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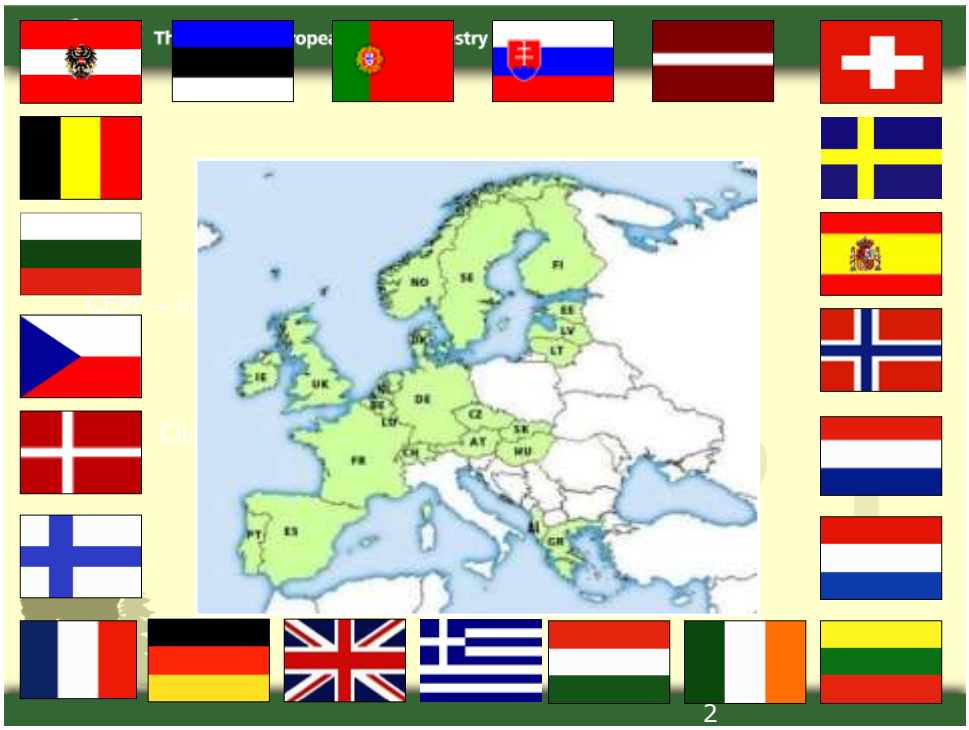
# The sustainability of forests in Europe

***CAP post 2013***
**&**
***The Green paper on forest protection and information***

**Wendelin Gravenreuth**

**Porto 6th May 2011**



## Currently on EU's political agenda

- CAP post 2013 & rural development
- Green Paper Forest Protection and Information
- EU Timber Regulation
- Sustainability criteria for biomass
- Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)
- Renewal EU Forest Strategy
- Forest Europe (Oslo conference)
- EU Strategy (flag ship initiative Resource Efficiency)

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## Timeline CAP post 2013

Process

- Public consultation launched by Commissioner Dacian Ciolos in April 2010
- Summary of the debate online in July 2010
- High level conference in mid July 2010
- Communication published in November 2010
- EP working on report until end May 2011
- Legislative proposal possibly November 2011
- Implementation at EU and MS level during 2012
- Entry into force beginning 2013

## COM published communication in Nov. 2011

- Main focus on; food security, environment and climate change and territorial balance
- Introduction of "capping" of direct payments
- Three broad options for the reform are presented
  1. Business as usual – change major short falls between member states
  2. More sustainable and balanced, more understandable
  3. Strong focus on environmental and climate change objectives
- Forest mentioned under environment and climate change
  - "Agriculture and forestry play a key role in producing public goods, notably environmental such as landscapes, farmland biodiversity, climate stability and greater resilience to natural disasters such as flooding, drought and fire." COM(2010)672 final

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## EP report CAP towards 2020

- Rapporteur Albert Dess, EPP
- Presented in draft report February 2011
- About 1250 amendments handed in until April
- 7 amendments include word forest
- Controversial debate in EPP on "capping"
- Rapporteur working on compromises
- CEPF meeting with rapporteur to discuss forestry
- Next step – Voting 25th May

## EP report CAP towards 2020

- **Forest relevant**
- Two pillar system obtained
- Rural development important instrument, however focus more on priorities
- RD should create growth, employment, mitigate climate change
- Simplification of the rules
- Greater coordination of funds

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## Input to the debate from CEPF

- CEPF Working Group on Rural Development (new chair man to be elected)
- Forest sector position paper on CAP post 2013
- Contact with EP regarding report
- Contact with DG AGRI
- CEPF aim
  - Strengthening of second pillar
  - Ensuring support for small forest owners
  - Introducing the word forestry in the text

# How will the new CAP look?

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# How will the new CAP look?

- Budget will decrease
- Distribution between new and old members more equal
- "Capping" on payments to larger farmers
- "Greening" - additional actions before funding is provided – not only cross compliance
- More flexibility for MS to adapt the CAP to national circumstances
- Maybe no specific rural development program or direct income support
- More integrated approach where farm income, biodiversity, rural livelihood, climate change etc. all are taken into account
- **?!!?!?**

# Green Paper Forest Protection and Information

Process

- White Paper "Adapting to Climate Change […]" COM(2009)147
- Green paper Forest Protection and Information COM(2010)66, March 2010
- Launching of public consultation (PC) until July 2010
- Results of PC presented end of 2010
- EP Envi committee, draft report, beginning 2011
- EP Envi committee, report, April 2011
- EP voting on final report 9th May 2011
- WHITE PAPER FOREST PROTECTION???

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# Green Paper Forest Protection and Information

- **Green paper by COM**
- Focus on Climate Change and its impacts on forest management and protection
- Holistic approach – listing different forest function
- Role of forest in climate regulation – Carbon sink, weather
- States the importance of forest information as basis for decisions
- Initiated public consultation – help COM shape work protecting forests from CC

# Green Paper Forest Protection and Information

- **Outcome public consultation**

+ Majority see need for better for more information – harmonisation (NFIs)
+ Consensus on need for targeted CC research

Various opinions on:

- Forest protection and conservation
- Implementation of SFM
- Utilisation/mobilisation of wood

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# Green Paper Forest Protection and Information

- **EP Envi Committee Report**

- Rapporteur Kriton Arsenis, S&D
- Less focused than COM
  - Right of democratic public access (allemansraetten)
  - Protection of remarkable trees, Heritage Observatories
  - Exploitation and illegal logging in EU
  - Calls for Forest Forum and reporting of NFPs to SFC
  - "[…] growing trend consider forest only from economic perceptive […]."
- Segregation of SFM concept – emphasis on forest conservation
- Forest management vs. forest protection

## Green Paper Forest Protection and Information

- **Critical issues EP report**
- Green Paper not legally binding – however shows mindset of EP and EU society
- Calls on COM to proceed with White Paper on Forest Protection
- Higher level of protection
- Biomass extraction for energy seen as threat for forests
- Classification of forests in "carbon rich old", monocultures – conservation
- Doubts implementation of SFM concept

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## Sustainability of forest in Europe?

- Forest policy exists in EU
- European Parliament in new situation after Lisbon
- Important to raise voice
- Forest Owners need to be more active
- Increasing expectations and needs of society on forest

## FORESTRY IS NOT ABOUT TREES…

…IT IS ABOUT PEOPLE!

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## Thank you for your attention!

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