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## FOR A SUSTAINABLE EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Being ecosocialist means carrying an ambitious reform of the CAP, which is still oriented towards big pesticide producers and consumers. We have to support small farms that practice a peasant, reasoned and organic agriculture: an agroecology. This positioning would encourage short food channels and would foster the development of rural areas. Areas committed to sustainability at an economic, social, environmental, and touristic level. The question is not the increase or reduction of the CAP amount but its reorientation.

Considering the failure of the fixed pesticide reduction objectives on the European level up to the year 2018 and the challenges of climate deregulation, we have to completely rethink our production and consumption model.

### Prohibiting the culture of GMOs: a necessity

In order to reach this aim, the first thing to do is to forbid on the one hand, the use of pesticides in agriculture, but also in public spaces, on the other hand, the use of GMOs in order to give the farmers their independence back, as they are the one having to cope with the big pesticide and GMO industries.

The interdiction of GMO cultivation is a priority as it represents a major health risk. In this regard, we have to apply the precautionary principle which is acknowledged by the European treaties. The environment itself is also endangered by GMO. This particular cultivation considered as modern and supposed to allow farmers to overcome certain natural constraints has in reality consequences, such as the impoverishment of soils and the loss of biodiversity.

### Rethinking a circular agriculture

Since the Juncker Commission considered the circular economy as not being a priority for the European Union anymore, we think on the contrary that it is at the heart of the society model that we aim: an agriculture, based on the preservation of ecosystems. At the stage of production, farmlands have to be complementary to enable the circularity of exchanges between farmers; on the stage of distribution short food channels have to be developed, within the framework of direct sales and collective sale outlets. The waste produced by agriculture has to be treated: by-products and waste can be transformed into biogas with the system of anaerobic digestion.

### Giving the power back to the citizens on biotechnology matters

We have to regain control over subjects, like the one on biotechnologies, on which a debate should be opened (i. e. on the risks it involves), so that democratically elected bodies (parliaments,...) remain at the root of our collective environmental choices. The regulation of emerging biotechnologies, notably the strengthening of transparency on the matter (in publishing the biosecurity data of food products), and the definition of priorities in research are necessary for our democratic systems, in order to give more value to the citizens than to supposed experts and economic lobbies.

We have to answer three major issues for our future: ensure a healthy and affordable alimentation for all; allow our farmers to live decently from their activity and in good health; and at last, protect ecosystems from the intensive agricultural activity. The agro ecology is one solution but it requires an ambitious reorientation of the European agricultural policy.