



Accession to European Union in the Field of Agricultural and Rural Policies

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A. General institutional frame of CAP

**EU institutions and
decision making system
in agriculture**



Motivation

What is European Union?

- There is no such organisation in the world.
- Complex set of institutions, formal and informal rules and norms.
- The EU institutions are gaining on the importance compared to the institutions on the national level.
- Multi-level and national decisions makers.
- Different level of negotiations and interest adjustments.

CAP decision making system

- The “mother” of EU integration process.
- Specific rules and norms.
- Technical “Byzantine” complexity.
- The “Clubbing” and “Ghetto” mentality and power.



Content

- a. The history and phases of European integration**
- b. EU decision makers and agriculture**
 - EU institutional system
 - The Commission, the Council and the Parliament
 - Committees – how the daily CAP is regulated
- c. Decision making process in agriculture**
- d. CAP as lobbying system**



a. European integration

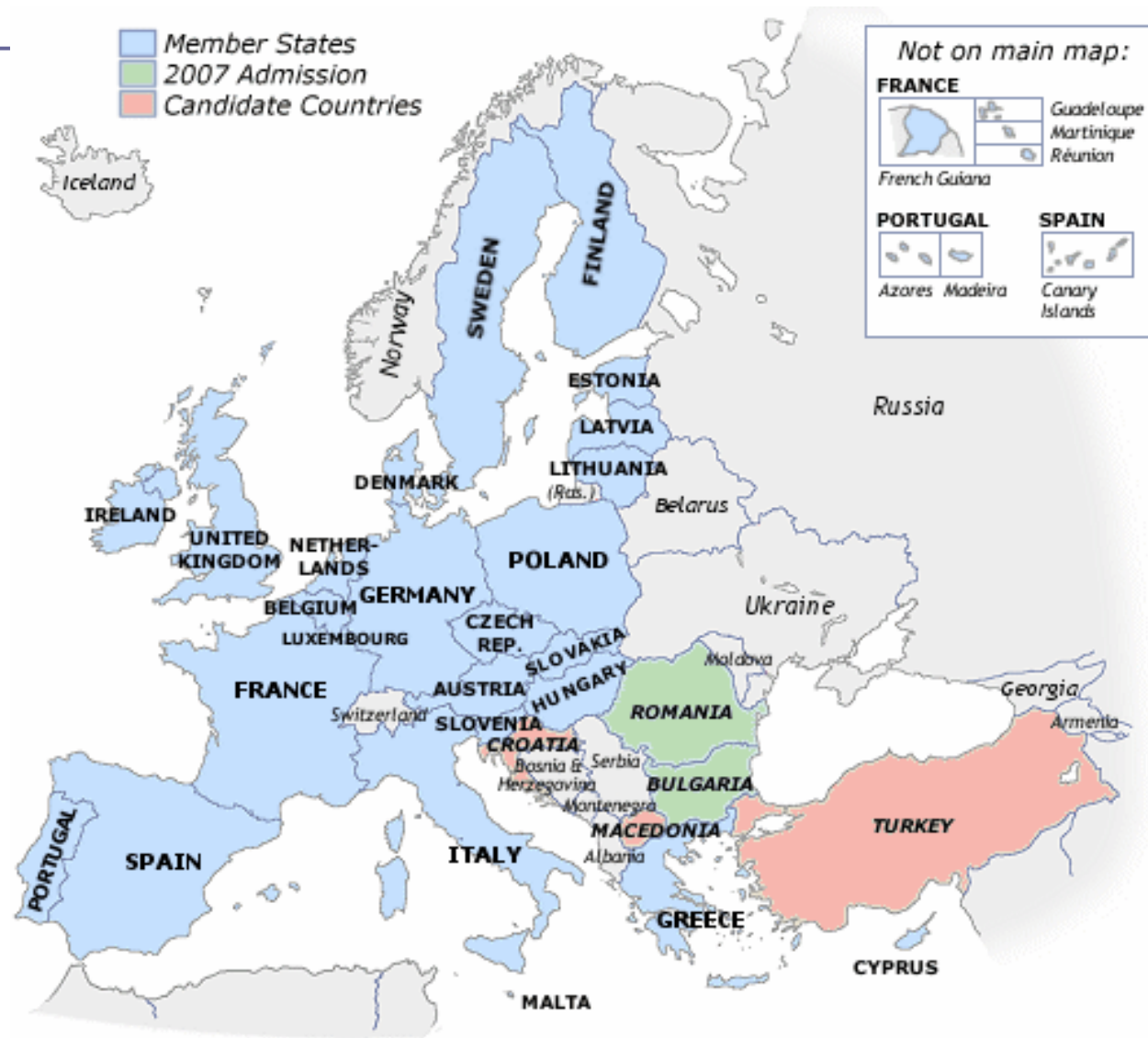




European Union – Member States

The EU has 27 Member States covering an area of 4,23 mio. km² and has approximately 500 million inhabitants.

The EU represent the world largest economy by GDP, the seventh largest territory in the world by area and the third largest by population.





European Union – Status

- The European Union (EU) is an intergovernmental and supranational union of 27 democratic member states.
- EU was established in 1992 by the Treaty on European Union (the Maastricht Treaty). Many features of EU have existed before, dating back to 1951.
- The members (Member States – MS) have transferred to it considerable sovereignty, more than that of any other non-sovereign regional organization.
 - In certain areas the EU begins to take on the character of a federation or confederation.
 - In legal terms, MS remain the *masters of the Treaties*:, the Union does not have the power to transfer additional powers without their agreement through further international treaties.
 - In many areas MS have given up relatively little national sovereignty, in key areas of national interest such as foreign relations and defence.



European Union – History

Historical roots of the European idea for United Europe:

- Antic Philosopher like Aristotle
- Roman Empire, The Frankish empire of Charlemagne and the Holy Roman Empire.
- The 1800s customs union under Napoleon.
- Military subjugation of unwilling nations, leading to instability!

The catastrophes of the First and Second World War have led to first institutional proposals and steps,.

- Formation of the European Coal and Steel Community by (Western) Germany, France, Italy and the Benelux countries. This was accomplished by the Treaty of Paris, signed in April, 1951, and taking effect in July, 1952.

