**

The revision of the current EU animal welfare legislation is amongst the objectives of the Farm to Fork strategy and is currently being performed by the European Commission. The initiative, outlined in June 2021, aims to update animal welfare rules to increase the role of recent science-based analysis, broaden their scope and make them easier to enforce, generally increasing the level of animal welfare in the EU. The whole fitness check is expected to be performed by end 2022, and new rules will be proposed in 2023.

In order to collect input from stakeholders and the civil society, the EU Commission has undertaken several consultations to which EDA has contributed providing valuable input from a dairy perspective.
EDA is also a full member of the EU Platform on Animal Welfare, where we bring forward our support of every effort in keeping dairy animals healthy and well as key of dairy production. This is also highlighted in our special factsheet.

To optimise our EDA input into the EU Animal Welfare Platform, we did set up an EDA Animal Health and Animal Welfare Task Force, co-chaired by Axel Bigot (Lactalis) and Dr. med. vet. Olivier Espeisse, our EDA Counsel European Veterinary Affairs (CEVA).

**Dairy processing – safety and quality along the chain**

**Food safety in the dairy chain**
The dairy sector has a long tradition of guaranteeing and improving the quality of its products, including from a food hygiene perspective. Good dairy agricultural and manufacturing practices complement the EU legislative framework in ensuring that all stages of production are carried out hygienically, supplemented by control activities by both the dairy food business operators and the competent authorities of each Member State, jointly with an effective communication flow on food safety and risk.

To meet wishes for more transparency and information, and to allow a better understanding of the tremendous work and effort behind the scenes for the high level of food safety in the EU today, EDA published two factsheets on the food safety approach of the dairy sector – on the dairy food hygiene legislative framework and the high food safety requirements in the dairy sector. The main purpose of these fact sheets is to do so by providing an overview of the food safety system in the European Union, with a focus on how farmers and operators in the dairy chain collaborate to ensure that every dairy product meets the highest standards of quality and safety.

As EDA, we are actively promoting our EU food & dairy standards and our European dairy excellence beyond standards within the EU Commissions' agri-food export seminars all over the world.

**Revision of the rules on organic production and products**
The Farm to Fork strategy highlights that there is “an urgent need to increase organic farming”. The EU Commission announced that it will put forward an Action Plan on Organic Farming to “help Member States stimulate both supply and demand for organic products” and “ensure consumer trust and boost demand through promotion campaigns and green public procurement”. The EU Commissions objective is to reach at least 25% of the EU’s agricultural land under organic farming by 2030 and a significant increase in organic aquaculture. The European Commission also refers to tax initiatives which could be used by Member States and tries to use the EU Promotion Policy to achieve these goals.


Meant to enter into force in January 2021, the European Parliament managed to get an EU institutions approval to postponed it by a year – for new date for entering into force now on 1 January 2022.

In the review process EDA safeguarded the whole organic babyfoods market, that was meant to disappear. We are happy that this important segment of products can continue being produced and delivered to the youngest population of Europe.

This additional year was necessary to bring together the many implementing acts needed to make the new regulation workable. Amongst them a list of detergents and disinfectants, so important to maintain food safety, the options to use certain agricultural products of non-organic origin in organic produce, the additives and processing aids for organic production and products, the rules on use of veterinary medicines and withdrawal periods in production.
at farm level, the use of microorganisms in organic production and products, and quite some more.

EDA coordinates internally on these topics and also seeks alignment with the main actors in the organic production.

We look forward to continuing growing the organic market at a market driven path, while keeping it practical and safe from a processing side for our consumers.

**Animal by-products (ABPs)**

Animal by-products are all types of materials of animal origin that people do not consume. In the EU, rules for collection, transport, handling, treatment, transformation, processing, storage, placing on the market, distribution, use or disposal of these products are laid down in Regulation 1069/2009.

By history, these rules are specific to animal-based products; however, simplifying the use of all by-products should be encouraged in the context of the circular economy. For the dairy sector, by-products are an important part of the overall business sustainability, even if not the major aim of production.

**EDA as a data provider to EFSA safety evaluation of food additives**

Food additives are substances added intentionally to foodstuffs to perform certain technological functions, for example to colour, sweeten or help preserve foods. In the EU, food additives are subject to an independent safety evaluation by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) before they are permitted for use in food, and additionally are kept under continuous observation. Over the past years, EFSA has been carrying out a wide re-evaluation programme of all additives currently permitted in the EU. For the purpose of this safety evaluation, EFSA is regularly publishing calls for data, including data on the actual usage levels by the industry.

