

## Livestock & dairy meeting with EU Commissioner Frans Timmermans:

### On the path to achieve shared ambitions

Earlier this week, the agenda of First Executive Vice President Frans Timmermans allowed for an exchange with several livestock organizations and EDA on the EU landmark initiative: the EU Green Deal and its Farm to Fork Strategy.

"We used this opportunity to flag up a few of the dairy-specific challenges in the livestock sector. Within the discussion, we had some solid common ground, especially when Mr Timmermans highlighted the importance of taking into account the international dimension and hence the competitiveness of our sector, or when he underlined the significance of food security aspects and recognized the huge sustainability efforts already made in our industry. We are rather aligned with his assessment: the urgency of the climate and biodiversity challenges ahead of us will require an unprecedented transformation. And the common understanding here seems clear: dialogue, cooperation and support are the key elements to achieve our shared ambitions", stated **EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi**.



European Dairy Association  
@EDA\_Dairy

Livestock & Dairy exchange with @TimmermansEU on #EUGreenDeal:

To achieve shared ambitions, we need full support & recognition of livestock & dairy sector's strength in terms of environmental, social & economic sustainability. @TimmermansEU open for enhanced livestock dialogue!



## EU – UK SPS issues:

### Close cooperation on dairy required

EDA and Eucolait called this week upon the European Commission to set more ambitious goals when it comes to trade facilitation and seriously explore the option of a Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) agreement between the EU and the UK. Both associations welcome the EU-UK trade and co-operation agreement and its ratification by the European Parliament, but difficulties experienced by EU operators since the beginning of 2021 cannot be ignored. We had already pointed out our concerns when it comes to health certificates and the accompanying procedures and by now the increased hurdles to overcome have been cumbersome and costly enough to render certain trade unviable. Looking at Q1 2021 figures, UK dairy exports to the EU were down by 37% compared to Q1 2020.

"It is time to uncork the full potential of the agreement for the benefit of both UK and EU citizens and dairy sectors, solving our outstanding SPS issues would be a huge step in that direction," pointed out **EDA Secretary General Alexander Anton**. [Read here](#) our joint letter.

## Save the date!

30 September – 01 October 2021

## EDA Annual Convention 2021

Brussels, Belgium

We are happy to announce that we will be hosting our **EDA Annual Convention 2021** with a physical meeting set-up in Brussels, complying with all the safety measures.

A great opportunity to catch up in person!



## CAP reform negotiations:

### EU institutions failed to reach an agreement

After 3 days of intense negotiations in the super trilogue of last week in Brussels, the three EU institutions were not able to reach an agreement in main elements of the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Currently, the points in the spotlight are those linked to the green architecture. On eco-schemes, the negotiators seem to be close to a compromise; they could agree on 25% of the first pillar funds to be reserved for them from 2023. On cross compliance, on good agricultural and environmental conditions (GAEC), for GAEC 8, on crop rotation, a footnote includes intermediate crops and clarifies that a Member State may decide to implement other soil conservation practices, such as diversification.

On GAEC 9 and the share of non-productive land, the Portuguese Presidency takes up the Commission's idea of two figures: 4%, or 3% if the farmer commits a larger share to the eco-schemes. Beyond these environmental issues, a number of other dossiers remain on the table: products eligible for intervention, the agricultural crisis reserve, payments to young farmers and the mechanism for redistributing payments to smaller farms. All in all, technical and political discussions will resume next week with a view to finalising the talks before the end of this month. From EDA, we trust that negotiators in the Parliament, the Council and the European Commission finally come to an agreement at the end of June.



## Common Market Organisation (CMO):

### The protection of dairy terms remains a cornerstone of EU's agriculture

With the far reaching and structural changes in the CAP discussed right now, the EU institutions did not succeed to reach an agreement in May to determine how the future of EU's agriculture will look like. On the other hand, for the Common Market Organization (CMO) part, there is no real need for drastic modifications: the CMO proved to be efficient, also in the recent past.

That's why we celebrate that the long-standing protection of dairy terms at the EU level, which is part of the CMO, will not undergo any changes with the new CAP and can hence keep on acting as a pillar of dairy excellence's recognition and consumers' protection.

