

## EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi meets with French Prime Minister Jean Castex

During the official visit of the Italian President **Sergio Mattarella** in France, EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi met with French Prime Minister **Jean Castex**. "It was a huge honour for me to be invited to join our Italian President in the meeting with the French Prime Minister and, of course, I used this opportunity to underline our shared interests as two major culinary excellence countries", stated **EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi**.



Italian President Sergio Mattarella (centre) with French Prime Minister Jean Castex (right) and EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi (left).

Save the date: 1 October 2021

EDA Annual Convention 2021

"Sustainable Food Systems and European Dairy: Uniting Dairy Excellence and Ambition"

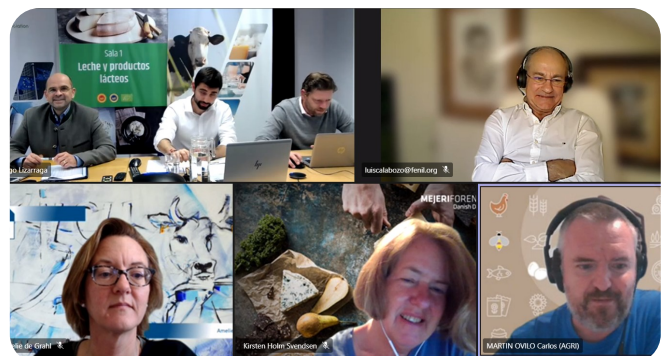
Among the speakers: Mr **Lukáš Víšek**, Member of cabinet of First Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans, Prof. **Roel Jongeneel** of Wageningen University and **Giuseppe Ambrosi**, EDA president.

## CAP 2023: EDA Workshop with EU Commission

Towards a robust market-oriented future for dairy

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is and will be fundamental for EU dairy. We had analysed the 2018 legal proposal and followed up with the EU institutions throughout the three years of the CAP reform negotiation process with a clear focus on the Common Market Organization pillar.

This week we hosted a special EDA CAP Task Force Workshop in order to discuss in depth the final agreement and its impact on EU dairy. Deputy Head of Unit of DG Agri **Carlos Martin-Ovilo** gave a high-level overview on today's state of play of the next CAP from the EU Commission's perspective and actively participated in our dynamic Q&A session with our members. EDA CAP Task Force chair, **Luis Calabozo**, Secretary General of our Spanish Member FeNIL, concluded the workshop with a positive summary: "The intensive work of the EU institutions over the last three years paid off: the new CAP will ensure a robust and market-oriented future for EU dairy".



## EU School milk scheme revision:

### Milk & Dairy's essential place in children's diet

In the framework of the Farm to Fork Strategy, the European Commission is undertaking a review of the EU School Scheme policy and has launched the so-called Inception Impact Assessment (IIA), that runs until 27 July 2021.

The EU school milk scheme plays an important role in communicating to the 'EU next generation' the benefits of milk & dairy products in their daily diet. In fact, dairy products have an essential place in children's diet as they contribute to physical and cognitive development as well as health maintenance. The importance of dairy in children's diets is highlighted by the official daily dairy recommendations which, on average in Europe, are of 3-4 servings per day. However, in 18 EU Member States there is a clear underconsumption of all dairy products — see our [EDA Factsheet on Daily Dairy Recommendations](#).

We consider that the school scheme must be used to educate the 'EU next generation' in terms of healthy eating habits and nutrition and on the EU farming and food system. We will support the European Commission to come up with a better functioning School Scheme that brings real nutritional value to the future generations in the Union.

#### Average European Dairy Recommendations:



## EU agri-food promotion:

### High level meetings ahead of the reform

We are following very closely the developments in the EU agricultural promotion policy review. Today's political shift towards an increasing support for sustainable agriculture will be the overarching guideline for this reform. In the current revision proposal, the EU Commission is considering cutting down support for certain food product categories, like red meat or wine. Together with other 14 EU agricultural organisations, we highlighted in a [joint statement](#) that the excellence of European agriculture in terms of quality, safety and sustainability is the global benchmark in all food product categories.

