

Furthermore, this act contradicts all the reform requests presented over the years, betraying the commitments made to its citizens. The measure deprives elected members of Parliament of the right and duty to decide based on the popular mandate they have received, imposing decisions using antidemocratic methods that have the clear objective of reintroducing an old and obsolete agreement that only serves the interests of speculative agribusiness and other economic sectors.

The process that led to the creation of the Italian STOPUEMERCOSUR Committee has developed over the past few months, starting with the first demonstration in Milan with hundreds of tractors, organized by COAPI, followed by countless initiatives (including in Padua, Parma, Avellino, Vittoria, Alessandria, etc.), culminating in the two-day event in Rome on March 6 and 7, when farmers "escorted" the group that submitted the formal notification to the European Commission at the Ministry of Made in Italy, asking the Italian government to suspend the application procedures pending the opinion of the European Court of Justice and the discussion and decision of the European Parliament.

The legal formal notice, addressed to President U. von der Leyen, accompanied by a complaint to the European Ombudsman (with a request to open an investigation) and a notification to the Italian Government (represented by President G. Meloni and Minister A. Urso), has already been served by Altragricoltura, the trade union confederation for food sovereignty, signed by its Secretary General, drafted by the legal team of Soccorso Contadino, countersigned by Italian organizations and social groups on behalf of Italian farmers, and supported by a broad group of forces being formed following the establishment of the Committee.

A delegation representing the Committee will arrive in Brussels on April 22 for a series of meetings with various stakeholders and elected members of the European Parliament, starting with members of the three groups that publicly opposed the agreement by voting to refer it to the Court of Justice (Lega, M5S, AVS), as well as all others who agree to meet. One of the goals of the Brussels initiative is to pressure MEPs to listen to farmers and address the concerns of a sector experiencing a dramatic crisis, which is set to worsen with the implementation of this agreement

The central event of the two-day event is the public roundtable, which will be held on the morning of the 23rd from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Sala la Spaak 1C050. Organized and promoted by MEP Gaetano Pedullà of Movimento 5 Stelle (M5S-The Left); the roundtable is open to all Italian MEPs and their guests.

Participants from Italy include: **Gianni Fabbris** (Confederal Secretary of Altragricoltura CSSA), **Angelo Distefano** (COAPI spokesperson), **Massimo Passaro** (Lawyer from Soccorso Contadino), **Adriano Noviello** (Federation of Breeders and Shepherds - Altragricoltura), **Marco Dallera** (COPOI - Italian Fruit and Vegetable Coordination), **Daniele Ponzano** (Independent Farmers of Piemonte), **Francesca Petrini** (National President of CNA Agri-food), **Monica Di Sisto** (Fairwatch, journalist - advocacy senior consultant).

Information: <https://altragricoltura.net/stopuemercosu> <https://coapi.sovranitalimentare.it>

Organized by:

