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Editorial

CAP, Farm to Fork and Green Deal: policy coherence, governance, and future challenges

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The European Green Deal sets very ambitious high-level goals in terms of growth and environment, with the aim of turning the EU into a modern, competitive, and sustainable economy. The objective is to reach the target of zero carbon emissions generating greenhouse effects by 2050, the "decoupling" of economic growth from the use of natural resources, and a wider social inclusion for people and territories. To pursue such an ambitious plan, the Green Deal laid out a series of objectives and actions to ensure that every sector of the economy gives its contribution. This approach should be able to translate the Green Deal ambition into a system of complex sectoral-level policies that interact with each other for the achievement of the common high-level goals. However, the extent to which this complex system will be effective in achieving these goals will depend on policy coherence and on governance.

The 11th AIEAA annual conference entitled "CAP, Farm to Fork and Green Deal: policy coherence, governance, and future challenges" has been an occasion to explore the potential synergies coming from the integration of the CAP with other EU and national policies under the Green Deal umbrella. By gathering together scholars with different points of views and academic backgrounds, the Conference aimed to improve the understanding on how to reach an increased policy coherence and integration, explore new holistic governance approaches to the agri-food system, analyse the impact on the national and local systems and look to future challenges.

In this context, a new generation of complex transformative policies is needed and the first paper, by Gianluca Brunori (2023) gives a valid contribution in finding an answer to some very important questions such as "*What are the qualities that a new generation of policies should have? What should be done to foster a new generation of policies?*". Transformative policies are characterized both by a multiplicity of actors and complex sectoral interconnections. Considering that both the design and the impact of transformative policies depends on the characteristics of socio-technical and socio-ecological systems, new knowledge, new approaches and new forms of dialogue and governance are needed.

The second paper in this issue by Silvia Coderon (2023), focuses on the trade of between Food security and environmental sustainability as a 'false dilemma' that may delay the urgent action needed to establish a coherent policy framework that could help in meeting the ambitious challenge of making agriculture and food systems more environmentally sustainable. Nevertheless, the policy objective to increase food security while reaching higher environmental sustainability standards is very difficult to achieve as it raises multiple policy coherence and related governance problems. The author distinguishes between 1) a 'within-policy coherence' when public policy efforts are not directed towards the needs of the sector, and 2) 'between-policies coherence' when different policy objectives receive different degrees of policy support or even contradict each other, presenting governance issues related to this complex challenge. With regard to 1) the author stresses the need (and the challenges) for a more targeted CAP including the need for space based data for better policy design, implementation and monitoring. With regard to 2) the author highlights the impact on the agrifood system of policies including the LULUCF regulation, the Effort Sharing Regulation and the EU Emission Trading System, which has an impact on the entire food supply chain. Three

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major challenges are discussed i.e. the incurrence of high transaction costs to detect the synergies and trade-offs between policy objectives, the dependence of synergies and trade-offs on the different instruments chosen, and the need to arrive at value judgments on the different interests involved.

The next two papers explore some emerging issues at the local level. The contribution from Fasano and Pagliacci (2023) analyses how the valorization of high-quality agri-food products through the use of geographical indications impacts on the economic development of inner areas. They use municipality-level (LAU2) data and apply hurdle models to assess the effect on several variables such as agriculture and food industry features, socio-economic characteristics, regional settings. Their results suggest that across inner areas geographical indications still represent a sort of untapped resource that, to be effective would require a more effective policy intervention, recalling the "between policies coherence" suggested in the first paper,

The paper from Tappi and al. (2023) analyses the impacts of extreme weather events on crop production demonstrating how heterogeneous those effects can be accordingly to the types of crops. The results imply that farmers and policymakers may adopt ex-ante and ex-post risk management strategies taking into account thus variability, adapting solutions to the local scale

As stated by Brunori (2023), in the opening essay, a new generation of policies implies a new generation of scholars that experiment new models of collaboration between policy-makers and researchers. Our hope is that the AIEAA Conference has been a step in opening the way to a new generation of agri-food policy researchers that assign increased attention to socio-technical and institutional mechanisms that regulating food systems, by adopting a a stronger interdisciplinary approach.

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