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# PEASANT PROPOSAL FOR A EUROPEAN DIRECTIVE ON AGRICULTURAL LAND GOVERNANCE



European Coordination Via Campesina

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# Intro: Why a directive?

- Issue of land grabbing, land concentration, access to land, land speculation but also land abandonment
- Imperative of generational renewal
- EU acknowledges the importance of land issues (INI report, 2017)
- No EU land regulation but EU policies have a great impact on land (CAP, Carbon farming, LULUCF, Soil Health law, ...)
- Already a directive on a natural resource (water)
- A directive can be a powerful legal instrument
- A bottom-up empowerment process
- **Land as a RIGHT! - linking with UNDROP**



- 1- History of the work
- 2- Key elements of the proposal
- 3- Strategy



# 1- History of the work

**ECVC's work on land grabbing**

**2021: First draft of a peasant directive**

**Work with academics**

**Bilateral meetings & series of webinars**


**ECVC Land WG peasant debate**

**Key elements for a european directive on  
farmland governance**

# Land concentration, land grabbing and people's struggles in Europe.




**HANDS OFF  
THE LAND**  
"NO ACTES AGAÏST  
LAND GRABBING"




## YOUR LAND, MY LAND, OUR LAND:

GRASSROOTS STRATEGIES TO  
PRESERVE FARM AND ACCESS  
TO LAND FOR PEASANT FARMERS AND  
AGROECOLOGISTS



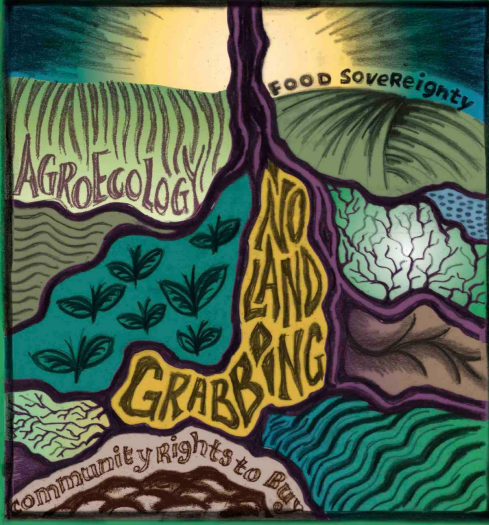
MAR 2021

POLICY REPORT



## Roots of Resilience: Land Policy for an Agroecological Transition in Europe

FEBRUARY 2021





VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON THE  
GOVERNANCE OF TENURE



**European Parliament**

2014-2019

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**TEXTS ADOPTED**

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**P8\_TA(2017)0197**

**State of play of farmland concentration in the EU: how to facilitate the access to land for farmers**

**European Parliament resolution of 27 April 2017 on the state of play of farmland concentration in the EU: how to facilitate the access to land for farmers (2016/2141(INI))**

## 2- Key elements

Measures to prevent land grabbing and land concentration

Measures to facilitate access to land

Measures for soil protection

Measures to protect common and public land

Measures on forest land and coastal farming



# Prevent land grabbing and land concentration

Focus on the USE OF LAND (property, renting, shares in companies)

The transfer of usage rights is subject to public regulation

No natural or legal person shall be granted use rights over land areas larger than 500ha

Member States can implement lower ceilings

Prohibition of land grabbing within and out of the EU

Establishment of redistribution mechanisms



# Facilitate access to land

**Implementation of national observatories of farmland sales**

**Limit land prices: Value of land shall be based on the Standard Output coefficient**

**Priority to youth and new farmers in buying land**

# Soil protection

**Implementation of national observatories of soil quality**

**Establishment of plans to improve health and fertility of farmland and soil**

**Participation of farmers and citizens into the soil restoration programmes**

**Prohibition of land sealing**

**Land's vocation for food must be protected and maintained**

**Priority given to agroecological practices in land sales**

# Protecting common, community-owned and public land

**Inventory of common and public land**

**Set a minimum rate of national public land**

**Create a national public land bank allowing for redistribution of usage rights  
towards youth and agroecology**

**Prohibition of privatisation and alienation of all forms of common and public land**

# Forestry and coastal farming

**Forest land and coastal land as farmland**

**Measures to avoid concentration**

**Favour agroecological practices in forest management and coastal farming**

**Protection of usage rights**

LINES OF WORK	HOW	NEXT STEPS
<b>Institutional axis</b>	As a whole	Meetings with MEPs
	In different processes	Carbon farming, Generation Renewal INI report, soil health law, forest strategy, CAP mid-term review, ...
<b>Alliances</b>	IPC, Nyéléni, FLT	Build a common campaign to put back land on the agenda
	Connect with activist movements	Connect with Soulèvements de la Terre, ZADs, ...
<b>Training</b>	Disseminate the text within our members, make link with local governments	Training sessions, webinars

# Conclusion

- Land as a RIGHT! - *Implementation of UNDROP and VGGT*
- Publication released in March
- Multilevel advocacy strategy with allies to advocate for sustainable land management practices on a bottom-up rights-based approach



# THANK YOU!

Questions?  
Comments?

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