EDA, as an active member of the EFSA Discussion Group on Food Chemical Occurrence Data, plays an important role as the official coordinator for submission of data from the EU dairy sector to the EFSA data collections on the use of additives in dairy products.

Thanks to our members input and commitment, we have been able to submit numerous data sets over the last years and we will continue to follow the re-evaluation programme including the legislative proposals on additives from the European Commission.

**Expertise in dairy processing and SPS-TBT issues**

The technical expertise in dairy processing is of paramount importance also for preventing trade obstacles with countries outside the EU.

Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) are in principle measures adopted by governments to achieve food safety, human health as well as animal and plant health. They require specific criteria to be fulfilled for products that are placed on the country’s market. These measures can apply to both domestically produced and imported goods and can heavily impact exports towards these countries.

EDA, both in our FEP and in our TEC department, actively cooperates with the European Commission for assessing the impacts of the
proposed SPS-TBT measures on dairy exports and trade flows. In the last year, thanks to our experts in the dairy processing industry, EDA has been able to avoid trade issues with many partner countries around the world, contributing to the related WTO consultations.

Circular economy and production – dairy as an active player in change

The notion of circularity, which was already a key element of the EU Commission’s ‘Better Regulation’ agenda in the last few years, has gained even more prominence as one of the strategies outlined in the EU Green Deal. In this regard, the EU Commission published in 2020 the New Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP), which introduces legislative and non-legislative initiatives as regards the entire life cycle of products – promoting circular economy processes, ensuring the efficient use of resources, and fostering sustainable consumption. Relevant for dairy are the revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive, including plastic waste reduction measures, and the legislative proposal on green claims. Our EDA contribution to the EU Commission’s public consultation on substantiating green claims was sent in 2020.

Calls for a circular economy are not only shared by EDA but also other food sector associations, as it is a vital step towards allowing further resource efficiency, resulting in lower environmental footprint of industries and reduced costs. Of course, all of this needs to be done in continued assurance of food safety and quality.

Our answer to the Green Deal, our EDA position paper on circular economy as well as our position on the new Circular Economy Action Plan show well how the notion of circularity is applied in the dairy sector and how the dairy industry actively promotes circular economy in coordination with other food industry actors.

Date marking / Durability dates

Food waste and resource efficiency are important goals, and date marking is considered in the political sphere as a good approach to act on these issues. Already as part of the 2015 Circular Economy Action Plan, the EU Commission commissioned a study on how date marking – and other information provided on food labels – contribute to food waste in the EU. The study, published in 2018, shows a strong focus on dairy products as one major category of interest, and pinpoints very diverging durability dates while disregarding the variability of existing products and processes inside the category and subcategories of dairy.

Over the last few years, discussions occurred on the EU Commission’s proposal to draft a scientific and technical guidance on date marking, aimed at supporting more consistent date marking practices and facilitating food waste reduction. We as EDA have been actively committed to this work. In light of these discussions – and given the complexity of the factors determining the choice of date marking as well as the food safety implications – the EU Commission decided to ask EFSA for advice concerning certain elements of the guidance. The first part of the EFSA opinion related to factors that should guide FBOs in choosing between use-by and best-before dates and shelf life has been published in October 2020, and a second part including other labelling aspects was adopted in March 2021. In addition, the EU date marking rules have been part of a first consultation in October 2021 and are currently under consultation within the
revision of the EU on Food Information to Consumers Regulation, a legal proposal is expected by end of 2022.

It is curious to see the wish to change or add labels in this remit, while consumer studies show good understanding of the date marking as it stands, possibly being improved by additional education where confusion remains. Since it will be difficult to significantly reduce food losses and waste via date marking only, we may expect the EU Commission to further look into other means to help the citizens to reduce the volumes of food they are throwing away. Every progress in this regard will automatically reduce our environmental footprint.

**Health and Nutrition – driving policies**

At EDA we are proud of the exceptional nutrition quality of milk and dairy products and we welcome that nutritional science continues to recognise their beneficial effects on health, including the health effects of whole foods known as food matrix (the unique combination of nutrients, bioactive components and how they interact with each other in milk and dairy is known as the “dairy matrix”).

