

Summary of the argumentation to use with MEPs for the EP report on the F2F

1. Argumentation to explain why we are asking for a modification of the EP draft report on the F2F:

- **Copa-Cogeca original position:** Since the release of the Commission Communication on the F2F, the position of Copa-Cogeca has been to agree on the principle which is to make EU food production more sustainable, but to ask for a comprehensive impact assessment for the targets to ensure that will support us in achieving this objective while maintaining a strong EU agriculture.
- **European Parliament original position:** The current text of the report, that was approved by the ENVI and AGRI Committees on 10th September 2021, fully supports all the targets set up in the Commission Farm to Fork Strategy.
- **Change of context:**
 - since the vote in ENVI and AGRI on 10th September, **several studies assessing the F2F impact** have been published or will be very soon (USADA, COCERAL, JRC, Kiel University, Wageningen University, INRAE), and they all point out to the same direction => the production of EU agriculture will deeply decreased, prices and farmers income will be deeply affected and the environmental gain will be very limited due to sustainability leakages to third countries. Moreover, the EU dependency on food imports will increase drastically (some studies foresee the EU as a net importer). **Please find enclosed a summary of the main findings of all those studies (do not hesitate to mention some numbers and more importantly to underline that the impact on agriculture will be enormous while the environmental gains very limited)**
 - In addition, the **US Secretary of State, Tom Visack, declared** that he will create a coalition of countries (among which Canada and Mexico) to counter the impact of the EU choice of production, if the EU decides to go on with the F2F targets. This would neutralise any attempt to have mirror clauses and increase the sustainability leakage of the F2F already foreseen by the studies, which was, although already insufficient, the main argument proposed by the Commission to limit carbon leakage and increase of import due to the F2F targets. Here is his declaration: <https://insidetrade.com/trade/vilsack-pitches-international-coalition-counter-eu's-'farm-fork'-plan>
- **Copa-Cogeca new position and demand to the EP:** In light of those findings and the US declaration that clearly demonstrates that the EU will be alone, we believe that the F2F targets presented in the Commission communication cannot be supported anymore. **We need to make EU food production more sustainable, and we need targets to achieve this objective, but we need for those targets to be carefully and scientifically designed and to be supported by strong accompanying measures to reach them. This is why we call upon you to ask and support the modification of the following Compromise amendments (CAs): CA4, CA18, CA25, CA27, CA28, CA33. The most important Compromise amendment to modify is CA4 on the F2F targets.**

Please **find enclosed** our proposal for the modification of those CAs through both split votes or new amendments.

2. **Explanation on why we are asking to postpone the vote:**

- To ensure that all MEPs are aware of those study and what they imply before the vote in plenary, we need a bit more time to ensure that a public debate could take place. This is why we ask to postpone the vote in plenary till the first plenary of November (and keep the CAP vote on the second plenary of November).
- To postpone the vote by two weeks might not seem much, but this is critical as most of our communication actions regarding those studies and what they mean for the F2F targets will take place in the week of 11th October (week of the Commission F2F conference), which is not enough time before the plenary to raise awareness of MEPs who are not in ENVI and AGRI.

3. **Point to encourage to have other researcher for the hearing in the AGRI Committee with the JRC report on the F2F:**

- On 11th October, there will be a hearing in the AGRI Committee where the Commission will present the JRC report (not the researchers themselves)
- Considering, that the Commission does not officially consider this report as an impact assessment of the Farm to Fork Strategy, we believe that it would be interesting to also invite for this hearing researchers from the Wageningen University who are finalising as we speak an impact assessment on the Farm to Fork as well as the researcher from the Kiel University impact assessment on this same strategy. We believe that this would allow for a richer discussion on the impact of the Farm to Fork Strategy.
- We can help to put you in contact with those researchers.