

AEIAR

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS

“
Vital rural areas, their ability to offer jobs,
services, prospects and their attractivity
are priorities to carry out projects of land
management and development.”

Michel Baylac, president of AEIAR



■ Association founded in 1966 gathering institutions of 7 country members of the European Union (Germany, Belgium, Croatia, France, Italy, Luxemburg, Poland) and other countries or partner regions (Spain, Lituania, ...) In the public interest, they carry out measures to improve the agricultural structure and land development. They are recognized for this by their countries.

■ Member of MER (European Movement of Rurality) and of RUMRA (Rural, Mountainous and Remote Areas)

AEIAR IS IN THE SPOTLIGHTS OF THE DEBATE ABOUT RURAL LAND AT THE EUROPEAN SCALE

Context

- Loss of land in Europe is going on, especially farmland (In the world, between 2000 and 2050, 300 to 500 millions of hectares are going to lose their rural use for an urban one)
- Concentration of farms is increasing due to operations of land accumulation (3,1% of the farms in European Union control 52,2% of farmland and 76,2 % of farms are using only 11,2% of farmland)

Goals

- Exchanging information and experiences about land management, settlement of new farmers, preservation and development of agricultural activities
- Contributing to the development of farms and to the vitality of rural areas
- Promoting land regulation which is the best way to ensure a real transparency of land markets (land rental, land sell, share deals), a control and an orientation to economical projects
- Throwing light onto the interventions of rural institutions allowing to take up the challenges of European agriculture

Actions

- Circulation of information to each other between members of AEIAR
- Organization of study days in a member state each year on a special subject
- Publication of studies, especially on land regulation in member states of the European Union
- Involvement in the rural agenda on the European scale, a better taking into account of rurality in European policies
- Contribution to Landnet workshops of the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation)
- Regular and intensive relations with European institutions
- Active contribution to the European Commission workshop (DG Agri and DG Fisma) on land regulation in member states of the European Union

European agricultural challenges

- To ensure food sovereignty in member states and the European Union
- To maintain an agricultural model, at a human scale, origin of a rich and varied production, in which the farmer remains in control of his capital and his decisions
- To make easier access to land in order to ensure renewal of generations and settlement of new farmers
- To increase the attractiveness of rural areas to settle young farmers and to multiply employment
- To avoid delocalization of added value

Land is strongly connected with peace and political stability.

Successful steps at European scale

- Parliament report about State of play of farmland concentration in the EU: how to facilitate the access to land for farmers, April, 27th, 2017: 44 proposals to the European Commission amongst them, establishment of farmland concentration and loss of farmland observatory and measures to encourage member states to preserve land, as well as measure to regulate land
- Communication of the European Commission (DG Fisma) about acquisition of land in Europe, October, 18th, 2017 : Agriculture, farm land, settlement of young farmers are public interest stakes which allow countries to adopt measures of regulation, provided that restrictions shouldn't be discriminatory or disproportionate
- European Parliament legislative resolution, February, 14th, 2019 establishing a framework for screening of foreign direct investments into the European Union