

EU-UK trade Agreement

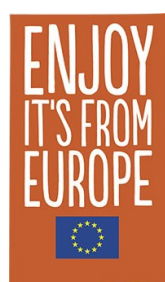
A last-minute success!

On 30th December 2020, we shared our first assessment of the EU – UK Trade & Cooperation Agreement (TCA) with the European and UK authorities. Also, in our exchanges with key MEPs over the last days, we welcomed the agreement on the terms of the future cooperation reached by the European Union and the United Kingdom. Over the past 4 and a half years, the negotiation teams, especially **Michel Barnier** led UK Task Force of the EU Commission, worked tirelessly to secure a positive outcome. The agreed EU–UK dairy relationship provides a rather solid basis for the continuation of our integrated lactosphere. We are also grateful for the consideration of our concerns and proposals that we see reflected in the TCA.

Nevertheless, we will face not only logistical and administrative obstacles under the new trading regime. The former **German EU Presidency** stated on 28th December 2020 that despite the in-principle 'no tariffs, no quota' approach, additional costs of close to €300 million per annum will impact the EU27 dairy sector under the agreement, (especially the Republic of Ireland). They also underlined the threat of a significant decrease of dairy exports from the EU27 to the UK, which is likely to create turmoil on the European and global milk markets. There, we count on the preparedness of the EU Commission services to take appropriate and timely measures in case of market distortions.

The Trade & Cooperation Agreement is very much welcomed but there is no room for complacency. In our 30 December 2020 letter, we have – inter alia - asked for a specific and direct contact point within the EU Commission to raise all issues and problems that may and will occur in the future when it comes to dairy trade between the UK and the EU.

This will allow us to pursue the frictionless trade flows and uncork the full potential of the agreement for the benefit of citizens and the dairy sectors in the UK and in the EU.



EU Promotion Policy review

Stakeholder exchange with EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski

After the [release of the positive evaluation of the EU Promotion Policy](#) this week, an agri-food stakeholder alliance exchanged with **EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski** on the future set-up of the EU agri-food promotion. Not only did the annual promotion budget decrease for 2021 from €209 million to €183 million, but a 30% share is earmarked for the promotion of organic products.



EU Commissioner for Agriculture, Janusz Wojciechowski

In this digital meeting, **EDA secretary general Alexander Anton** underlined the huge importance of this section of the CAP for the dairy sector and urged **EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski** to stand firm in keeping the scheme open for all EU agri-food products.



"For the organic production, we have to stimulate growth and create demand, that's why we decided to allocate 30% of the budget to the promotion of organic products. On the other hand my intention is not to exclude any type of products", claimed EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski ahead of the scheduled revision of the EU Promotion Policy.

Back in October, the EU Commission had already published the [evaluation support study of the EU agricultural promotion policy](#) highlighting its efficiency and role in the transition towards a green and sustainable EU agricultural sector. The results of the recently concluded [Public Consultation](#) to which EDA contributed, also provided the basis for the EU Commission evaluation report published this week.

EDA and CIAA call for an end to the Large Civil Aircraft dispute

On Wednesday, EDA and the Cheese Importers Association of America (CIAA) jointly sent a letter - [available on our website](#) - to the U.S. President-Elect Joe R. Biden and to the EU Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis, calling for an end to the Civil Aircraft dispute. Both associations insist on the unfair harm caused to their members by the sanctions authorized by the WTO.

The need for a free and fair trade between the two regions is essential for the economic recovery of the sector, especially during a time when the dairy industry is also impacted by the measures linked to Covid-19. The EU and the U.S. have a long history of close relationship and intertwined supply chains, therefore, the EU and U.S. executive leaders were urged in this letter to make the resolution of the Large Civil Aircraft dispute and the negotiation of an end to the tariffs and sanctions authorised by the WTO a top priority. This is vital for the EU-U.S. trade relationship and for the economic recovery of the dairy industry, unfairly targeted in a dispute related to aircrafts.

EDA answers all questions about the world of milk and the EU dairy sector!

We kick off this new year 2021 with [the publication of our EDA Q&A](#) inviting everybody to dive into the world of milk and explore our EU Dairy sector. This new publication gives the opportunity to find the answers to a wide range of questions like: Why is milk white? How is it generated? What is the climate footprint of the dairy sector? Or why is dairy so engrained in European cultures?

DID YOU KNOW?

In total, there are more than 100,000 elements in milk, some of which provide nutritional and health benefits like lactoferrin, oligosaccharides, or ruminic acid.



Africa – EU relationship as priority

The Portuguese EU Presidency started on 01 January 2021: [check out our Portuguese EU Presidency Dairy Focus](#). The Africa – EU relationship has been declared a top EU priority for future.

The European Dairy sector has a key role to play with regards to Sustainable Development Goals of the UN 2030 Agenda, supporting food security, poverty alleviation or the improvement of our dairy chains sustainability. The combination of increased trade, local cooperation and investments can and should contribute to the inclusive and sustainable development of Africa's agri-food sector and rural economy. [The European Dairy Association advocates for partnerships](#), addressing the challenge of climate change and the need to create skilled jobs for the young population joining the work force.

