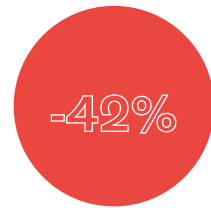


# The ESEC's recommendations for *an ambitious contract between agriculture and French society*

CHRISTOPHE GRISON AND FRANCK TIVIERGE

French agriculture is facing a number of very different challenges: climatic and environmental, economic and food-related, as well as socio-demographic. In view of this widely shared observation, the Government has decided to draw up a draft law on agricultural policy and the future of agriculture, based on a wide-ranging consultation process at both national and local level, in order to create a pact between the nation and agriculture. Changes in the overall organisation of access to food and the rise in the urban population have resulted in a weakening of the link between production and consumption, leading to a lack of awareness and even a misunderstanding of the mutual expectations of the various players. It was against this backdrop that the Prime Minister referred the matter to the ESEC.

The ESEC has been involved in drawing up this future Pact by producing an opinion designed to enlighten the government, and is formulating guidelines for a Pact designed to meet the various challenges facing society and enable everyone to have access to high-quality, healthy and sustainable food.



**The decline in the  
number of farm  
workers between  
2000 and 2020.**



## OBJECTIVES

### A PACT FOR A SHARED VISION OF OUR AGRICULTURE

The aim of this Pact, which unites society and all agricultural professionals, is to arrive at a shared vision of what our agriculture, its organisation and production should look like by 2040, while identifying the changes it will have to make between now and then.

In this opinion, the ESEC sets out its guidelines for the Pact in three main areas:

- Produce as close as possible to consumers and make healthy, sustainable food accessible to all.
- Breathe new life into French agriculture

to attract new workers and maintain a fabric of farms throughout the country.

- Strengthen the links between agriculture and society, through better mutual understanding.

## The ESEC's recommendations for an ambitious contract between agriculture and French society

OPINION

### 1 PRODUCE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

- Transform the **CAP into the Common Agricultural and Food Policy**;
- **Make social and environmental clauses enforceable** in all trade agreements negotiated by the EU;
- **Ensure fair competition within the EU** through high social and environmental standards;
- Develop, in consultation with all stakeholders, a **10-year national support plan aimed at implementing the future National Food, Nutrition and Climate Strategy** and by strengthening the coherence of public policies;
- **Develop tripartite contractualisation** to achieve a balanced distribution of value;
- **Systematise Territorial Food Projects at intermunicipal level.**

### 2 MAKE FRENCH AGRICULTURE ATTRACTIVE

- Encourage transfers by facilitating **contact between future sellers and project sponsors**;
- Create a genuine **one-stop shop for setting up new businesses and transferring existing ones**;
- **Develop training courses for attractive, forward-looking agricultural occupations**;
- **Promote the agricultural professions, their missions and their values.**

### 3 CLOSER LINKS BETWEEN AGRICULTURE AND SOCIETY

- **Improve transparency and traceability throughout the food chain** and respond to new social expectations;
- **Raise awareness of the various food-related issues** and improve knowledge of agriculture;
- **Use out-of-home catering, whether collective or commercial, as a lever to apply the Egalim law and offer local and organic products.**

#### THE RAPPORTEURS

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