Dairy products are nutrient-rich and are excellent sources of high-quality protein, as well as calcium, phosphorous, potassium, iodine, vitamin B2 and B12. They also contain small amounts of other nutrients such as zinc, selenium and magnesium; and other B vitamins (B3, B6, B9), and vitamin A. Milk and dairy products play an important role as part of a healthy and balanced diet through all life stages and within EDA we will continue to ensure that the EU nutrition and health policies correctly reflect the nutritional science as well as official dietary guidelines.

In 2021 EDA published an overview of dietary recommendations for dairy in most of the European countries compared with the actual consumption of dairy products. Thanks to the work of the nutrition experts of the EDA Scientific Advisory Board ‘Dairy, Nutrition and Health’ we have made a few interesting discoveries about dairy recommendations and consumption in the EU:

- Dietary recommendations vary from country to country, and this also applies to the recommended amounts for dairy products.
- EDA has calculated the amount of milk contained in dairy products expressed in grams of milk per day per capita. Milk equivalents are products such as cheese, yoghurt, baby formula and powders. This can be seen in the table p. 43.
- 18 of the Member States below do not achieve their own dairy recommendations.

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**Table. Member States Dairy Recommendation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Recommendation of milk/day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Deviation from dietary recommendations from MS for milk (%)**

Figure: Percentage difference between recommendations and actual consumption of dairy on a daily basis

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1 Data from the Czech Republic was not available and not included in the table
There is therefore a clear underconsumption of all dairy products in 18 out of 23 countries whose consumption data was collected (see Figure page 40).

It is important to note that the data is not harmonised or from a single EU wide survey, some of the data is also several years old.

In light of the shortcomings of available consumption data at national level, EDA calls on the European Commission to support Member States in their efforts to provide recent and accurate data on actual consumption of dairy.

Labelling debates from a nutritional perspective: Farm to Fork, Front of Pack Nutrition Labelling and Nutrient Profiles

The EU Farm to Fork Strategy prioritises the importance of healthy and sustainable diets as well as providing consumers tools to make informed, healthy and sustainable food choices. In this context, a number of important legislative and non-legislative actions in the fields of labelling and nutrition is currently being prepared by the EU Commission:

- Setting up nutrient profiles to restrict the promotion via nutrition or health claims of foods high in fat, sugars and salt (Q4 2022)
- Harmonised mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling to enable consumers to make health-conscious food choices (Q4 2022)
- Extension of mandatory origin or provenance indications to certain products, while fully taking into account impacts on the single market (Q4 2022)

EDA is committed to ensure accurate, useful and credible information to the EU consumers, including nutrition, origin or environmental information provided, both on legal and voluntary basis. It is highly important that food information is based on science and evidence hence any oversimplified information scheme would not reflect the complexity of food or food systems.

In line with the political priority of the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy: the EU Commission is preparing a legislative proposal on a harmonised mandatory Front of Pack (fop) nutrition labelling (FOP NL) at EU-level, possibly linking the FOPNL scheme with nutrient profiles.

In December 2021 a public consultation on the Impact Assessment (IIA) on the revision of the Food Information to Consumers Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011 (FIC Regulation) has been launched.

The assessment focuses on different policy options in three areas of the FIC Regulation: FOP nutrition labelling, country of origin labelling and date marking. The IA simultaneously covers the setting of nutrient profiles in the context of nutrition and health claims (Regulation EC no 1924/2006).

As part of the IA, the EU Commission requested EFSA for a scientific opinion on development of harmonised mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling and the setting of nutrient profiles for restricting nutrition and health claims on foods. In November 2021, EFSA has published its draft Opinion for public consultation to which EDA has contributed with scientific comments.

EFSA draft Scientific Opinion included the following conclusions:

- Mean intakes of saturated fats (SFAs), sodium and added/free sugars exceed the recommended upper bounds of intake in most European populations.
- Proteins, EPA/DHA, dietary fibre, potassium, iron, iodine, calcium and vitamin D and folate are identified as nutrients/components which are of public health importance for European populations.

In my opinion it is important to consider both climate and nutrition when we talk about sustainability of our food and diet. In an ideal world both nutrition, climate, economy and culture are considered, but initially we need to include the nutrients in the food products in discussion about climate impacts of foods. This is relevant regarding both labelling, recommendations and dietary guidelines. It cannot be true that a cucumber and an artificially sweetened beverage (containing only water!) look better than a glass of milk and a piece of rye bread.
Food groups with an important role in the diet of the European populations include milk and dairy products, among others (starchy foods, fruit and vegetables, legumes and pulses, meat and meat products, fish and shellfish, nuts and seed, and non-alcoholic beverages).