The first full customs union was originally known as the **European Economic Community**:

- established by the Treaty of Rome in 1957 and implemented on 1 January 1958.

This later changed to the **European Community** which is now the "first pillar" of the **European Union** created by the Maastricht treaty.

The EU has evolved from a trade body into an economic and political partnership.



'Deepening' – key policy developments

History of EU Treaties

1951	European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)	} <i>Treaty of Paris</i>
1957	European Economic Community (EEC)	
	European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)	} <i>Treaties of Rome</i>
1965	merger treaty forms the European Communities (EC)	
1968	completion of the Common Market	e.g. CAP ... & CFP
1986	Single European Act (SEA) QMV < 'eurosclerosis'	
1992	Treaty of European Union (TEU, also known as Maastricht)	} <i>from Single Market (1992) to single currency (2002)</i>
1997	Treaty of Amsterdam ... more QMV	
2001	Treaty of Nice ... even more QMV	
2009	Lisabon treaty	

Paris
1951



Rome
1957



Maastricht
1992

Nice
2001





'Widening' – basic enlargement history



1951	'Six'	Belgium, France, West Germany (FRG), Luxembourg, Italy, and the Netherlands	} northern	
1973	'Nine'	<i>plus Norway?</i> Denmark, Ireland, and the United Kingdom		
1981	'Ten'	Greece	} southern	<i>minus Greenland!</i>
1986	'Twelve'	Portugal, and Spain		
1990		East Germany (GDR)	} forgotten	
1995	'Fifteen'	<i>plus Norway?</i> Austria, Finland, and Sweden	} EFTAN	
2004	'Twenty-five'	Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, and the Slovak Republic	} CEEC (incl. Club Med)	
2007	'Twenty-seven'	Bulgaria and Romania	} south-eastern	



EU institutions and bodies

The functioning of the EU is supported by five major institutions:

- The European Parliament (751 members)
- The Council of the European Union (or 'Council of Ministers') (27 memb.)
- The European Commission (27 members, with a supporting staff of about 18,000)
- The European Court of Justice (27 judges)
- The European Court of Auditors (27 members)
- The European Council (regular summit with 29 members), 27 head of MS, European Council president and the Commission president, without own staff, budget and the legal powers: a "quasi-institution".

There are two financial bodies:

- European Central Bank (which alongside the national Central Banks, composes the European System of Central Banks)
- European Investment Bank (including the European Investment Fund)

There are also two advisory committees to the institutions:

- Committee of the Regions, advising on regional issues
- Economic and Social Committee, advising on economic and social policy (principally relations between workers and employers)



European Union – Policies

■ EU activities cover most areas of public policy, from economic policy to foreign affairs, defence, agriculture and trade.

■ The extent of its powers differs greatly among areas.

- In some the EU may resemble a federation (e.g. on monetary affairs, agricultural, trade and environmental policy, economic and social policy), in others a confederation (e.g. on home affairs), and in yet others an international organization (e.g. in foreign affairs).

■ EU policy areas cover different forms of co-operation:

- **Autonomous decision making:** Member States have granted the European Commission power to issue decisions in certain areas such as competition law, state aid control and trade liberalization.
- **Harmonization:** member state laws are harmonized through the EU legislative process, which involves the European Commission, European Parliament and Council of the European Union. As a result of this European Union law is increasingly present in the systems of the Member States.
- **Co-operation:** Member States, meeting as the Council of the European Union, agree to co-operate and co-ordinate their domestic policies.



European Union – Single market

■ Many of the policies of the EU relate to single market.

- Significant efforts have been made to create harmonized standards and more efficient markets.

■ Internal policies

- Euro banknotes, Eurozone, a single currency area with the euro and the Monetary Union.
- Free trade of goods and services among Member States.
- A common EU competition law controlling anti-competitive activities of companies and Member States (through the State Aids regime).
- The Schengen treaty allowed removal of internal border controls and harmonization of external controls between its Member States.
- Freedom for citizens of its MS to live, work anywhere within the EU.
- Free movement of capital between Member States.
- Harmonization of trademark registrations.



European Union – Single market

- Environmental policy co-ordination throughout the Union.
- A Common Agricultural Policy and a Common Fisheries Policy.
- Common system of indirect taxation, the VAT, as well as common customs duties and excises on various products.
- Funding for the development of disadvantaged regions — structural and cohesion funds, as well as the emergency financial aid, the solidarity fund.

External policies and Military

- A common external customs tariff system, and a common position in the international trade negotiations.
- Funding of programmes in candidate countries and other Eastern European countries, as well as aid to many developing countries (IPA, ...).
- The establishment of a single market energy community by means of the Energy Community South East Europe Treaty.
- The establishment of a single market aviation area.
- The establishment of a European Defence Agency.



European Union – Single market

■ Co-operation and harmonization in other areas

- Common funding of research, through Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development.
- Freedom for citizens of the EU to vote in local government and European Parliament elections in any member state.
- Co-operation in criminal matters, including sharing of intelligence, agreement on common definition of criminal offences.
- A common foreign policy
- A common security policy.
- Common policy on asylum and immigration.



b. EU institutions and agriculture

Does the EU have a government ... or a system of governance?

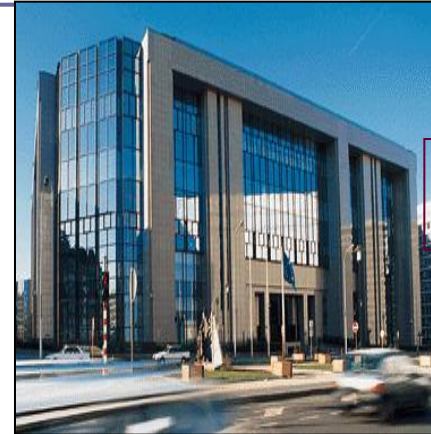


civil service /
executive



Commission <http://europa.eu.int/comm/>

executive /
legislature



Council <http://ue.eu.int>

legislature



Parliament <http://www.europarl.eu.int/>

judiciary



Court <http://curia.eu.int/>



Decision-making process in EU

Complicated system of institutions and procedures for decision taking, in which multi-national and national decision-makers participate.

Council:

- main legislative EU institution

European parliament:

- legislative EU institution

European Commission:

- has the right of legislative initiative and decides about the comitology procedures (management, regulatory & advisory committees)



European Council

The European Council, is a meeting of the heads of states or governments, the president of European Council and the Comm. President.

