

To: Executive Vice-President Stéphane Séjourné
Commissioners Valdis Dombrovskis, Ekaterina Zaharieva, and Christophe Hansen

18 November 2025

Urgent Action for a More Efficient EU Risk Assessment: Securing Agri-Food Competitiveness and Innovation

Dear Executive Vice-President,
Dear Commissioners,

The undersigned 24 organisations, representing thousands of operators across the food and feed chain, write to you with urgency. We share the European Commission's vision for a competitive, resilient, and innovative agri-food sector - a sector that employs over 30 million people and contributes substantially to the European economy.¹

However, the current EU regulatory environment - particularly the performance, complexity and timeliness of risk assessment processes - is putting our sector at a growing competitive disadvantage compared to other regions. The increasing complexity and unpredictability of EU risk assessments are creating uncertainty for industry stakeholders, while growing pre-market regulatory costs and administrative burdens introduced in recent years are increasingly driving investment and innovative products away from Europe. A concern highlighted in the Draghi report on competitiveness.² Further details on regulatory issues are outlined in the "[Open Letter of Business and Agri-Food Industry Stakeholders on the Need for a High-Performing EFSA to Boost the Competitiveness of the EU Agri-Food Sector](#)" from 28 May 2025.

Commission leadership and action will be essential to ensure that the ongoing EFSA performance review results in meaningful and timely improvements, reinforcing EFSA's ability to operate efficiently and uphold science-based assessments. This should go hand-in-hand with efforts to drive regulatory simplification and streamlining across the agri-food sector. Many of the current regulatory challenges could be addressed in the upcoming simplification packages, and through an evidence-based review of the Transparency Regulation³ to decrease the administrative burden. Only then can the EU agri-food and feed chain maintain its ability to deliver safe, sustainable, and innovative products for Europe.

¹ A Vision for Agriculture and Food; Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations ([link](#))

² The future of European competitiveness, September 2024 ([available here](#)).

³ Regulation (EU) 2019/1381 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on the transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain

In addition, a high-performing EFSA must be complemented by a Commission that actively guides and contextualizes risk evaluations, ensuring that regulatory outcomes reflect both scientific rigor and strategic policy priorities. This dual accountability is vital to restoring predictability and efficiency of the EU's risk assessment framework.

We urge the European Commission to take these concerns seriously and act decisively to promptly update legislation as needed and to ensure that EFSA operates with a focus on performance and accountability. Strengthening the EU's agri-food competitiveness is essential to ensuring Europe remains a global leader in the production of safe, sustainable and innovative food products.

List of organisations supporting the letter

Name of the organisation	Logo
AESGP	
AMFEP	
Calorie Control Council	
CropLife Europe	
EAEL	
ECCA	

ECOFI	
EFFA	
EFFAB	
EIHA	
EMFEMA	
EuropaBio	
Euroseeds	
EU Specialty Food Ingredients	
FEC	
FEFAC	

FEDIAF	
FEFANA	
FoodDrinkEurope	
Food Supplements Europe	
IBMA	
ICA	
IOFI	
UNESDA	