EDA welcomed this latest EFSA recognition of importance of milk and dairy products in the European diets as well as some of the key dairy nutrients: e.g., proteins, calcium, iodine, potassium. We hope that the EU Commission will consider these key scientific aspects while preparing a legal proposal on FOPNL and Nutrient Profiles. The final EFSA Opinion is expected in March 2022.

The growing problem of obesity, overweight and malnutrition across the EU society and their long-term costs and consequences for the health systems deserves the highest attention of the EU policy makers. We therefore welcome that the EU Commission brings back to the spotlight the discussions on the importance of balanced and healthy diets and clear consumer information. Such a complex issue deserves a complete and scientifically well-grounded solution.

As part of EDA commitment to ensure accurate, useful and credible information to the EU consumers, we have therefore developed our EDA guiding principles on FOPNL. In addition, we have analysed the main existing FOPNL systems and concluded that, unfortunately, none of them mirrors the nutritional value of milk and dairy. The same goes for the concept of nutrient profiles which does not correctly reflect the dietary importance of basic food groups, such as dairy products, recognised as highly nutritious foods by the official food based dietary guidelines.

In particular, we have identified that the NutriScore scheme (further growing in popularity across the Member States), is inadequate as a FOPNL for cheeses. Most of the cheeses, independently of their very different fat or salt levels, get the same – negative – orange ‘D’ score, classifying them as foods to avoid, which stands in sharp contrast with any official dietary recommendations that actually recommend several daily portions of dairy. This not only misleading consumers as to the true nutritional value of dairy but also puts in question the scientific basis of the algorithm behind the NutriScore scheme – see our detailed EDA Position Paper on NutriScore and cheese.

We believe that any EU FOPNL should conform with key principles:

1. Be in line with dietary recommendations
2. Ensure improved information to consumers about the overall nutritional quality of foods
3. Recognise nutritional contribution and health benefits of dairy
4. Be always based on sound scientific evidence
5. Be voluntary and harmonised across the EU

We will remain actively involved in the EU debate on FOPNL and nutrient profiles and one of our priorities is for the policy tools to reflect nutrition science and the importance of the official dietary recommendations, including basic food groups such as milk and dairy.

**Origin labelling**

The EDA guidelines on voluntary origin labelling for milk dairy products are part of the EDA commitment to ensure an accurate and credible labelling information to the EU consumers, and highlight specific origin links of a product, where the food business operator wishes to do so.

Following the Farm to Fork announcement, the EU Commission is currently considering introducing mandatory EU origin labelling for milk and milk as an ingredient.
While supporting an EU harmonised voluntary origin labelling scheme, we continue to oppose any form of national or European additional mandatory measures on origin labelling for milk and/or dairy products.

We firmly believe that further mandatory origin labelling national schemes lead to the fragmentation of the EU Single Market and not only create obvious obstacles to trade inside the EU, but also turbulences in international trade. A well-functioning internal market for food supplies is key especially in the current times of external shocks of the magnitude of the Covid-19 crisis.

EDA engagement with EFSA – Transparency Regulation

Throughout 2021 EDA remained an active representative of the EU dairy sector within the EFSA Stakeholder Forum as well as the EFSA Industry Associations Roundtable.

Most of the discussions over last few years focused on the implementation of the new EU Regulation revising the General Food Law - Regulation (EU) 2019/1381 on the transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain – so called the Transparency Regulation – and its implications for food companies and EFSA.

The Transparency Regulation became applicable on 27 March 2021. As the application of new rules approaches, EFSA has been working on providing practical details of the new rules. The practical arrangements have been subject to several consultations with stakeholders, including active engagement of EDA. The practical arrangements cover areas such as proactive transparency, confidentiality, notification of studies, pre-submission advice and consultation of third parties.

