

ECI DAY 2025

SESSION

Empowering the European Citizens' Initiative: Strengthening Support across Member States

Tuesday 18 March | 11:15 – 12:30

(1) **Shortly present your ongoing ECI** : (title, objectives, etc.)

Title: [European Citizens' Initiative in Defence of Agriculture and Rural Economy in Europe](#)

Objectives:

1. Protect European Agriculture and Rural Economy with an integral regulatory framework

A new, protective legislative framework is needed, revolving around the following axes: priority use of agricultural land for food production; guarantee of food sovereignty and security; addressing food chain issues and high prices; ensure access for farmers and rural communities to infrastructure and transport, financing, digitalization, work, entrepreneurship and education.

2. Improve water management to support food security and establish a European Hydrological Plan

The lack of a functioning public water infrastructure to prevent pollution is an evil that affects the entire EU and that is why we need a European Hydrological Plan that guarantees the supply and distribution of water between all the territories of the Union.

3. Establish a European Agency for Agriculture and Rural Economy

The EU needs a permanent European authority in form of a EU Agency or high-level consultative Committee to monitor and observe the protection of Agriculture and Rural Economy in the EU decision-making process. This Agency or Committee shall have a permanent nature and operate to ensure that the agriculture and rural economy rights and interests are observed.

State of play:

We have collected around 3.000 signatures in all Europe, coming mainly from Spain. The deadline for collecting the signatures expires on 23 July 2025.

(2) **Give examples of and/or ideas** for getting support across Member States and the strategies you use in this regard (working together with civil society organisations, local and regional authorities, economic and social councils, any other stakeholders)?

1. Pres releases and radio spots and short videos
2. Strategic events across Europe
3. Social network and influencers support