

## EDA Annual Convention 2025 in Utrecht

*Dear Colleagues and friends,*

On behalf of the EDA, and NZO we are pleased to welcome you to our **2025 Annual Convention** on **12–14 November** in the beautiful city of **Utrecht** (NL). Built on a strong foundation of resilience, competitiveness and sustainability we will be able to further develop the dairy industry in order to deliver an even bigger contribution in overcoming the global challenges ahead. We look forward to meeting you in person. Together, let us continue to nourish a sustainable future and nurture innovation for European dairy.



**Albert de Groot**  
EDA President



**Mireille Einwachter**  
NZO President

[Register here](#)



**Keynote speaker**

**Femke Marije Wiersma**  
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries,  
Food Security and Nature of the  
Netherlands



### Speakers include:



**Jan Derck van Karnebeek**  
CEO  
FrieslandCampina



**Katja Seidenschur**  
Global Head of Sustainability  
Nutrition, Nestlé



**Mary Keough Ledman**  
Global Dairy Strategist  
Rabobank



**Ernst van den Ende**  
Professor  
Wageningen University



**Rob de Wijk**  
The Hague Centre for  
Strategic Studies



**Mark van Nieuwland**  
Senior Vice President  
dsm-firmenich



**Lorenzo van Haelst**  
Director  
Tetra Pak



**Jan Bobbink**  
Director  
Qlip



**Thom Huppertz**  
Professor  
University College Cork



**Alisa Tiganj**  
Cabinet of EU Com-  
missioner for Food  
and Agriculture  
Christophe Hansen

## Next Stop Europe - What's next for Albanian dairy?



Albania is one of the seven candidate countries preparing to join the EU. So far, negotiations on Chapter 11 (Agriculture) and Chapter 12 (Food Safety) have not yet been opened, but leading European politicians have mentioned 2030, or even 2027, as potential EU accession dates for Albania.



EDA's Alexander Anton with Deputy Agriculture Minister Arian Jaupllari, 10 October, Tirana (AL)

Opening the [GIZ Dairy Conference in Tirana](#), Albanian Deputy Minister of Agriculture **Arian Jaupllari** made a clear call to action to all partners in the dairy value chain in Albania: farmers, processors, and the administration must work hand in hand to address the challenges facing the Albanian dairy sector in light of EU accession.

Albania has a long-standing dairy culture, and most—if not all—of its dairy processing sites are state-of-the-art. Now, investments at the farm level and in supporting infrastructure (such as testing laboratories) are needed to bring the Albanian *lactosphere* up to EU standards.



EDA's Fanny Courivaud speaking at the GIZ Dairy Conference in Tirana (AL)

## World Dairy Summit 2025 in Chile



EDA's Alexander Anton with Minister María Ignacia Fernández, 20 October, Santiago (CL)

Under the theme "Nourishing a Sustainable World," the World Dairy Summit 2025 of the **International Dairy Federation (IDF)**, held in Santiago de Chile, brought together nearly 1.000 participants from across all continents. The high-level event was officially opened by IDF President **Gilles Froment** and Chile's Minister of Agriculture, **María Ignacia Fernández Gatica**.



The Summit provided an excellent opportunity to continue the discussions initiated during our September Dairy Committee meetings with our U.S. counterparts — **Krysta Harden**, President & CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Council, and **Gregg Doud**, President & CEO of the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF).

Together with former President of IDF **Piercristiano Brazzale**, EDA also used the platform of the IDF World Dairy Summit 2025 to present and promote the European dairy sector's sustainability vision "Resilient, Competitive, and Sustainable Dairy" during the Dairy Declaration Session on the opening day, alongside FAO Deputy Director-General **Thanawat Tiensin**.

EDA's Alexander Anton and CEO of the U.S. Dairy Export Council, Gregg Doud



## EDA with EU Commission Mission to Brazil



Joining the EU Agri-Food Business Mission of EU-Commissioner for Agriculture **Christophe Hansen** to

São Paulo, Brazil – the business delegation included dairy representatives from Poland, Croatia, Slovakia, Germany, France, Ireland, Denmark, and Italy – showcased the full portfolio of European dairy excellence in quality, authenticity, sustainability, innovation, and resilience.