EDA will continue following implementation of the new rules on transparency which bring important changes in the field of all regulated products falling under EFSA mandate, including health claims, food ingredients or novel foods.
Alexander Anton, Secretary General

- “Engaging Dairy Europe”, university of Navarra study visit, 10 March 2021 (digital)
- “Europe – Australia – shared dairy challenges”, DairyAustralia Board meeting, 15 April 2021 (digital)
- “Food labelling: empowering consumers to make informed choices”, SMEconnect conference, 29 April 2021 (digital)
- “A new EU Trade Strategy – what’s in for dairy?”, 18th International Dairy Cooperatives Forum, 08 September 2021, Białystok (PL)
- “Challenges ahead of the EU dairy”, AgroSup Dijon study visit, 26 October 2021, Brussels (BE)
- “The new environment for European Dairy”, Finnish Milk Board Annual Convention, 12 November 2021, Hyvinkää (FIN)
- “EU politics and the dairy sector”, Kiel University study visit, 17 November 2021, Brussels (BE)
- “EU – U.S.: building back better”, CIAA Board meeting, 19 November 2021 (digital)
- “Farm to Fork Strategy and the food industry”, European Social & Economic Committee conference, 10 December 2021 (digital)

Kinga Adamaszwili, Senior policy officer Nutrition, Health & Food Law

- “EU policy developments on Front-of-Pack Nutrition Labelling”, Assolatte webinar on FOPNL, 22 January 2021 (digital)
- “Sustainable & healthy consumer choices: Towards EU harmonised labelling and EU Green Deal ambitions”, Dairy Innovation Summit, 28 April 2021, DK (digital)

Laurens van Delft, Head of Trade & Economics

- “DG AGRI Agricultural Spring Outlook workshop”, rapporteur milk and dairy workshop, 8 June 2021 (digital)
- “EDA – the voice of the EU dairy industry in Brussels”, study tour university of Navarre, 2 December 2021, Brussels (BE)

Inigo Lizarraga, Policy Officer Trade & Economics

- “EDA – the voice of the EU dairy industry in Brussels”, study tour university of Navarre, 2 December 2021, Brussels (BE)

Álvaro Ruiz, Communications Officer

- “WheyForLiving.com - The whey protein communication platform for European consumers”, ATLA/SYNFIL communication meeting, Paris, 19 January 2022 (digital)
## EDA Members

**EDA President:** Mr Giuseppe Ambrosi - Ambrosi Spa - Via Ottorino Ambrosi, 1 - IT-25014 Castenedolo (BS)

### National Delegations

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Delegation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Austria</strong></td>
<td>VÖM (Vereinigung Österreichischer Milchverarbeiter)</td>
<td>Friedrich-Wilhelm-Raiffeisen-Platz 1, AT - 1020 Wien</td>
<td>Mr Helmut Petschar, Kärntnermilch reg.Gen.m.b.H., Villacher Strasse 92, AT - 9800 Spittal/Drau</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Belgium</strong></td>
<td>CBL (Confédération Belge de l’Industrie Laitière)</td>
<td>Friedrich-Wilhelm-Raiffeisen-Platz 1, BE - 3012 Leuven</td>
<td>Mr Renaat Debergh, BCZ - CBL vzw/asbl, Colonnel Begaultlaan 1A bus 11, BE - 3012 Leuven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Czech Republic</strong></td>
<td>Czech &amp; Moravian Dairy Association</td>
<td>V Olšinách 75, CZ - 100 00 Praha 10</td>
<td>Mr Jan Teplý, Madeta a.s., Rudolfova 246/83, CZ - 37050 České Budejovice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Denmark</strong></td>
<td>Mejerforeningen</td>
<td>Agrofood Park 13, DK-8200 Aarhus N</td>
<td>Mr Peter Giørtz-Carlsen, Arla Foods amba, Sønderhøj 14, DK-8260 Viby J</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Estonia</strong></td>
<td>Estonian Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce</td>
<td>J. Vilmsi 53g, Tallinn EE-10147 Estonia</td>
<td>Mr Maito Soloyev, c/o Estonian Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce, J. Vilmsi 53g, Tallinn EE-10147 Estonia</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Finland</strong></td>
<td>Finnish Milk Processors and Dairy Products Wholesalers Association</td>
<td>Meijeritje 6, PO Box 10, FI-00039 VALIO</td>
<td>Finnish Food &amp; Drink Industries Federation, P.O. Box 115, Pasilankatu 2, FI - 00241 HELSINKI - <a href="http://www.etl.fi">www.etl.fi</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>France</strong></td>
<td>ATLA</td>
<td>42, rue de Châteaudun, FR - 75314 Paris Cedex 09 - <a href="http://www.atla.asso.fr">www.atla.asso.fr</a></td>
<td>Mr Frédéric Chausson, SODIAAL, 1, rue des Italiens, FR-75009 Paris</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Georgia (partner member)</strong></td>
<td>Dairy Georgia</td>
<td>15 Agladze st., Room #11, GE-Tbilisi, Georgia, 0154</td>
<td>Mr Erekle Gamikreidze, 15 Agladze st., Room #11, GE-Tbilisi, Georgia, 0154</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Czech Republic</strong></td>
<td>Potravinářská komora České republiky (Federation of the Food and Drink Industries of the Czech Republic)</td>
<td>Poděbradská 96/272, CZ - 108 03 Praha 10 - Malešice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>MIV (Milchindustrie-Verband)</td>
<td>Jägerstraße 51, DE - 10117 Berlin <a href="http://www.milchindustrie.de">www.milchindustrie.de</a></td>
<td>Mr. Ingo Müller, DMK Deutsches Milchkontor GmbH, Flughafenallee 17, DE - 28199 Bremen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>SEVGA</td>
<td>Hellenic Association of Milk &amp; Dairy Products Industry 340 Kifissias Ave, EL - 154 51 Neo Psychiko - Athens</td>
<td>Dr. Christos Apostolopoulos, Hellenic Association of Milk and Dairy Products Industry EL - 340, Kifissias Avenue 184 51, Néo Psychiko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Dairy Industry Ireland</td>
<td>Confederation House, 84-86 Lower Baggot Street, IE - Dublin 3 - <a href="http://www.ibec.ie">www.ibec.ie</a></td>
<td>Mr. Conor Mulvihill, Confederation House, 84-86 Lower Baggot Street, IE - Dublin 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>ASSOLATTE</td>
<td>Via Adige 20, IT - 20139 Milano <a href="http://www.assolatte.it">www.assolatte.it</a></td>
<td>Mr. Vittorio Fiore, Gruppo Lactalis Italia Srl Via Flavio Gioia, IT - 8 Milano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>A.L.L. Association Laitière Luxembourgoise</td>
<td>7 rue Alcide de Gasperi, BP 1304 LUX - 1013 Luxembourg</td>
<td>Mr. Gilles Gérard, Luxlait Association Agricole LU - 7501 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>NZO (Nederlandse Zuivel Organisatie)</td>
<td>Benoordenhoutseweg 46, NL - 2596 BC Den Haag <a href="http://www.nzo.nl">www.nzo.nl</a></td>
<td>Mr. Albert de Groot, Vreugdenhil Arkerpoort 5, NL-3861 PS Nijkerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>FENALAC - Federação Nacional das Cooperativas de Produtores de Leite</td>
<td>Rua Alexandre Herculano, 351, 1º PT - 4000-055 Porto - <a href="http://www.fenalac.pt">www.fenalac.pt</a></td>
<td>Mr. Rui Baptista, Bel Portugal Rua Vale Pereiras n°1018 PT-3730-370 Vale de Cambra</td>
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<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>Slovenský mliekarštenky 2vďa (SMZ)</td>
<td>Záhradnícka 21 SK - 811 07 Bratislava</td>
<td>Mr. Peter Novorolnik, SMZ Vice-President</td>
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<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia</td>
<td>Chamber of Agricultural and Food Enterprises IDZS - Zbornica kmetijskih in zivilskih podjetij Dimičeva 13 SI - 1504 Ljubljana <a href="http://www.zgs.si/2kzp">www.zgs.si/2kzp</a></td>
<td>Mr. Tomaž Žnidarič, Ljubljanske Melkarne Tolstojeva 81 SI - 1000 Ljubljana - Slovenia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>FENIL - Federacion Nacional de Industrias Lacteas</td>
<td>Ayala 10 - 1, 3ª ES - 28001 Madrid <a href="http://www.fenil.org">www.fenil.org</a></td>
<td>Mr. Antonio Bandrés, Danone Buenos Aires 21 ES - 08029 Barcelona - Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Federation of Swedish Farmers, SE - 105 33 Stockholm <a href="http://www.lrf.se">www.lrf.se</a></td>
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<td>Mr. Peter Kofoed, Federation of Swedish Farmers SE - 105 33 Stockholm</td>
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“Milk & Dairy – Essential for Your Life”
Madrid (Spain)
24th › 25th November 2022
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Federación Nacional de Industrias Lácteas

#Milkislife

The European Dairy Association is the voice of dairy processors in the European Union.