- This institution is different from the Council of the EU and the Council of Europe (unrelated international organization).
- The President of the European Council, currently Herman Van Rompuy, is elected for a once-renewable term of two and a half years. Is primarily responsible for preparing and chairing the Council meetings

Discussion and decisions on key issues and direction of the EU:

- E.g.: enlargement, introduction of euro, budget, treaties.
- Institution with strong political power.

There are now on average four/five European Councils per year.

- Two day meetings, around 3 meetings without formal voting procedures . Consensus!
- Place for discussion limited (too many participants, short time schedule).

Agriculture is often on the agenda:

- Financial matters; Enlargement



Council (of the European Union)

The main legislative institution of the EU. Contains ministers of the governments of each of the Member States. Simply referred to as the Council or the Council of Ministers.

The number of meetings per year (10 different forms):

- 20: General affairs (GAERC, foreign ministers)
- 12: Agriculture
- 11: Economic and financial matters (ECOFIN)
- 6: Internal market, environment
- 5 and less: other issues

The President of the Council is a Minister of the state currently holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

- Leaders of the EU for the time of the Presidency (6 months)
- Agenda setting, assembling and managing of the meetings, important role!
- Huge responsibility and burden for the MS
- Obligated to the EU interest; however, national interests important
- Working languages of the Council are English, French and German.

The legal and political decisions made upon the Commission proposals.



Council – Voting

The voting system used for a given decision depends on the policy area to which that decision belongs; according to the founding treaties, some subjects require unanimity, while others require only a qualified majority.

On 1 November 2004, modified voting weights from the Treaty of Nice came into effect. Qualified majority voting to require a 'double majority' of both population and number of countries.

The Council votes either by unanimity or by Qualified Majority Voting. Votes (total 345):

■ 29	(D, F, I, GB)	27	(Sp, Pol)
■ 14	(Rom)	13	(Ni)
■ 12	(Be, Cz, Gr, Hun, Por)	10	(A, Swe, Bul,)
■ 7	(Dk, Irl, Lit, Slk, Fin)	4	(Est, Cyp, Lat, Lux, Slo)
■ 3	(Mal)		

The voting systems:

- Unanimity (one MS on vote), if the vital interest of MS are in danger.
- Qualified majority (232 votes and 62 % citizens)
- Simple majority (proposed by Commission)
- Lisbon Treaty is changing the voting system after 2017



Council – Decision System

■ The Council is assisted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER):

- consists of the ambassadors or their deputies from the diplomatic representations of the Member States to the European Communities.
- prepares the Council agenda, and negotiates minor and non-controversial matters, leaving controversial issues for discussion, and other issues for formal agreement, to the Council.
 - COREPER I: ambassadors deputies (internal market, technical issues),
 - COREPER II: ambassadors (more political issues)

■ Below COREPER, civil servants from the Member States negotiate in Council working groups:

- often reaching de facto agreement which is formalized through COREPER and the Council of Ministers
- The participants are civil servants from the MS or from country Standing Delegation.

■ The Council and its preparatory bodies are supported by European career civil servants (3000) providing general advice, qualified legal advice, translation services and impartial negotiation assistance.



Council - System

Working days for Council
(Hayes-Renschaw and Wallace, 1997)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Council</i>	<i>COREPER I, II</i>	<i>Working groups</i>
1978	76.5	104.5	2090
1988	117.5	104	2000.5
1994	125	117	2580



Council – Agriculture

■ Monthly obligations for MS agricultural ministers

■ „Marathon meetings“

- more days, weeks, over the night
- about the policy setting (institutional prices, CAP reforms)
- „clubbing atmosphere “
 - For many political, mental and interest relationship
 - Independent decision (not controlled by other members of government)
 - The power of large CAP budget
 - Important role of the Presidency (different efficiency of responsible ministers)!

■ The council was for years driven by French- German partnership.

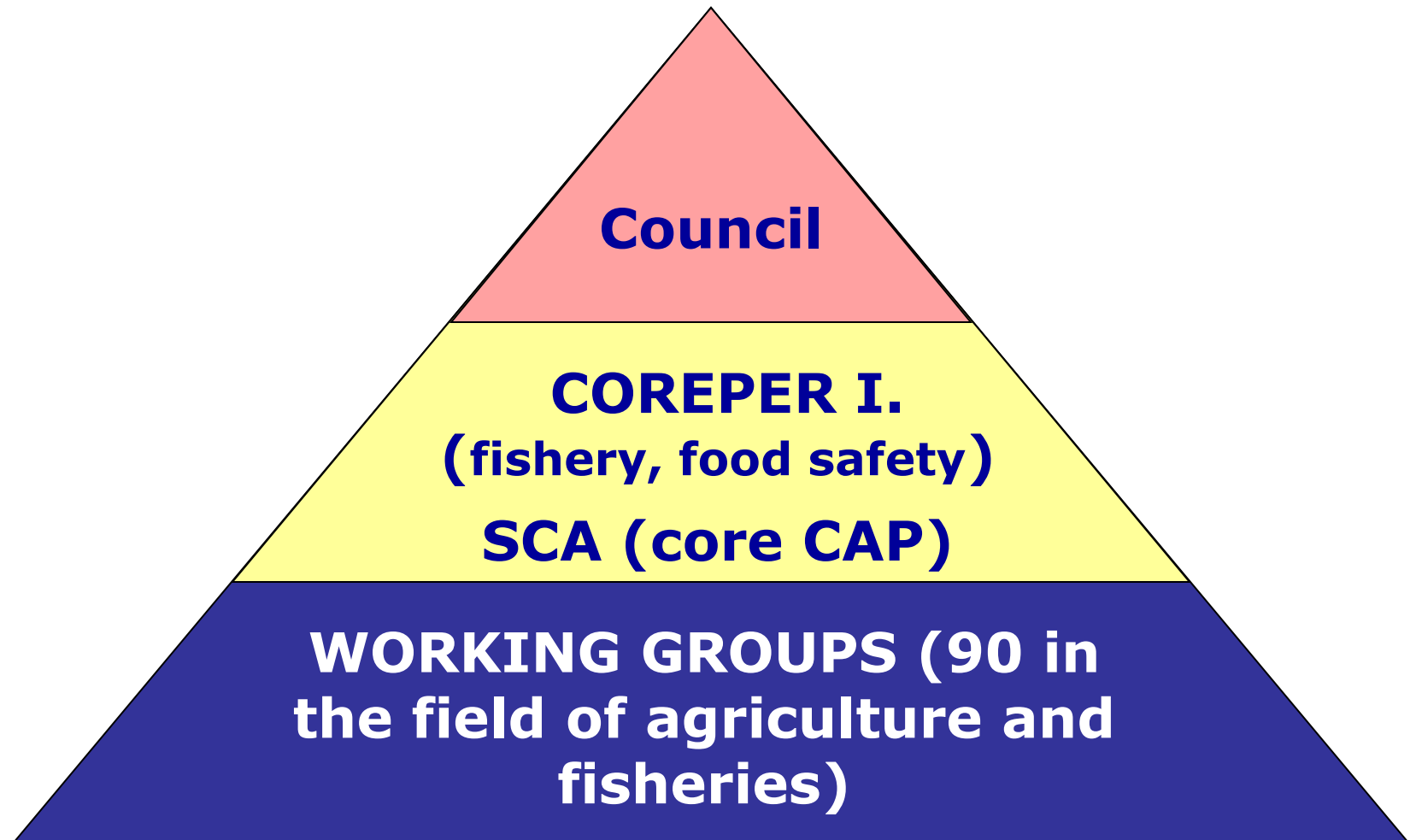
- Conservatism and protectionism as the main ideology
- Many ministers took the Council as the means how to support their farmers: to come back from the meeting with the full bag of money
- Changes in last years (new concerns, reformists with stronger voice)

