

[en](#)

[Publication](#) | 20.11.2017

Major changes needed if CAP is to be made fit for purpose

A fitness check on the CAP

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is not fit for purpose, according to a new study co-commissioned by the Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament.

The study was commissioned and funded by: BirdLife Europe; the European Environmental Bureau (EEB); Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU); the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig; Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ; the University of Göttingen; and the Greens/EFA and Socialists & Democrats groups in the European Parliament.

The key findings of the report, for which the authors assessed 450 peer reviewed scientific papers, are:

- **The socio-economic efficiency of the CAP is very low.** The decrease in numbers of agricultural holdings continues, with a trend towards large-scale farms. With 32% of payments going to 1,5% of farms, the CAP provides insufficient support to small farms
- **The CAP is largely inefficient regarding its environmental objectives.** The CAP does not halt, let alone reverse, ongoing trends of agricultural intensification, abandonment, environmental degradation and biodiversity decline. It has a very limited effect on climate change mitigation.

See the links on the right for the full report, a briefing, and an executive summary.

Recommended

<https://unsplash.com/photos/gray-concrete-building-covered-trees-dqXiw7nCb9Q>



[EU Parliament continues to support big Agri over small...](#)

24.04.2024

News

European Union



Plenary Flash 22 - 25 April 2024

19.04.2024

Press release

<https://unsplash.com/de/fotos/luftaufnahmen-von-grunen-baumen-und-feldern-bei-tag-ZYohVTeA1xk>



[Greens/EFA condemns Commission and MEPs' attempts to r...](#)

11.04.2024

Press release



[EU leaders must stand firm on support for Ukraine & ca...](#)

20.03.2024

Attached documents

[Fitness Check Briefing English.pdf](#)

[DRAFT_Peer et al 2017 CAP Fitness Check_Clean.pdf](#)

[Executive Summary 17.11 Final.pdf](#)

[Fitness Check Briefing German.pdf](#)

[Fitness Check Briefing French.pdf](#)

Please share

• [E-Mail](#)