Today, Africa faces an ever-growing demand for dairy products. Over half of the global population growth between now and 2050 is expected to occur in Africa.

However, due to challenging infrastructures, climate and environmental conditions, most African countries have difficulties accessing productive land and adequate water supplies. Livestock farmers lack feed, yields, and local companies must deal with substantial milk deficits. Under-nutrition is a problem in many developing countries, and they may lack self-sufficiency in the production of certain foodstuff. The African market and its potential are subject to global markets, it is therefore important to realize that EU – African trade flows can easily be replaced with exports from global competitors.

This is for sure one of the strong incentives for European dairies to commit to a sustainable dairy cooperation and fully engage in the development of the overall dairy potential of African countries. EDA is setting up a specific EDA Africa Task Force in view to contribute constructively to the EU – Africa dialogue. We are glad to have **Loïc Moleres**, Responsible for Economic Affairs at our French member ATLA as the chair of our new working group.

CAP Updates and Portuguese Presidency's Agricultural priorities

On Friday 8 January, the Portuguese Minister of Agriculture, **Maria do Céu Antunes**, set out the [priorities of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU](#) regarding agriculture. "We have four priorities", she summarized: "the CAP reform, rural development, food security and digital ecological transition".

We welcome the energy put into the selected priorities which are key to the development of agriculture. Regarding the ongoing negotiations on the three CAP regulations of the post-2020 reform, the Portuguese Minister of Agriculture expects an agreement to be reached between the EU institutions in April. This will be on the agenda of the next Agriculture and Fisheries Councils (next one on 25 January 2021).

While the EU Commission presented to the EU27 its recommendations regarding the preparation of the national strategic plans for the CAP, an exchange of views is also planned for March regarding the topic. As for the current trilogue negotiations on the CAP, the co-legislators will meet again on 22th January for the fourth trilogue session.

Member States' Strategic Plans Recommendation

On Friday 18 December 2020, within the framework of the CAP post-2020 reform, the EU Commission provided each EU country with [tailor-made recommendations](#) on the CAP Strategic Plans. The aim is to help Member States in the drafting of their national CAP strategic plans, identifying key issues that need to be tackled and the way to address them.

The recommendations take on board the European Green Deal ambitions and more specifically six quantified Farm to fork and Biodiversity targets. The aim is to show the direction that the CAP strategic plans need to take to fulfill these objectives and targets.

It is now up to the 27 EU Member States to deliver on the basis of these recommendations – and up to the lactosphere to make sure that dairy is fully integrated into these national strategic plans.



EU Council conclusions on the Circular Economy Action Plan

The notion of circularity has been a key element of the EU Commission's agenda in the last few years, and it has gained even more prominence as one of the strategies outlined in the EU Green Deal. Last year, the EU Commission published the New Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP). The milestones for the dairy sector are the revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive and the legislative proposal on green claims which led to the EU Commission's public consultation which EDA participated to last month.

In December, the EU Council approved its conclusions "Making the Recovery Circular and Green" in response to the CEAP, and in order to provide political guidance on the initiatives introduced by the Plan.

As it is highlighted in [our position paper](#), EDA and its members have been long engaged in improving the overall sustainability and resource efficiency of the dairy sector.

2021: Save the dates!

Wednesday 24 March 2021

EDA Dairy Policy Conference 2021

Brussels, Belgium

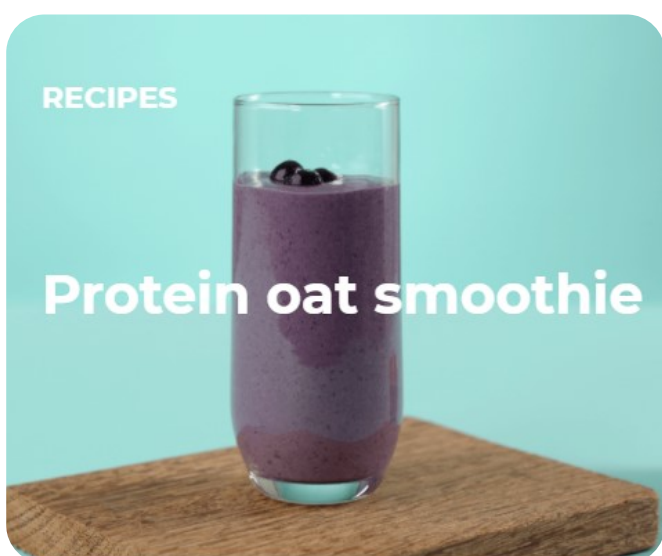
28 September – 01 October 2021

EDA European Dairy Platform 2021

"Milk & Dairy – Essential for Your Life"

Co-hosted by FeNIL

Madrid, Spain



Get a delicious boost of energy with whey protein!

It's no secret that protein is part of a healthy diet and needed on a daily basis to build strong muscles and maintain a healthy body. So check out these new whey protein recipes on EWPA's Wheyforliving platform!

Whether it is a [banana protein shake](#), some [no-bake oat protein balls](#), a [blueberry protein oat smoothie](#) or some [3-ingredient protein balls](#), you will see it is more than simple to get a quick and delicious boost of energy with whey protein!