■ Instead of COREPER – Special Committee for Agriculture (SCA)

- For preparation of Council meetings (only in agriculture - complexity),
- Monthly meetings (more intensive in the reform process)
- The agrarian diplomacy!



Council - Agriculture





European Commission (EC)

- The EC is the executive body of the EU. It has a power of initiative.
- Many parallels with the rule of a national government. Its primary roles:
 - to propose and implement legislation
 - Only the Commission has the authority to *initiate* legislation (for the "first pillar" – single market). In the areas that fall within the "second pillar" (foreign policy and defence) and "third pillar" (criminal law), the Commission shares the power of initiating legislation with the European Council.
 - and to act as 'guardian of the treaties' which provide the legal basis for the EU.
 - Responsibility for initiating infringement proceedings at the European Court of Justice against MS and others who it considers to have breached the EU treaties and other community law.
 - The Commission negotiates international trade agreements (in the World Trade Organization) and other international agreements on behalf of the EU.
- It consists of 27 Commissioners, one from each MS, supported by an administrative body of several thousand civil servants divided into departments called Directorate-General.
- The EC is intended to be a body independent of Member States, representing the interests of the citizens of the EU as a whole.



European Commission - Commissioners

- The President of the Commission is chosen by the European Council, must be approved by the European Parliament.

- The President is mostly experienced political person.

- The remaining Commissioners are appointed by the Member States in agreement with the President, who must determine the role of each Commissioner.

- The Commission is working at the high technical level, but acting politically.

- Commissioner is responsible for particular EU policy area (agriculture, competition).
- Activities: observation of situation, drafting of Commission legislation and political proposals, monitoring of administration work
- The decision are taken at Commission Meetings (Collegiums) according to the majority principle.

- **Important rule of Commissioner cabinets**

- the negotiations between the members of different cabinets in the process of drafting of new regulations
- The cabinets has often many members with the same nationality as the Commissioner.



European Commission - Commissioners

Agricultural Commissioners

- Important impact on the decision content and process, especially by historical persons (Mansholt, MacSharry, Fischler).
- Principally come from small Member States.
- Farm Lobbyists? Lobbyists for CAP preservation as well as for reforms. Search for common positions.
- Standing tensions with other policy areas (DGs), like trade, budget, cohesion policy.



European Commission - Directorates

■ The EC is divided into departments known as **Directorates-General (DG)** that can be linked to government ministries.

- Each Directorate-General is supervised by a senior civil servant known as the Director-General, who reports directly to the Commissioner or Commissioners responsible for that policy area. For efficient work important good working relation between both.
- In comparison with the national ministries from large MS relatively modest working resources

■ **Directorate-General for Agriculture (DG Agri)**

- Second largest DG
- Director-General comes mainly from larger MS (F, Sp).
- French is informal working language, therefore Director-General usually some person from “Roman” MS.
- Permanent human resources policy.
- Strong analytical and strategic work (strategies, analysis.



European Commission – Comitology

The Commission is responsible for adopting technical measures to implement EU legislation. This legislation is subject to the approval of committees made up of representatives of Member States.

- This process is sometimes known by the jargon term of comitology.
- Important backbone of the EU decision making system, especially in agriculture
- Often criticized that this process is without democratic control.

The three types of committees work according to different procedures and have varying levels of legislative control over the Commission:

- **advisory committees (AC)**
 - following draft measures by the Commission, the committee delivers its opinion within a certain time limit "if necessary by taking a vote" (simple majority). This procedure is generally used when the policy matters considered are not very politically sensitive;
- **management committees (MC)**
 - where the measures adopted by the Commission are not consistent with the committee's opinion (delivered by qualified majority), the Commission must communicate them to the Council which can take a different decision. This procedure is used for the management of the CAP, fisheries and the main Community programmes;
- **regulatory committees (RC)**
 - the Commission can adopt implementing measures only if it obtains the approval of the committee (voting by qualified majority). In the absence of this approval, the proposed measure is referred back to the Council which takes a decision by qualified majority. If the Council does not take a decision, the Commission can adopt the measure provided that the Council does not object by a qualified majority. This procedure is used for measures relating to protection of the health or safety of persons, animals and plants and measures amending non-essential provisions of the basic legislative instruments.



