



Hungarian National Assembly
Committee on European Affairs

Opinion of the Committee on European Affairs

by virtue of Article 145 of Resolution 10/2014 (II.24.) OGY on certain provisions of the Rules of Procedure

concerning the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 ('Proposal')

[COM(2022) 305; 2022/0616 (COD)]

The Committee

- recalling the exchange of views on the Proposal with the representative of the Government at the Committee meeting of 26 September 2022;
- agrees with the goals of the Proposal on safe and affordable production of food, respecting sustainability principles and safeguarding ecosystems, while deems it utmost necessary to guarantee food security and the competitiveness of the European farmers;
- objects that the general 50% reduction of the use of plant protection products is foreseen by the Proposal without a detailed impact assessment, thereby the different starting positions and individual circumstances of the Member States are disregarded. This approach is contrary to the principle of subsidiarity;
- considers important, that given the different levels of historical progress and differences in intensity of pesticide use between Member States, it is necessary to allow Member States some flexibility when setting their own binding national 2030 reduction targets;
- stresses that the Proposal does not take into account the originally low environmental burden in a Member State when setting the binding national targets, therefore calls for the modification of the methodology of the national 2030 reduction targets as provided by Annex I of the Proposal;
- considers that the reduction of the risk and use of plant protection products should be covered exclusively by such Union instrument which provides appropriate balance between the aspects of food chain security, environment and food security;
- points out that the large majority of the proposed measures would provide disproportionate increase of administrative burden both for the authorities and farmers;
- finally considers that the Proposal would result in the case of several Member States in production cuts and competitiveness constraints.

Budapest, 3 October 2022