

Mr. Martin Pýcha
president

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Mr. Janusz Wojciechowski

Commissioner
Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 130
1049 Bruxelles
Belgium

Dear Mr. Commissioner,

I am writing to you as the president of Agricultural Association of the Czech Republic, an agrarian non-governmental organization which represents a significant part of agricultural entrepreneurs in the field of primary agricultural production in the Czech Republic.

As you surely know, the Czech Republic went through general elections at the end of the previous year. The new government has taken over the power recently.

However, even before the new government has been mandated by national parliament, the significant change in the draft CAP Strategic Plan had been announced publicly on 12th of January 2022. This change aims specifically in the robust increase of budget for so called “redistributive payment” (in the 1st. pillar CAP). The initial consensus on the 10-12% budget for this measure has been replaced by the 23% budget according to the governmental announcement. Such dramatic change will have the significant adverse impact on the backbone of the Czech agricultural sector.

Almost 2 years of difficult discussions, myriad of working sessions and fragile consensus achieved previously have been flushed away over a night, without any consultation with partners and representatives of the agricultural sector.

In the light of above-mentioned, we are of the opinion that such steps of the government/Member state are in the direct conflict with EC Regulation 2021/2115, Art. 106, which explicitly obligates Member states to draw up the CAP Strategic Plans on the basis of transparent procedures and stipulates an effective involvement of partners (incl. representatives of the agricultural sector) in the preparation of the CAP Strategic Plans.

To this end, I urge you to refuse an acceptance of the Czech CAP Strategic Plan by the new government, until the issue is solved and consensus is reached.

Thank you in advance for your rapid reaction.

Sincerely Yours