European Commission – Comitology Agriculture

Intensive Committees' work in Agriculture

- 46 agricultural committees, 492 meeting per year MC and RC (1999),
- mainly Management Committees (MC), the responsible civil servants from MSs
- MC for each Common Market organization
- Important decisions (e.g. the level of export subsidies, the National Rural Development programmes)
- Opinions (1999): 2173 approvals, 121 none, 2 refusals

Frequency of some MC and RC meetings (1998):

- Once per week: cereals, sugar
- Once per two weeks: milk, beef, pork, fruits and vegetables, fats, fodder, veterinary, phytosanitary issues
- Once per month: poultry, wine, sheep and goat meat, processed fruits and vegetables, bananas, rural development, EAGGF
- Once per two months: tobacco, hops, forestry, organic agriculture
- Once per 3-6 months: alcohol, FADN, research
- Once per year: dried fodder, planting materials, genetical resources,



European parliament (EP)

The EP is the parliamentary body of the EU, directly elected by EU citizens once every five years.

- Together with the Council, it composes the legislative branch of the institutions of the Union. In some respects, the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers resemble the upper and lower house of a bicameral legislature, respectively.
- The European Parliament cannot initiate legislation, but it can amend or veto it in many policy areas.
- In certain other policy areas, it has the right only to be consulted.
- EP also supervises the Commission. In the event that Parliament adopts a motion of censure, the entire Commission must resign.
- It also has the right to control the EU budget.
- The legal power of EP is increasing with the changes in last Treaties.
- Meetings in two locations: Strasbourg and Brussels.

The EP has several Committees

- Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development has many times different opinion against council and/or is supporting the Commission.
- Role of the rapporteur.
- Committee on Budget has important rule in the setting of agricultural budget.

CAP

- Growing role of EP after the Lisbon Treaty. Before the Council adopted solutions without considering the EP opinions. The EP and Council are essentially two chambers in the bicameral legislative branch of the European Union, with legislative power being officially distributed equally between both chambers.



The EP members (2010)

Malta	6	Belgium	22
Estonia	6	Czech Rep.	22
Cyprus	6	Greece	22
Luxemburg	6	Hungary	22
Slovenia	8	Portugal	24
Latvia	9	Netherlands	26
Ireland	12	Romania	33
Lithuania	12	Poland	51
Slovakia	13	Spain	54
Denmark	13	Italy	73
Finland	13	Great Britain	73
Bulgaria	18	France	74
Austria	19	Germany	96
Sweden	20		
		Total	751

MEPs in Parliament are organised into seven different [parliamentary groups](#), including over thirty non-attached members known as [non-inscrits](#).

The two largest groups are the [European People's Party](#) (EPP) and the [Socialists & Democrats](#) (S&D).

These two groups have dominated the EP, continuously holding between 50 and 70 percent of the seats together. No single group has ever held a majority in Parliament.



European Court of Justice (ECJ)

■ **ECJ adjudicates on matters of interpretation of EU law, most commonly:**

- Claims by the European Commission that a member state has not implemented a European Union Directive or other legal requirement.
- Claims by Member States that the European Commission has exceeded its authority.
- References from national courts in the EU Member States asking the ECJ questions about the meaning or validity of a particular piece of EU law.

■ **The ECJ is made up of 27 Judges and 8 Advocates General.**

- Should the Court request so, the Council may, acting unanimously, increase the number of Advocates General.
- The Judges and Advocates General are appointed by common accord of the governments of the Member States and hold office for a renewable term of six years.

■ **In agriculture the ECJ has played important role in the establishment of single market and competitiveness law.**



European Court of Auditors

Its "mission is to audit independently the collection and spending of EU funds and, assess the way that the European institutions discharge these functions".

- The Court's main role is to check that the EU budget is correctly implemented — in other words, that EU income and expenditure is legal and above board and to ensure sound financial management.
- The Court investigates the paperwork of any organization handling EU income or expenditure. If need be, it carries out on-the-spot checks. Its findings are written up in reports which draw the attention of the Commission and the Member States to any problems.
- The Court of Auditors works independently, and is free to decide how to schedule its auditing activities, how and when to present its observations, and what publicity to give to its reports and opinions.

The Court has one member from each EU country, appointed by the Council for a renewable term of six years.

- In their countries of origin, the members of the Court have all worked for an auditing institution or are specifically qualified for that work.
- It has approximately 760 of qualified staff, of whom about 250 are auditors. The auditors are divided into "audit groups". They prepare draft reports on which the Court takes decisions.

The auditors are often critical of the CAP in their reports.



Committees

The EU Economic and Social Committee (ESC)

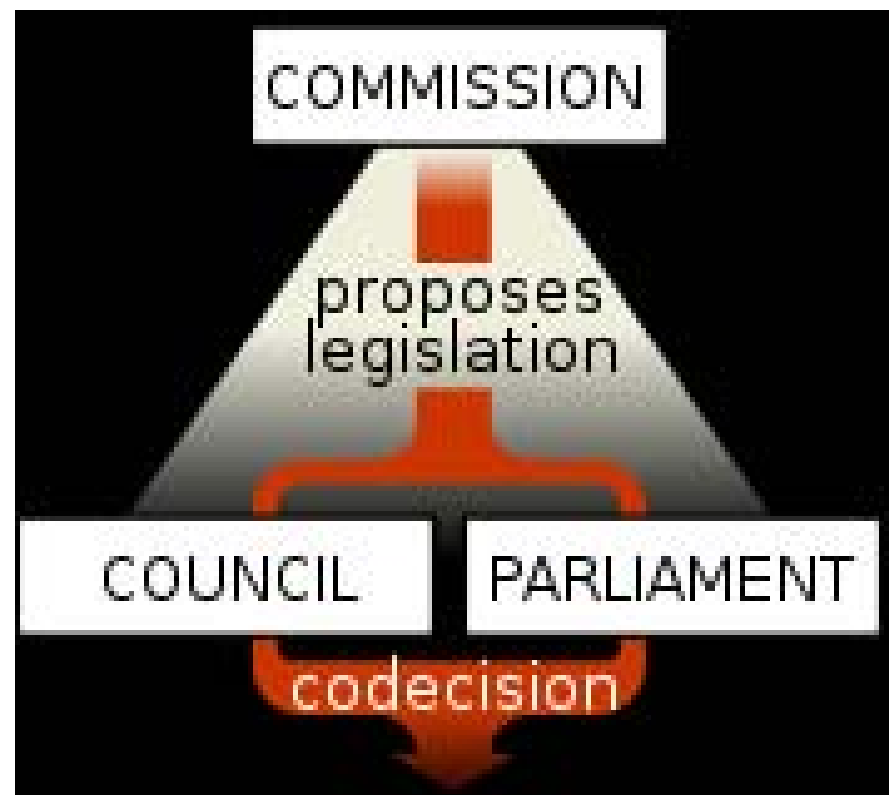
- It is the consultative assembly of European "social and economic partners". This phrase refers mainly to representatives of business, employers and trade unions.
- It was established by the Treaty of Rome of 1957 in order to unite different economic interest groups to establish the Common Market. The creation of this committee gave them an institution to allow their voices to be heard by the Commission, the Council and the Parliament.
- The role of the ESC is purely consultative. However, the Treaty of Maastricht considerably enlarged the ESC domain. The ESC consists of 317 members, according to the population of the Member States of the EU. Its membership is made up of representatives of Europe's employers' organizations, trade unions, farmers, consumer groups, professional associations. All the members are appointed by the Council of Ministers following proposals made by the national governments

The Committee of the Regions (CoR)

- It is an EU institution created by the Treaty of Maastricht. It aims at increasing the participation of European regions in community life. The CoR, whose seat is in Brussels, is composed of 317 representatives of regional and local governments.
- The CoR was set up to address two main issues. Firstly, about three quarters of EU legislation is implemented at local or regional level, so it makes sense for local and regional representatives to have a say in the development of new EU laws. Secondly, there were concerns that the public was being left behind as the EU steamed ahead.
- The Treaties oblige the Commission and Council to consult the Committee of the Regions whenever new proposals are made in areas that have repercussions at regional or local level.



c. Decision making process in agriculture





EU legislative procedures

■ The way EU creates and enacts legislation across the community. The choice of procedure used depends on the policy area. The rules are laid down in the Treaties.

■ Codecision procedure

- The Codecision procedure is the main legislative procedure by which European laws are adopted. The Council and the EP adopt legislation based on a proposal by the Commission. Both Parliament and Council are required to agree (conciliation committee) on an identical text before a proposal can be adopted.
- All food safety items are now decided according to this procedure. After 2010 the procedure is adopted also for all CAP legal texts.

■ Consultation procedure

- Before 1985 this procedure was the most widely used legislative procedure. Under this procedure the Council can adopt legislation based on a proposal by the Commission after consulting the EP. While being required to consult Parliament on legislative proposals the Council is not bound by Parliament's position. In practice the Council would frequently ignore whatever Parliament might suggest and even sometimes reach an agreement before receiving Parliament's opinion.
- Consultation is still used for legislation concerning some political sensitive economic issues (harmonization of taxes, competition law, visa policy, fiscal issue to environment, liberalizing of services).



EU legislative procedures (cont.)

Co-operation procedure

- The Co-operation procedure used to be a very important procedure in the past which covered a wide variety of enacted legislation. Under the procedure the Council can adopt a proposal by a qualified majority, but the Council can also overrule a rejection of the particular proposed law by the Parliament by adopting a proposal unanimously.
- Less important in the future.

Assent procedure

- The Council can adopt legislation based on a proposal by the Commission after obtaining the consent of EP.
- The procedure is used for issues concerning Union membership and economic and social cohesion.

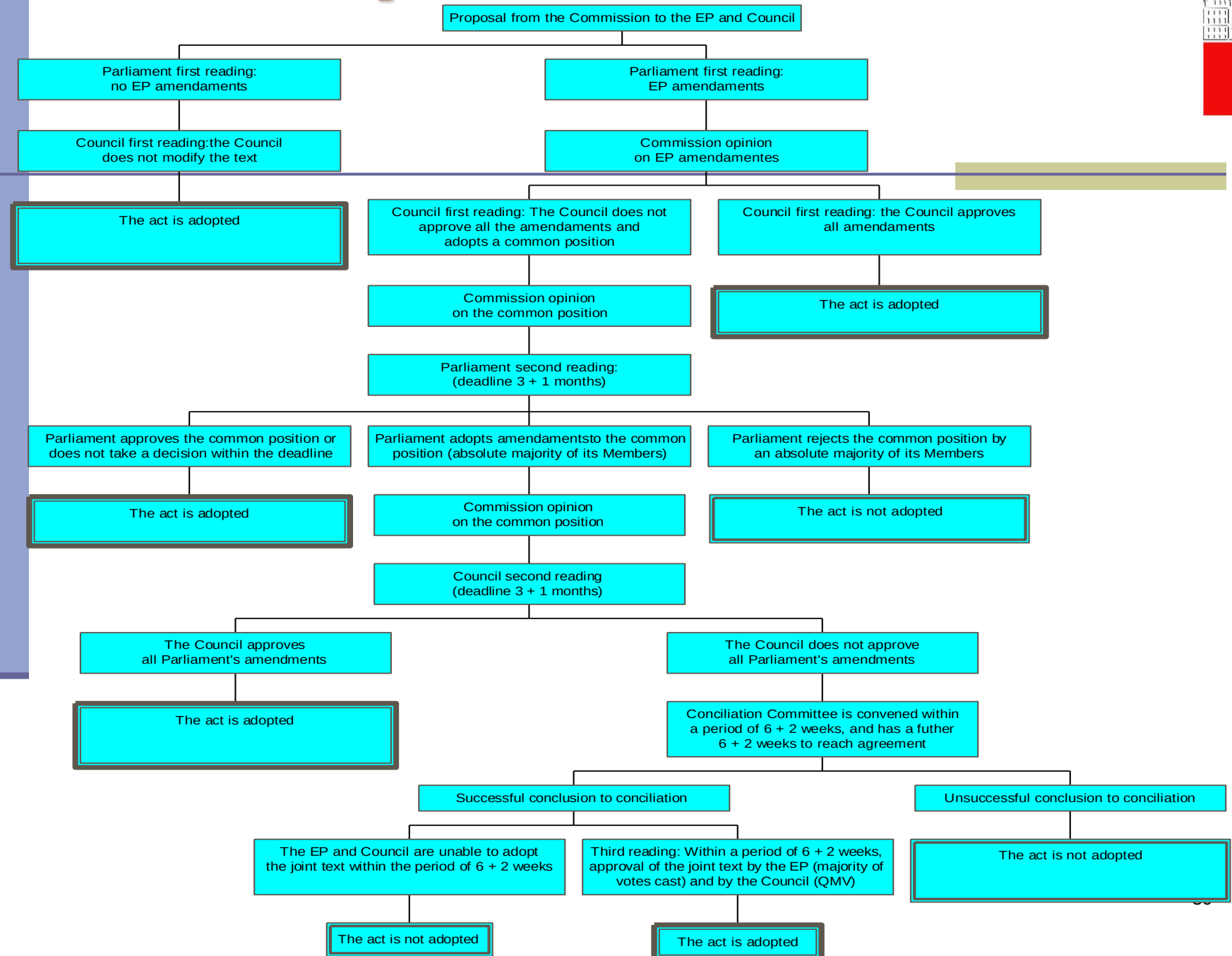
Commission and Council acting alone

- Council can adopt laws proposed by the Commission without requiring the opinion of EP. The procedure can be used for particular parts of the freedom of movement of capital and the Common Commercial Policy.

Commission acting alone

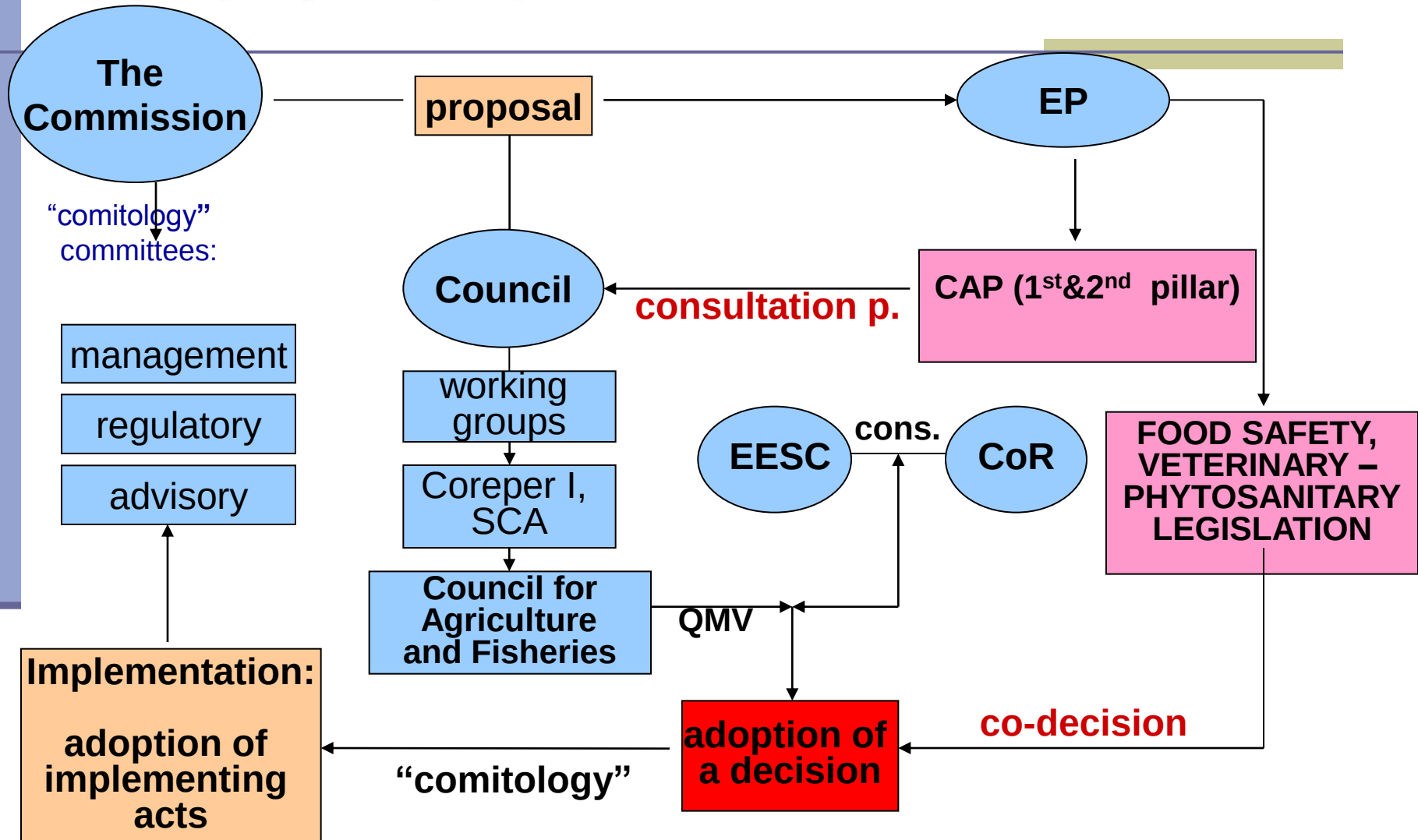
- The Commission can adopt laws on its own initiative concerning monopolies and concessions granted to companies by Member States and concerning the right of workers to remain in a Member State after having been employed there.

