



Global Crises, Rights & Policies

foodjusticeforum.eu

This forum is a high-level civil society-led gathering in Brussels bringing together representatives of EU institutions, Member States, civil society organisations, academia, farmers' organisations, workers' unions and international partners.

TUESDAY
9/6/26

AREA 42
46 Rue des Palais,
1030 Brussels

PROVISIONAL RUN OF SHOW

09:30–10:00

Welcome and Registration

10:00–10:30

Opening Session

- **Moderator** – Welcome and opening remarks
- **Setting the scene by high level Speaker** – *The state of the right to food worldwide*
- **European Union – Key Insights by Speakers:**
 - *Key insights on EU action for EU citizens' right to food*
 - *Key insights on Team Europe's role in global food security and nutrition*
- **Moderator** – Presentation of the agenda for the day

Speakers' names to be shared soon.

10:30–11:45

Plenary 1: Implementing the Right to Food: EU Commitments at Home and Abroad

In a context of escalating geopolitical instability and shrinking public funding, this plenary will reaffirm a clear message: the right to food is not optional and must continue to guide decision-making, even under pressure. It will take stock of the European Union's existing commitments across treaties, policies and legislation, spotlighting key gaps and the urgent need for stronger policy coherence. The discussion will examine how EU policies translate into responsibilities beyond its borders, highlighting the implications for the realisation of the right to food globally, particularly in terms of coherence, credibility and accountability. The session will also emphasise the role of citizen engagement in driving change and will conclude by exploring how to strengthen oversight mechanisms so that civil society can effectively fulfil its watchdog role.

Speakers to be defined.

11:45–12:00

Coffee Break

12:00–13:15

Plenary 2: International Cooperation for Global Food Systems Transformation

At a time of deepening and interconnected global crises, international cooperation can play a decisive role in driving the transformation of food systems worldwide. This session will make the case for placing food security, nutrition and sustainable food systems at the heart of EU external action, examining how stronger coherence across development, trade, climate and agricultural policies can support smallholder livelihoods and reinforce local food systems across regions.

The discussion will highlight concrete policy pathways and strategic adjustments needed to advance a more just and resilient global food system. Grounded in the right to food, it will underline how transformative change depends on inclusive and cooperative decision-making across sectors and geographies, recognition of global interdependencies, and the meaningful participation of those most affected by food insecurity.

Speakers to be defined.

13:15–14:15

Networking Lunch Break

14:15–15:30

Parallel Workshops / Breakout Sessions

*Participants will register for and attend **one workshop** from the options below.*

Workshop A – The Right to Food in the European Union

This workshop will offer an interactive space to explore how a rights-based approach can drive meaningful change in EU food policies. Through a world-café format, participants will discuss concrete policy options and mobilisation opportunities - from access to food and public procurement to the common agricultural policy (CAP) and the [European Citizens' Initiative on the right to food](#) - and identify key opportunities and challenges for advancing the right to food across the Union.

Speakers to be defined.

Workshop B – Addressing Hunger and Malnutrition in Fragile Contexts

As conflicts deepen and respect for International Humanitarian Law erodes, malnutrition is rising while resources to address hunger are diminishing. In fragile contexts marked by conflict and rights violations, the right to food is increasingly at risk, fuelling instability and undermining prospects for peace and social justice. By engaging participants in an open exchange, this workshop will examine why stronger EU action is urgently needed and what it means to protect the right to food in such settings. It will explore policy frameworks, the consequences of cuts to aid, and the crucial role of local organisations, particularly women-led groups, who are often the first responders. By linking these discussions to the EU's next Multiannual Financial Framework and its approach to fragile settings, the session will put forward concrete recommendations to strengthen EU leadership.

Speakers to be defined.

Workshop C – Financing the Realisation of the Right to Food: Public and Private Finance within and beyond the EU

Financial markets increasingly shape how food is produced, traded and consumed, transforming it into a global commodity and financial asset detached from local ecosystems, communities and the right to food itself. As land and agriculture are treated as investment opportunities, smallholders, food sovereignty and equitable access to nutrition are placed at risk. At the same time, the reshaping of development cooperation, accelerated by ODA cuts and the EU's Global Gateway strategy, enables commercial, growth-oriented models heavily reliant on private investment and global value chains.

This workshop will examine what these shifts mean for nutrition and food security, and explore financing approaches grounded in a right-to-food framework that align financial flows with social justice, sustainability and human rights.

Speakers to be defined.

Workshop D – Seed Diversity and Farmers' Rights

This session will examine the implications of the EU's ongoing debates on seeds legislation, notably the proposals on Plant Reproductive Material (PRM) and New Genomic Techniques (NGTs), at a critical political juncture. It will explore how these frameworks risk undermining agrobiodiversity, farmer-managed seed systems and breeder autonomy, while accelerating the concentration of power among multinational seed and agrochemical corporations.

The discussion will also address the global repercussions of EU seed policies, particularly in the Global South, where diverse, farmer-led seed systems remain central to food security and climate resilience but are increasingly threatened by restrictive intellectual property regimes such as imposition of UPOV 91 by EU in its bilateral trade negotiations with countries in the global south (e.g, Zimbabwe and Philippines). The session will create space to connect EU and global struggles, strategise advocacy, and explore international cooperation to defend seed diversity and farmers' rights.

Speakers to be defined.

15:30–15:45

Coffee Break

15:45–17:00

Plenary 3: Agrarian Reform in the EU: Land, Food and Climate Justice

Agrarian reform and land governance are central to realising the right to food through agroecology. Building on the momentum of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development held in Colombia in February 2026, this plenary will explore what agrarian reform could and should mean in the EU context.

The session will examine key leverage points, including land regulation, the European Land Observatory and the proposed EU directive on land. Drawing on comparative experiences from Eastern and Western Europe, it will also highlight how agrarian reform in the EU is inherently linked to international solidarity, given Europe's dependency on imports and the land grabs this dependency fuels globally. The panel will centre the perspectives and demands of peasant farmers' organisations and land rights experts.

Speakers to be defined.

17:00–17:30

Closing Session

Interview-style exchange moderated by the Moderator with high level speakers

Conclusion and next steps by the Moderator

For any queries, please contact:
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