



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ALLIANCE against Hunger and Malnutrition



BACKGROUND

Constituted in April 2016, the European Parliamentary Alliance against Hunger and Malnutrition brings together 25 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) from different nationalities, political groups and parliamentary committees.

Through the Alliance, MEPs are actively contributing to consolidate the political commitment to fight against hunger and malnutrition at the European Union level. The Alliance provides a platform for policy dialogue and awareness raising on the right to adequate food for all, on the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition and on making agriculture more sustainable and resilient.

The priorities of the Alliance are organised around five thematic clusters that include the European Union Green Deal: climate change and natural resource management; sustainable value chains and responsible investment; nutrition for all and food systems transformation; the peace-humanitarian-development nexus and addressing rural extreme poverty and inequality.

Membership is open to all Members dedicated to achieving eradicating hunger and working on the thematic clusters as well as making food systems more sustainable, inclusive and resilient including in the COVID-19 recovery.

RATIONALE

Parliamentarians can significantly contribute to achieving the right to food at global, national and local scale, as they play a key role in setting up the enabling legal and institutional frameworks, in allocating appropriate budgets and in monitoring government action on food and nutrition security.

The European Parliamentary Alliance has been and will continue to be instrumental in connecting Members of the European Parliament and in enabling them to engage actively in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, by giving them a platform to voice their collective concerns and to jointly advocate for policies and programmes needed to build a Zero Hunger world.

GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY ACTION

Against this background, the Spanish Parliament and Senate, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Latin America and the Caribbean Parliamentary Front against Hunger jointly organized the First Global Parliamentary Summit on Hunger and Malnutrition on 29 and 30 October 2018 in Madrid, Spain, with the support of the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO).

The objective was to bring together Parliamentarians from all over the world to discuss how to strengthen action on eradicating hunger as well as discuss issues linked to nutrition, overweight and obesity in the aim of taking effective action to achieve SDG2.

Over 150 parliamentarians from 80 countries from all continents participated. The European Parliament was represented by an ad hoc delegation from the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and the Development Committee.

The Summit saw the adoption of a '*Call for action to achieve Zero Hunger and ensure the right to adequate food for all*'.

RECENT INITIATIVES

Recent initiatives carried out under the auspices of the Alliance – together with FAO and other partners – include:

- i. *Sustainable Food Systems in Times of Global Crises*, 13 July 2020
- ii. *Impact of COVID-19 on Food and Agriculture*, 3-4 June 2020
- iii. *Constituent meeting, Making Food and Nutrition Security a Priority*, 10 December 2019
- iv. *Exchange of views of FAO Deputy-Director General Maria Helena Semedo with three Parliamentary Committees (AGRI, DEVE, ENVI)*, 18 November 2019
- v. *World Food Day Celebrations: Investing in Nutrition: Partnering for Action*, 15 October 2019

In addition, the Secretariat provides latest reports and data on food security and malnutrition to Members of the European Parliament as well as to Parliamentary Committees to foster an evidence-based debate and as valuable input for ongoing legislative discussions. The participation of experts from different regions in the various meetings organized by the Alliance to enrich the debate with technical and country-based experience is also facilitated.

References:

- FAO. 2016. *Migration, Agriculture and Rural Development. Addressing the root causes of migration and harnessing its potential for development*. Rome, FAO. 20 pp.
- FAO. 2019. *The State of Food and Agriculture 2019. Moving forward on food loss and waste reduction*. Rome, FAO. 182 pp.
- FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP & WHO. 2020. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020. Transforming food systems for affordable healthy diets*. Rome, FAO. 320 pp.
- FAO, ITPS & Global Soil Partnership. 2015. *Status of the World's Soil Resources: Main Report*. Rome, FAO. 650 pp.
- FSIN. 2020. *2020 Global Report on Food Crises. Joint analysis for better decisions*. Rome, FSIN. 240 pp.

THEMATIC CLUSTERS



Sources: FAO, 2016, 2019; FAO *et al.*, 2020; FAO, ITPS and Global Soil Partnership, 2015; FSIN, 2020

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