Even though the amendment 171 (voted in the European Parliament in October 2020) had the purpose of bringing more clarity to the already-existing rules, the withdrawal of its 'compromised text' is far from being bad news for the EU dairy sector.

This way, in line with the UN-FAO Codex Alimentarius Standard and backed by the 2017's European Court of Justice ruling, the EU-wide protection of dairy terms will keep on being guaranteed, recognizing the unrivalled quality of milk and dairy products.

As we like to put it: *"Vive l'Europe et vive la lait – viva l'Europa et viva il latte!"*

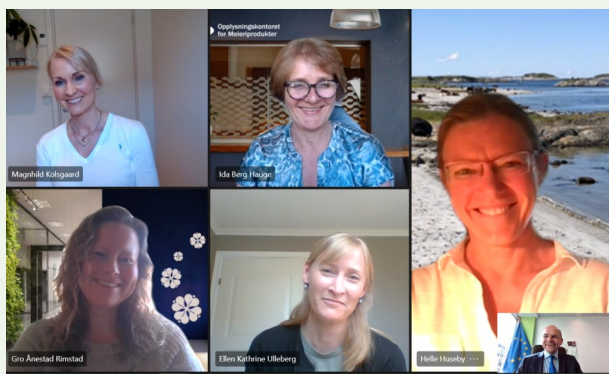
Milk is milk.



## Norwegian Dairy Council's meeting with the European lactosphère

Ms **Ida Hauge**, the CEO of the Norwegian Dairy Council, and her team together with TINE representatives e-met with **EDA Secretary General Alexander Anton** to exchange on the latest EU and dairy developments.

"We follow very closely the commitment of EDA in defense of the protection of dairy terms, since this is a vital topic for the global dairy sector. We are really happy to see that the European Union will keep its system in place, which is the blueprint for many countries across the globe", congratulated **Ida Hauge**.



## World Milk Day 2021:

### Milk is good for you!

On 1st of June we celebrated the **#WorldMilkDay**, the global recognition of a delicious, nutritious and iconic dairy food that is essential for a balanced diet during all stages of life.

As a natural and unique source of high-quality protein, as well as essential vitamins B2, B12 and minerals such as calcium, phosphorus and iodine, milk plays a key role in bone health, muscle growth and sports nutrition, among many other benefits for our health.

The EU milk and dairy sector has shown to be committed to contributing to a healthy lifestyle for all, the correct functioning of our Single Market and a future where sustainability meets tradition, and ambition meets excellence.



European Dairy Association  
@EDA\_Dairy

Happy **#WorldMilkDay!** 🌍 🥛

Nutritious, delicious, and 100% natural — that is milk!  
**#EnjoyDairy**

### Three facts about milk:



Proteins in milk play a key role in bone health, muscle growth and sports nutrition.



Studies link a higher intake of dairy foods to a lower cardiovascular disease risk.



Milk contributes to children's physical and cognitive development.



## European Parliament's upcoming position on the EU Methane Strategy

The European Parliament ENVI Committee is currently working on an own-initiative report on the EU Methane Strategy, the new plan of the European Commission to reduce methane emissions from the energy, agriculture and waste sectors.

Expected to be adopted in plenary later this year, the report will receive the contribution of the Parliament's AGRI Committee, which is also developing its opinion on the strategy. Rapporteur of the AGRI report is **MEP Asger Christensen (Renew Europe, DK)**, with whom we had the pleasure to exchange during a joint FEAC-EDA-UECBV webinar on methane reduction strategies in the livestock sector, organised in April 2021, where we highlighted wider agro-ecological services provided by ruminants in Europe, in particular for grasslands maintenance, biodiversity protection and carbon sequestration.



### Your favourite Dairy Product?

*"My all-time favourite dairy product is the Danish "Vesterhavs" cheese\*. Its consistency is like many continental kinds of cheese such as Gruyère and Parmesan. However, it is produced locally in Denmark on the windy coast of Jutland, not far from my farm. It is essentially a taste of home."*

**MEP Asger Christensen**  
**Renew Europe, DK**



\*"Vesterhavs" cheese is a Danish semi-hard cheese made from pasteurized cow milk. It is sometimes called the "North Sea cheese", referring to the fact that it is produced from the milk of West Jutlandic dairy cows and that it matures in the salty North Sea air for 26 weeks.

