

Implementation of the Lisbon Treaty for Old EU Member States and New Member States within the Two Pillars of the Common Agricultural Policy

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Abstract. The article examines the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union. The basic postulates of the Lisbon Treaty found and ensure the development of specific policies related to the main pillars of the CAP in all Member States of the European Union.

Index Terms: Common Agricultural Policy, pillars, Member States, the Treaty of Lisbon

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I. INTRODUCTION

The main provisions of the Lisbon Treaty concerning the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union are aimed at channeling the general vector of its future development for both the old EU Member States, and in terms of the new ones, which in one way or another should adapt to the pace of the processes related to its reformulation, expansion and reform. These are closely aligned with the strategic complex objectives facing the European Union, which are related to:

- increasing the productivity levels of its territory by optimizing the use of production power and means, including workforce whose quality is inextricably linked to the achievements of the scientific and technical progress within the horizon of its development and practical application of its specific achievements;
- help producers get engaged in agriculture in the EU through direct and indirect support for their income, with a view to ensuring a qualitative standard of living for them;
- placing priority attention in the direction of ensuring stability on the market of agricultural products in the European Union;
- ensuring the fulfillment of the needs related to ensuring a diverse and high quality food products for European consumers;
- ensuring affordable agricultural and food production for all users of countries making up the EU. (CAP after 2013, http://www.baf-bg.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=60&Itemid=9)

II. THE FIRST PILLAR OF THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

The basic postulates of the Lisbon Treaty found and ensure the development of specific policies related to the main pillars of the CAP in all Member States of the European Union. The first one is connected with the common organization of the market of agricultural products. The first pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy represents the synthesis and the sum of all market measures in the context of agricultural production in a common policy since 2007. At present measures in this first pillar of the CAP have a protected status and apply for periods of a possible crisis. Reforming the measures taken in the context of this pillar are aimed mainly at strengthening the market of agricultural products in the countries making up the European Union. In this respect they envisage reducing the volume of activity of the toolkit to intervene in its natural processes of development, except if they are not tainted by external factors or lead to lasting negative trends and outcomes having detrimental effects on consumers or producers involved in the sector.

The first pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy is directly involved with the postulates of the Lisbon Treaty relating to the safeguarding of stability in the market of agricultural products, as well as compliance with the interests of producers and consumers of the products within the context of their best possible and optimal development. In this connection, the most common characteristics of the first pillar of the CAP are:

- generating conditions for the maintenance and promotion of markets which are distributed by the logic of the various agricultural sectors;
- the introduction of a uniform policy on measures to be taken within the individual countries making up the EU has a complex goal to stabilize market sectors for agricultural products. In parallel with this, it also aims to guarantee the best possible standard of living for farmers, which directly and indirectly leads to increasing the quality and quantity of agricultural production;
- the unified policy under the first pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy includes mechanisms oriented towards regulation of trade and agricultural production;

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- during the initial stage of its implementation the Common Policy focuses mainly on the use of guaranteed prices for agricultural produce, the latter stages then begin to be reduced based on the application of full and then partial offset by the release of direct aid;
- the majority of the above direct aid incorporated as a tool in various market regulations of a general nature, is gradually broken down by the sector of agricultural production and output of the integrated comprehensive body of regulations dealing with the common market organizations, which is, for example, the regime associated with the practice of the single payment scheme;
- the toolkit for intervention on the implementation of measures relating to the first pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy is modified and because of that they are reformulated as “safeguards” applicable only when there is a crisis, generating a larger market disruptions;
- in the context of measures linked to the first pillar of the CAP there are maintained only intervention prices in their capacity of an instrument associated with the strengthening of pricing policy, as guaranteed prices, at which there are purchased stored and manufactured quantities of agricultural products from a defined by the countries included in the composition of the EU - old and new ones - intervention body. However, as a whole, the intervention at a toolkit level and a common policy is significantly limited (The first pillar of CAP: I — common market organization of agricultural products, http://www.europarl.europa.eu/atyourservice/bg/displayFtu.html?ftuId=FTU_5.2.4.html).

III. MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE CAP

The main objectives of the CAP in the above terms are reduced, for example, to regulation of the passage of a complete separation of production aid to target aid in view of the mechanisms for direct support. In this respect, there is a creation of a symbolic payments system, which replaces that of the single ones. Its main element is the main payment per hectare, as its level is synchronized according to regional or national administrative and economic criteria of the old and the new Member States of the European Union and is the subject to an internal process of conducting the cohesion policy. Another similar component boils down to greening as an additional form of assistance with respect to compensation of the costs going to provide public goods in the field of environment, which are not subsidized by the market.

Among other such important components of the new payment system within the operation of the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU's old and new members of this organization after the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty is an additional type of payment for young farmers for five years. Another such feature is also linked to the

redistribution type of payment, enabling to strengthen the support for the initial hectares of different economies. Another important element of the new system for payments is the additional income support in areas with limited resources such as natural resources, which hampers agricultural production. Meanwhile financial support measures include priority support for agricultural production in certain regions or for certain types of agricultural activities for the socio-economic reasons. Not least, the new system for payments under the Common Agricultural Policy includes creating a specialized system for payments of up to € 1,250 for small producers engaged in agriculture on the territory of the old and new Member States.

In turn, after the adoption of the Lisbon Treaty in respect of old and new members of the EU the second pillar of the CAP concerns mainly rural development based on the principles of the regional and national multi-annual programming, co-financing and the like, as on this basis it is assumed that the newly established system is far more simple and functional. The main priorities of the second pillar of the CAP during the period are simply predefined with a view to carrying out specific new policies. One of the most important of these is the promotion of transfer of innovations and know-how in areas such as forestry and agriculture.

Another basic priority is to support and strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of all types of activities of agricultural character. Moreover, there is encouraging and putting into practice of innovative technologies and sustainable management of forests. In view of the main objectives of the CAP, animal welfare is also stimulated, particularly the quality of risk management in agriculture, as well as optimizing the functionality of the food chain. Another priority of similar importance and significance is regeneration, the promotion and protection of forest and agricultural ecosystems at the level of soil, water, biodiversity and so on.

Meanwhile, within the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy the effective use of resources like energy and water is encouraged too, as well as supporting the transition to an economy which is characterized by the low carbon economy, such as implementing the practice of using energy coming from renewable energy sources. Alongside this, there is a stimulation of social inclusion, and there are priority measures to reduce poverty, promote economic development of rural areas in the form of new job openings, promoting general regional development, optimization of access to modern communication and information technologies and the like.

IV. CONCLUSION

In terms of the old and new Member States of the EU the undertaken comprehensive and integrated measures within the two pillars of the Common Agricultural Policy after the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty are based on the general philosophy of fostering cohesion processes between them, focused mainly on a targeted sustainable

development in rural areas and raising the living standards of farmers and people living and working there.

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