



CHRONICLE OF THREE YEARS OF STRUGGLE OF THE SOCIALIST DEPUTIES

**SALON DE L'AGRICULTURE 2019, L'ACTION DES
PARLEMENTAIRES SOCIALISTES**

PAR DOMINIQUE POTIER ET GUILLAUME GAROT, LE 27.02.2019 .

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Edito

In recent months, we have fought many battles for agriculture and farmers, focusing on innovation and justice :

- for a **sharing of the added value** within our sectors and in our territories.
- for the **agro-ecological transition** and **quality food** for all.
- for a major **land protection** law.
- for a new generation of international treaties fighting **against social and environmental dumping**.

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AMENDEMENTS DÉPOSÉS EN 2018
PAR LES DÉPUTÉS SOCIALISTES ET
APPARENTