

## Russia's attack and global food security

The invasion of Ukraine by Russia is still and foremost a human catastrophe, but the effects also keep rocking the international agri-food markets.

As member of the newly set up Expert Group on the European Food Security Crisis Preparedness and Response Mechanism (EFSCM), we are in constant contact with the competent EU Commission services, and flagged up our issues at processing level, where we see the need for regulatory flexibility when it comes to labelling requirements and a strong and dairy-inclusive commitment when it comes to energy affordability and - in case of a major energy supply disruption - to energy availability.

Any interruption of our dairy supply chain would not only have financial implications but also environmental consequences, as the milk supply, regardless of the ability to process, cannot be stopped. Until now, dairies have been able to compensate farmers for their increased cost, but it is safe to expect that price increases will reach consumers in the coming weeks. The current situation also underlines the need for a real comprehensive impact assessment on the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork strategy.

Today's crisis shows how intertwined agricultural markets are as well as the importance of global food security.



EDA #StandsWithUkraine

## Short-term Outlook for EU Agricultural Markets

In the first [Short-Term Outlook for EU Agricultural Markets](#) of 2022 from the European Commission, the EU dairy sector's resilient developments during 2021 are emphasised. Dairy prices grew unprecedentedly throughout last year making the seasonal trend observed in the past years not to materialize. However, EU milk deliveries dropped by -0.4%, for the first time since 2009, and the rising costs of production slowed the milk yield growth to a +1.2% and led to a herd reduction of -1.5%.

Milk deliveries are expected to decrease at least in the first half of 2022 and the current feed price developments could keep the milk yield growth at the similar pace of 2021. European cheese and butter consumption is expected to continue increasing, but milk powders' consumption may be reduced. In addition, due to the recent geopolitical developments in Europe and the increase of prices due to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, dairy input cost prices are expected to be affected and increase over the year resulting in higher consumer prices for dairy products.



European Dairy Association @EDA\_Dairy · Apr 5

In the midst of high inflation concerns and potential energy disruptions derived from the Russia's war in Ukraine, the EU dairy sector will keep making every effort to ensure consumers' access to our nutritious #milk & #dairy products at reasonable prices. #AgriOutlook



EU Agriculture @EUAgri · Apr 5

#Milk deliveries fell by 0.3% in 2021, the first decrease since 2009.

Rising inflation & input costs will put pressure on consumer prices for #dairy products.

While cheese & butter consumption may increase, use of milk powders in processing is expected to decline. #AgriOutlook

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SHORT-TERM AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK



## EU-China seminar: Delivering dairy excellence to Chinese consumers

As the voice of the EU milk processing industry, we are grateful to the European Commission services to invite us to participate in the EU-China seminar on European dairy exports, delivering high quality, safety and sustainability to Chinese consumers.

This hybrid event, hosted by the European Commission in the Delegation of the EU to China, counted with the presence of Chinese authorities' representatives, major retailers and distributors, the HoReCa sector, consumer organisations and agri-food media.

Ms **Micky Mi**, Head of Regulatory Affairs of Arla China, took over the EDA part of the seminar together with **Iñigo Lizarraga** (EDA), presenting the EU safety and quality excellence practices for milk & dairy in the European Union.

In addition, Micky and Iñigo gave the latest updates on topics such as the EU organic milk production, the state of play of the protection of dairy terms and Geographical Indications (GIs). We are proud of the contribution of our dairy sector to the outstanding quality and safety standards achieved in the EU today, and we were glad to have this opportunity to introduce to a broad range of stakeholders our European dairy excellence.



## EU's unique culinary heritage: Geographical Indications (GIs)

Last week, the European Commission published [the proposal to revise the EU quality scheme, the system of Geographical Indications \(GIs\)](#). The overall scheme was already re-shaped within the 2021 CAP reform. The main point of the proposed revision is that the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) would become the 'outsourced' management body of the scheme in order to "speed up" processes, in EU Commission's words. A very misplaced comment, since the DG AGRI civil servants in charge so far managed the system very well.

We are not the only ones concerned about the externalization of the management of the GIs system to EUIPO. During the years, the current system has successfully proven its efficiency being managed by DG AGRI services. We consider that the proposed change is not the right approach and it may even lead to delays in the application processes of GIs and to higher bureaucratic costs in detriment of the main objective of the current revision.

We are in exchange with other organizations in the GI field and with **MEP Paolo De Castro** (S&D, Italy), who is set to be rapporteur at European Parliament level (shadow rapporteurs: MEP Irène Tolleret (Renew Europe, France), MEP Claude Gruffat (Greens/EFA, France) and MEP Eugenia Rodriguez (GUE/NGL, Spain).



## The Farm to Fork strategy and food security: Meeting with MEP Christine Schneider

The chair of the SMEC Working Group Health & Nutrition, **MEP Christine Schneider** (EPP, Germany), invited last 6th of April to an interactive and constructive meeting on the Farm to Fork strategy and the consequences of the Ukraine war for food security in the EU and in Africa.

As highlighted by MEP Christine Schneider, the consequences of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the world's leading exporter of sunflower seed oil and one of the largest exporters of wheat, have already started to hit. This shows that some aspects of the Farm to Fork Strategy have to be reconsidered and adapted to the current crisis and the subsequent need to set food security as a new priority.

Our new EDA colleague **Julia Faure** used this opportunity to share with MEP Christine Schneider the most important challenges the dairy industry is facing right now.

## Your favourite dairy product?

"I adore the incredible variety of cheese with some many different flavours. For me, cheese represents the huge diversity of milk products. My favourite cheese is a strong raw milk cheese with a nice glass of wine from my home region"



**Christine Schneider**  
MEP (EPP, Germany)

## Are you looking for a work & study student?

Our 2021 intern Aubane Thénier excelled by her work commitment and her performance. After her 4 months internship with us in Brussels, Aubane is now looking for a work-study position in the dairy industry in France. For her 4th year of engineering school in agro-industry at UniLaSalle (Rouen, Normandy), Aubane would be keen to kick off her dairy career (ideally in the northwest of France) with a two-year assignment in quality or regulatory monitoring as from September 2022.

You can find more details about her on [LinkedIn](#) or contact Aubane directly at [thenier.aubane@gmail.com](mailto:thenier.aubane@gmail.com).

**Aubane Thénier**  
Former EDA intern



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