

Overall priorities of the Polish Presidency for rural areas



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5th meeting of the Rural Pact Coordination Group
04/06/25

7 security dimensions:

- external
- internal
- information
- economic
- energy
- food
- health

Polish presidency logo:



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Polish presidency motto:

SECURITY, EUROPE!



PROGRAMME OF THE POLISH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

„The Polish Presidency will hold a discussion on the implementation of the rural proofing principle (mechanism for verifying the impact of other policies on rural development), to obtain recommendations to the Commission for action in the new Multiannual Financial Framework. This discussion will also aim to promote an effective combination of different sources of funding for rural development in order to maintain its vitality, including its resilience to adverse demographic changes”

PROGRAMME



PROGRAMME OF THE POLISH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Competitive and resilient agriculture

„(...) the Polish Presidency will strive to shape a strong Common Agricultural Policy that supports farmers and the development of rural areas”

Agriculture and Fisheries Council (AGRIFISH)

„In the area of agriculture, the Polish Presidency will hold a policy debate on the Vision for Agriculture and Food announced by the Commission. The discussion will, among others, greatly contribute to determining the shape of the CAP after 2027. Future CAP solutions will be crucial for food security and stabilising farmers’ incomes. They must also foster the building and maintenance of a competitive and resilient European agriculture and the development of rural areas. They should support the transformation needed to address environmental and climate challenges, including access to water.”

PROGRAMME



PROGRAMME OF THE POLISH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

General Affairs Council (GAC)

„The Polish Presidency will also support discussions on the future of cohesion policy, which is by far the best tool for addressing development disparities, tackling inequalities and improving resilience to shocks.”

„A secure and stable EU requires investment in the sustainable development of European regions. Cohesion in all its dimensions is the main instrument for ensuring balanced socio-economic development.”

„(...) the goal of the Polish Presidency is to prepare and adopt, at the March General Affairs Council in the format of ministers responsible for cohesion policy, Council conclusions. They will constitute the Council’s input to the Commission for the final stages of work on the package of regulations for the future cohesion policy.”

PROGRAMME



DISCUSSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RURAL PROOFING PRINCIPLE

the Special Committee on Agriculture (3 February 2025)

the Agriculture and Fisheries Council (24 February 2025)

- ❑ Member States supported a wider use of rural proofing in the programming of EU funds and policies beyond 2027
- ❑ They noted at the same time that this should not entail additional administrative burdens
- ❑ The implementation of the rural proofing by all Directorates-General of the European Commission is expected to bring greater complementarity and synergy between the different instruments of support for rural development.



DISCUSSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RURAL PROOFING PRINCIPLE

Key recommendations:

- Rural proofing is worth applying to all EU policies and funds beyond 2027 to ensure their contribution to sustainable rural development and their coherence and complementarity with Common Agricultural Policy instruments.
- Greater cooperation and involvement of the other Directorates-General (not only DG for Agriculture and Rural Development) in rural development programming and funding beyond 2027 is desirable.
- EU funds and policies (including cohesion policy) beyond 2027 need to be better coordinated so that rural development needs are adequately addressed.



DISCUSSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RURAL PROOFING PRINCIPLE

Key recommendations:

- Tools and access to high quality data to monitor the impact of EU funds and policies on rural development based on a common set of indicators should be further developed. It is advisable to strengthen analysis and research on the impact of policies on rural development and for the Commission to set up a network of Rural Observatories across the EU.
- As part of rural proofing, the Commission should continue to assess the impact and effects of draft EU legislation on rural development and regularly review the EU policies for their impact on rural development. This should not be reduced to ex-ante assessments only. Analyses of legal solutions developed by the Commission should also include ex-post evaluations.



DISCUSSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RURAL PROOFING PRINCIPLE

Key recommendations:

- Rural proofing should be a voluntary mechanism at country level and its dissemination must not impose additional administrative burdens by the Commission on Member States.
- Rural development should be a priority for all policies projected by the Commission after 2027, taking into account the diverse needs of rural areas in Member States.
- As part of rural proofing, the Commission should strengthen the dialogue with stakeholders of EU policies and funds so that feedback from local rural communities can be obtained.

the Summary of the Presidency of the discussions and the recommendations made by delegations



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DISCUSSION on the Communication “A vision for agriculture and food: Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations”

The Vision was discussed by the AGRIFISH Council at its meetings on 24 February 2025 and 24 March 2025, during which ministers mandated the Special Committee on Agriculture (SCA) to discuss the Vision in detail. The Vision was subsequently discussed during four meetings of the SCA, held on 31 March, 7 April, 28 April and 5 May 2025.

The Presidency made the summary related to the discussion on the Vision, and recommendations concerning rural proofing, and asked the Commission to take them into account in its work on the upcoming legal proposals for the Common Agricultural Policy beyond 2027.

[the Summary of the Presidency of the discussions and the recommendations made by delegations](#)



DISCUSSION on the Communication “A vision for agriculture and food: Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations”

- Maintaining the current structure of the CAP and ensuring that it is properly funded
- The need to improve generational renewal
- Strengthening complementarities and synergies between policies supporting rural development
- Rural proofing as an instrument to support the complementarity of rural development policies
- LEADER for rural development
- Ensuring adequate infrastructure for the development of digitalisation in agriculture and rural areas



General Affairs Council (Cohesion), 28 March 2025

Conclusions on cohesion and cohesion policy post-2027

- 19. CALLS on the Commission to enhance the territorial approach through actions adjusted to the needs and opportunities of various areas. ACKNOWLEDGES that territorial instruments could better take into consideration existing territorial strategies in the Member States. BELIEVES that functional areas, building, among others, on urban-rural linkages, can serve as an effective framework for implementing tailor-made strategies and address challenges going beyond administrative boundaries;
- 20. EMPHASISES that Cohesion Policy should remain open for all regions, in particular the least favoured ones, rural areas, areas affected by industrial transition, regions which suffer from severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps such as the northernmost regions with very low population density and island, cross-border and mountain regions, as referred to in Article 174 TFEU.



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European Congress on Renewal and Rural Development

The Congress contributed to building stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas as outlined in the Long Term Vision for Rural Areas to 2040 announced in 2021 by the European Commission.

It was a place for political discussion on the future of agriculture and rural areas.

The programme included the first session of the Polish Rural Parliament and presentations of good practices from all over Europe.

[All panels were broadcast and can be viewed on the MARD channel on YouTube.](#)

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Three days of discussions, lectures and workshops

100

Over 100 experts taking part in panels and discussions in plenary

4500

participants



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Thank you

For further information or any help please contact
us: strategia@minrol.gov.pl





Polska prezydencja w Radzie UE

Polish presidency of the Council of the EU

Présidence polonaise du Conseil de l'UE