*Martina Pernar presenting the Croatia GI cheese Paški sir to EU Commissioner Christophe Hansen, São Paulo (BR)*

A key moment was the Business Forum, opened by EU Commissioner **Christophe Hansen** with **Luis Rua**, State Secretary for Commerce and International Relations, Ministério da Agricultura.

EDA's Alexander Anton spoke at the **Business Forum**:

*"For dairy, we see very clear business opportunities and strategic partnerships that advance the agendas of creation of value-add dairy products, sustainability and traceability, and innovation within the Brazilian market. Here, our focus is on both imported dairy products (B2B and B2C, such as cheese, butter, whey ingredients) and the role of European dairy companies in transferring advanced processing technologies, research capabilities, and best practices. – by the way a two ways process in the meantime.*

*How better showcase our EU – Brazil dairy relationship than with 'Beurre D'Isigny', an EU excellence product that you can find today in supermarket shelves in Brazil, but that has been exported to Brazil since the 17th century", stated Alexander Anton.*



*AFI's Kristian Lerche Nielsen discussing with EU Commissioner Christophe Hansen the market opportunities for EU dairy ingredients in Brazil*

In the official meetings the parties reaffirmed their commitment to continued dialogue and the pursuit of mutually beneficial solutions to outstanding issues of common interest, reinforcing the strategic partnership between Brazil and the European Union. It was agreed to resume a permanent high-level mechanism to address these issues, with the next meeting scheduled for the first quarter of 2026.

A huge thank you to Commissioner **Christophe Hansen** and his DG AGRI team: **Pierre Bascou**, **Cristina Rueda Catry**, **Elena Panichi**, and **Nadia Loddo**, for their unwavering commitment to European agri-food excellence.



*Paolo Zanetti (Zanetti S.p.a. and President of ASSOLATTE) with EU Commissioner Christophe Hansen, 23 October, São Paulo (BR)*



## EDA participates in the EU Platform on Animal Welfare

The European Dairy Association participated in the **EU Platform on Animal Welfare** meeting held on 16-17 October 2025. The event gathered key stakeholders from across the EU to exchange views on current and future initiatives related to animal welfare.

EDA representative **Peter Stamp Enemark** (Arla Foods), engaged in a panel discussion on ruminants, highlighting the importance of animal-based measures in assessing welfare, the link between welfare, health, and sustainability, and the need to accommodate the diversity of small-scale farms.

## EDA at DG AGRI Outlook Workshop

EDA's Laurens van Delft, Director Trade & Economics, attended the DG AGRI **Autumn Outlook Workshop 2025**, organised as part of the preparations for the upcoming EU Agri-Food Days (15-17 December 2025).

Laurens van Delft contributed to the exchange on market trends, trade developments, and dairy outlook assumptions, ensuring that the specific dynamics of the European dairy sector are well reflected in the forthcoming EU Agricultural Outlook Report to be presented in December.

The workshop gathered representatives from the European Commission, Member States, research institutes, and stakeholders across the agri-food chain to discuss and fine-tune the preliminary baseline for the 2025 EU Agricultural Outlook.

## Dairy excellence: Mozzarella di Bufala Campana



The European Dairy Association attended the promotion event of the **Consorzio Tutela Mozzarella di Bufala Campana DOP** and the **Consorzio della Ricotta di Bufala Campana DOP**, held in Brussels on 27 October 2025 celebrating the excellence of these iconic European dairy products and their growing recognition in key international markets.

## Bis bald und alles Gute, liebe Amelie!

After more than 16 years at the helm of the Brussels office of the German Dairy Industry, **Amelie de Grahl** is opening a new chapter in her life and in her career.

As a trained lawyer, Amelie excelled with her profound legal knowledge and her deep understanding also in her role as co-chair of our EDA Claims & Labelling Working Group.

"We are grateful for your great commitment, your steady support and your always positive approach – *ganz, ganz lieben Dank and bon vent!*"



*Vielen Dank, Amelie!*

## What's your favourite dairy product?

*"I especially love cheese, and my problem is that I love them all"*