In our coalition meetings this week **Michael Hager**, Head of Cabinet of Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice President of the European Commission, and **Maciej Golubiewski**, Head of Cabinet of EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski, EDA Secretary General **Alexander Anton** underlined that "dairy and other products from animal origin are essential in a balanced diet and an integral part of the circular agricultural system in Europe. The success of our EU Promotion Policy and the European agri-food exports is based on the high reputation of all EU food categories and their excellence, of which our iconic cheeses are most probably the best ambassadors".



## EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement:

### All hands on deck

July and August mean holidays for most Europeans, but this year they mean all hands on deck for the European dairy industry: new import requirements for dairy trade between the EU and the UK will go live on the 1st of October and a number of outstanding issues remain on the table.

We have participated the last weeks in a number of meetings with officials from the European Commission and the UK's DEFRA in order to see if solutions can be found, especially for unaccompanied freight. A solution is urgently needed for those situations where the consignment arrives at its destination before the physical certificates are available at that location. An answer has not been found yet, but we keep advocating for the full digitalization of the process of veterinary certificates and other required documentation.

### Your favourite Dairy Product?

*"I like yogurt. Together with a few pieces of fresh fruits, yogurt is a very light and refreshing dessert or the basis for a healthy muesli".*

**MEP Norbert Lins**  
EPP, DE



## EURACTIV webinar:

### Data-driven approaches to increase dairy sustainability

Data-driven actions to enhance the sustainability of the EU dairy sector was the subject of a EURACTIV webinar that took place on 30 June, with the participation of **MEP Herbert Dorfmann (EPP, IT)** the EU Commission, representatives from NGOs and **Peter Giørtz-Carlsen (Arla Foods)**.

It was highlighted how the use of data can help identify areas where sustainable dairy practices can be implemented or improved and how this approach could support policymaking and best practices sharing.

"A robust methodology for quantifying carbon sequestration and on farm carbon emissions is key to developing a policy and legislative framework that will incentivise the right actions if we are to meet the 2030 and 2050 climate ambitions," stated **Peter Giørtz-Carlsen (Arla Foods)**.



## Nutriscore:

### Joint position of Parmigiano Reggiano and Grana Padano cheese producers

Last week, the consortia of two iconic Italian cheeses, Parmigiano Reggiano and Grana Padano, have united their forces in a joint statement refusing to place a 'Nutriscore' front of pack label on their PDO cheese labels.

With Nutriscore, most of the European cheeses, including Parmigiano Reggiano and Grana Padano, would be stigmatized for their fat and salt content and classified as an orange 'D' by the algorithm behind Nutriscore.

Such a score clearly does not mirror the true nutritional value of these products, rich in essential nutrients such as vitamins and minerals, including calcium, as well as high quality protein.

While highly processed foods have the possibility to 'reformulate' the recipe and the levels of nutrients, the cheese production process is relatively simple and its nutrient content reflects the natural nutrient composition of its primary ingredient: milk.

See also our EDA Position Paper on Nutriscore and cheese for more details on why Nutriscore is not fit for cheese.

"We have taken action, together with the friends of Grana Padano, against a labelling system that makes no sense and undermines the image of Parmigiano Reggiano, which nutritionists have also considered a healthy and natural product. We are sure that this important initiative can be of help to the Italian Government, which has already taken steps in this direction. It is an act of responsibility which will also benefit the whole EU cheese portfolio that would be penalized by a system without any objective nutritional justification," stated Nicola Bertinelli, President of the Parmigiano Reggiano Consortium.

"For years now, their nutritional properties have made Grana Padano and Parmigiano Reggiano the best loved PDO products by consumers and the most imitated by unfair competitors," points out Renato Zaghini, President of the Grana Padano Protection Consortium. "Nutriscore denies the most reliable and up-to-date recommendations by nutritionists around the world, who stress the balance between quantity and quality of foods as the key element of a proper diet at all ages.

Read the full statement of Parmigiano Reggiano and Grana Padano cheese producers [here](#).



## It's a wrap before summer break!

This is the last EDA Dairy Flash before the summer break.

We wish you all a restful and sunny holiday period full with dairy pleasures, like refreshing yourself with a milky ice cream or enjoying a good frappé coffee!

