

Country: Finlande

Commission: Council of Ministers for Agriculture and Food Sovereignty

Topic: Can the EU reassert its position as an agricultural power in order to ensure food sovereignty ?

Finland is the northern most agricultural country in the European Union. This is why agriculture is a subject of great importance in the search for strategies that strengthen the agricultural sovereignty of the European Union by stimulating new sustainable production methods.

Finland has always been very kind on its territory but also everywhere beyond its borders by collaborating with the European Union for decades, even before its accession to the WTO in 1995.

Finland's strategies are to encourage farmers to support their production with production incentives and to collaborate with other EU countries to facilitate specialization in the production of countries and trade of agricultural products. We would specialize in the distribution of hazelnuts, as we are the main producers together with Sweden.

To this effect, Finland has developed several policies to modernize its production as it did in 1970 with "Mansholt Tea" to increase productivity but also to reduce emissions from agricultural activities. Other policies in this case to benefit the farmers is the "Supply Management" were realized in 1989 which aims to protect the legitimacy of their production and to ensure a profitability of their production.

Our nation is ready to collaborate with other countries on the search for ecological modes of production in order to minimize the warming up in our country that affects already the nation and its agricultural production, as well as to propose measures so that the country continues to specialize in products of which they possess comparative advantages and avoid the loss of legitimacy of the States in their exports to other countries.

Moreover, farmers are a priority for us, so protecting them and ensuring their profitability and sustainability would ultimately lead to progress in agricultural production.

To sum up, agriculture is one of Finland's priorities, which seeks to increase its productivity and profitability. But not only for our country, but also for the rest of the European Union with whom we are ready to collaborate in order to continue to develop a better sustainable and eco-friendly agriculture.