



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 11 November 2025

**Interinstitutional files:
2025/0237 (COD)**

WK 15147/2025 ADD 2

LIMITE

**AGRI
AGRIFIN
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CADREFIN
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CONTRIBUTION

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
N° Cion doc.:	ST 11722 2025 ADD 1 + ST 11722 2025 INIT
Subject:	Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 (CMO) as regards the school scheme, sectoral interventions, the protein sector, hemp, marketing standards, import duties, the availability of supplies and securities - Comments from Czechia

Comments of the Czech Republic on the draft Regulation concerning financing of the Common Market Organisation and School Scheme in the new programming period 2028+ (block 3 and 4)

The Czech Republic considers it difficult to discuss certain measures when there is no defined allocation for the CMO.

We also confirm our position that the CAP (including the CMO) must be separated from the NRPP and must have a strong budget and separate allocation in order to ensure food security and the competitiveness of the agricultural sector. Therefore, we still prefer to remove all CAP (including CMO) provisions from the NRPP regulation.

Regarding the sectoral interventions, we cannot agree with the expansion of the list of sectors with mandatory support. This will lead to the fragmentation of support, especially in view of limited budget resources. The question is, what will be the procedure when a new producer organisation asks for recognition, for example in the protein sector? According to the proposed rules, such an organisation would have to be recognised and consequently also supported. Would this situation require a modification of the National Plan?

We are also concerned about the new mandatory co-financing, which is not set as a fixed share but as a minimum level. We are convinced that this could have a significant impact on Member States with smaller budgetary resources. We see a great risk of pressure on national budgets and re-nationalisation of the CAP. Not to mention that it will create an uneven playing field for producers and thus widen the gap between Member States.

Although we welcome the introduction of protein crops and hemp sectors, we do not think that sectoral interventions should be mandatory.

In Article 31, where types of interventions are listed, we miss support for insurance or the cost of rents and storage, which exists in the current programming period. We therefore ask to re-include it.