Codecision procedure



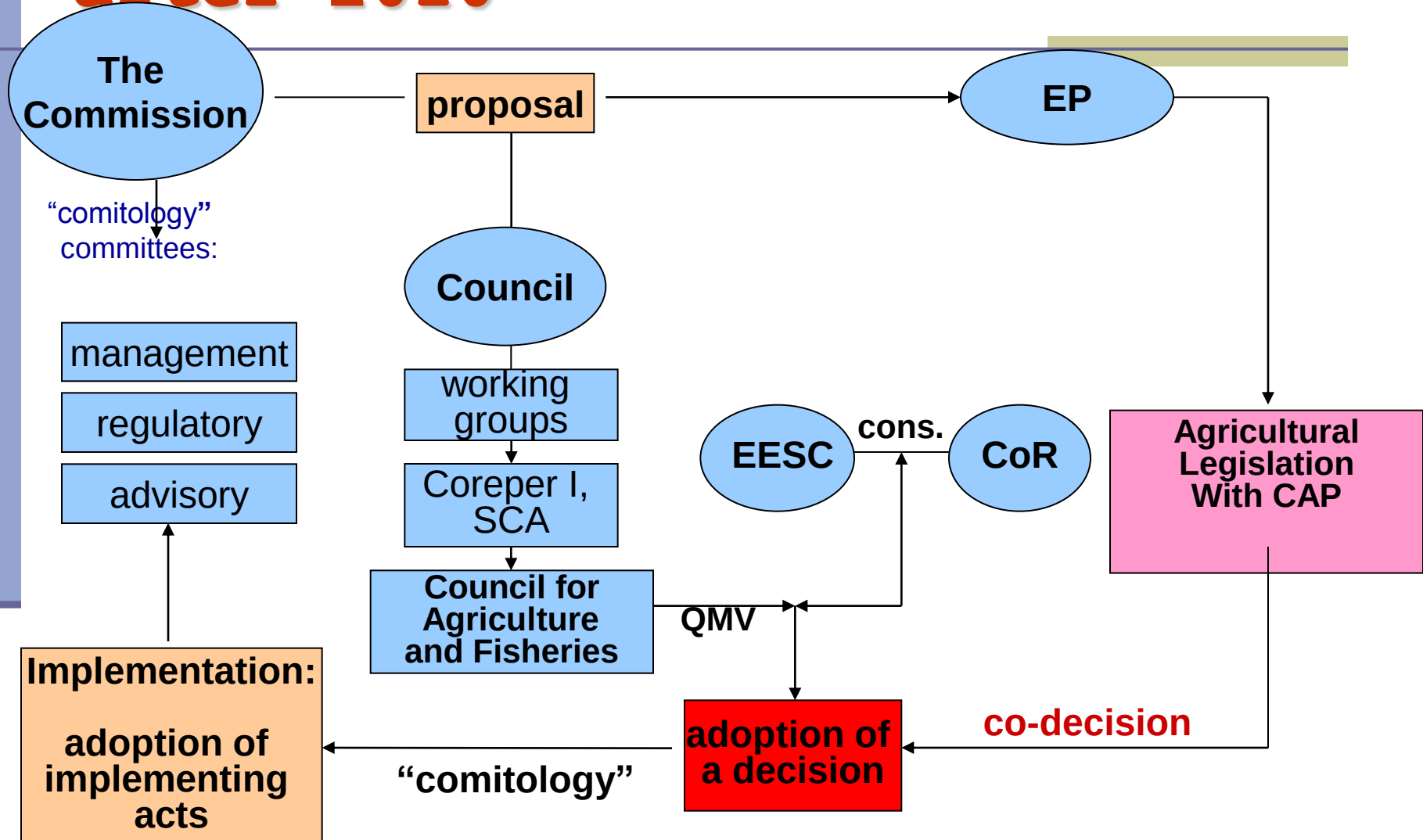


CAP Decision making process before 2010





CAP Decision making process after 2010





Norms – the informal principles of decision making

■ **“Soft regulations”**

- strategies, action program, agreements,...

■ **„Enforced negotiations “**

- enquiry of consensus for (almost) every price, “political” decisions, search for compromises

■ **Waiting for „policy Window“ opportunities**

- waiting for the right moment, many cases like enlargement, Euro introduction,...

■ **„Punctual balance of power“**

- The changes are forced at the end only by provocation in the very short time. The prospects seem to be very limited. At the end without big discussion. Political willingness necessary.

■ **„Package procedures and treatment“**

- To reach the compromise more tasks should be on the table. Search for “win-win” situations.

■ **„Subsidiary“ principle**

- If possible, the decisions should be taken at the lowest possible level (national, sub-national).

■ **Informal meetings decisive**

- “Few eyes” agreements, informal dinners,....



d. CAP as lobbying system



EU – Lobbying

Lobbying

- to directly influence the actions of government, through various combinations of private cajoling, public actions.

The goal of lobbying

- is to convince the government (bureaucracy or legislative committee) to follow policies desired by the lobbyist.

The term lobbyist

- can apply to any person who attempts to directly influence the actions of government, but it usually denotes a professional advocate who is paid for their lobbying activity.

European Union is the place

- where the lobbying is intensively present at all levels of decision making processes and with all EU institutions and bodies.
- The primary activity is not to influence the decisions, but information transmitting (to get and to deliver the information).
- The primary subject of lobbying is the Commission:
 - advisory committees, personal contacts
- Two organizational forms
 - Non-governmental organisations (Interest organisations)
 - Standing national representations



CAP lobbying points at the EU institutions

CAP is targeted with many lobbying activities

Commission

- Commission civil servants responsible for working bodies in agriculture
- Commission civil servants responsible for new legislative documents
- National civil servants delegated to the management committees

Council

- agricultural minister of particular MS
- the national representatives in COREPER and SCA

Parliament

- The members of Committee for Agricultural and Rural development
- Personal contacts with members of parliaments and EP civil servants



EU lobbying in agriculture

Agricultural Interest Organisations at EU level

- COPA
 - European organization of farm organisations and trade unions
 - Decision with the quality majority
- COGECA
 - European organization of national associations of agricultural cooperatives
- CEJA
 - European organization of young farmers
 - The organisations have common secretariat
 - Less impact as expected! The influence is diminishing.
 - The topics became too complex, technical, institutional prices and budget determined for longer period.

Other interest organisations with CAP influence at EU level

- BEUC
 - European organization of consumer associations
 - Impact on CAP?
- CIAA
 - European organization of food processing industry
 - Impact on detailed technical issues, less on CAP concept
- BirdLife, EEB, WWF and other environmental organisations
 - Increasing impact on CAP through concentrated public relation policy



Internet references

EU-Portal

- <http://europa.eu.int/>
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Encyclopedia

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Union

National governments

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Academic institutions

- http://www.uni-mannheim.de/users/ddz/edz/eu_info/eu.html
- http://www.zei.de/zei_startseite_neu/startseite_e.htm

News

- <http://euobserver.com/>
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The questions to be answered

1. Who drafts the regulation? How is the process/discussion going on?
Who adopts the formal draft of regulation?
2. What is the rule of Council in the whole procedure? How is the procedure inside the Council institution?
3. How could the European Parliament influence the content and the procedure of adoption of regulation?
4. Could the European Economic and Social Committee influence the regulation adoption?
5. Which institution finally adopts the regulation?
6. Who are the key players in the legislative procedures?
7. Where and how to lobby the content of regulation? From the perspective of national governments and from the perspective of non-governmental organisations?