

# A SHORT OVERVIEW OF IFOAM ORGANICS EUROPE'S PRESENT, PAST & FUTURE WORK

## MAKING EUROPE MORE ORGANIC

### We are the voice for organic food and farming in the EU:

- Europe's umbrella organisation for organic food & farming
- Representing the organic sector in EU policymaking
- Transforming food and farming
- Well-connected with environmental, social and animal welfare NGOs, farmers' & trade organisations

The European organic movement in numbers:

- Almost 200 members
- Representing 34 countries
- 4 principles: health, ecology, fairness and care
- 1 voice for the organic food chain
- 1 Organic House

## EU INSTITUTIONS RECOGNISE IFOAM ORGANICS EUROPE AS A LEADING ADVOCATE ON EU POLICY FOR ORGANIC FOOD AND FARMING

### EUROPEAN COMMISSION | EXECUTIVE BODY

The European Commission is the executive body of the EU. It operates as a cabinet government and is formed by 27 commissioners

- IFOAM OE has strong connection at all levels, especially DG AGRI, its Organic Unit and other units in DG ENV, DG CLIMA, DG SANTE and DG Research & Innovation
- Commissioners participate at our events, like our 20-years anniversary
- Participation in diverse consultations, Advisory and Civil Dialogue Groups (CDGs) on topics related to organic farming

### COUNCIL OF THE EU | LEGISLATIVE BODY

The Council of the EU is one of the two legislative bodies of the EU and is formed by the national ministers of each EU state meeting to discuss within the same policy area

- Regular contact with national Permanent Representations and coordination of advocacy work at all levels to influence Council positions
- Cooperation with Council Presidencies

### EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT | LEGISLATIVE BODY

The European Parliament is the main legislative body of the EU and it adopts legislation following proposals from the commission

- Good relationships with key Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) on topics relevant to organic
- Co-organising and speaking at MEPs' events like a press conference on Green Claims, GMO-free regions and more



Our vision?

**Transforming European food & farming**

Phone: +32 2 416 52 32  
info@organicseurope.bio  
www.organicseurope.bio



@OrganicsEurope

**IFOAM**  
ORGANICS EUROPE

# OUR ADVOCACY WORK & MILESTONES

Shape EU technical rules to ensure workable implementation of EU Organic Regulation

- Postponing the implementation of the new EU Organic Regulation to 2022
- >500 users of EU Organic Regulation guidelines

Input to new EU Organic Action Plan to boost production & consumption of organic products  
Advocacy meetings with policy-makers ahead of publication in spring 2021

Hosting secretariat of TP Organics

- 6 position papers since 2020
- Strategic Research & Innovation Agendas in 2009, 2014 & 2019

Organic as systemic solution in EU policies

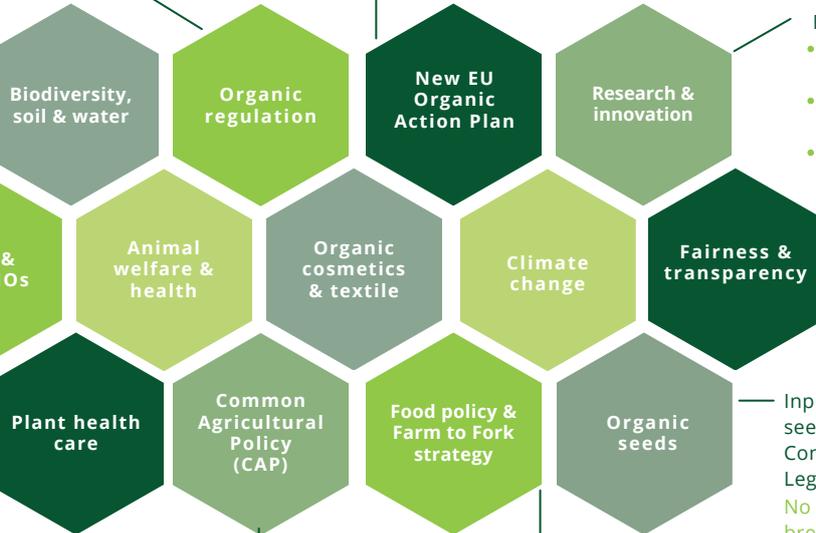
- EU Biodiversity strategy mentions organic farming as a solution
- Nature Restoration Law approved
- Soil Monitoring Law proposal

Fight to keep organic GMO & NGT-free

- First open-source detection test for gene-edited GM crop
- No new GMO approvals for cultivation in the EU

Pesticide & fertiliser legislation

- Broad political commitment to phase out chemical synthetic pesticides



Knowledge for organic

- Partner in 10-15 running projects
- Coordinating 2 projects in 2024, 3 projects 2015-2020
- More than 50% success rate in project applications

Unfair Trading Practices (UTPs)  
True cost accounting  
UTP Directive protecting more vulnerable actors

Input to secondary legislation on seeds in new EU Organic Regulation  
Contributing to review EU Seed Legislation  
No more patents on conventionally bred plants & animals

- Integrating Farm to Fork strategy's objectives & CAP
- Sustainable Public Procurement
- Food & environmental labelling
- Target of 25% organic land in EU by 2030
- EU promotion programme earmarks EUR 85 million for organic & sustainable agriculture
- EU Organic Day & Awards established

## HOT TOPICS FOR 2024 & BEYOND

Our 2024 priority is ensuring new MEPs and Commissioners know organic's priorities

### Organic on every table

- Advocate for going beyond political polarisation in the strategic dialogue on the future of agriculture
- Keep Farm to Fork strategy's objectives high on political agenda
- Ensure organic remains GMO & NGT-free
- Reduce pesticides use & risk by fostering organic farming methods
- Guarantee new CAP stimulates organic development
- Enable access to inputs suited for organic production
- Safeguard all organic operators' work through a workable EU Organic Regulation

### Improve – Inspire – Deliver

- Advocate for ample funding for organic in research and innovation (RnI), promotion policies and other policies
- Inspire organic's visibility at EU Organic Awards & Day
- Advocate for more support for organic advisory networks
- Restore & protect agricultural biodiversity via appropriate regulation & support of organic seeds
- Include mandatory minimum organic target in public procurement
- Create an organic narrative highlighting systemic solutions

### Fair play – Fair pay

- Fight against greenwashing - from carbon farming to product labelling
- Ensure a methodology fit for food products is used for environmental labelling
- Advocate for organic as a leading agroecological and regenerative practice, as both movements are rooted in organic principles
- Foster connections within the organic supply chain
- Follow the Unfair Trading Practices Directive's implementation
- Show organic solutions through involvement in projects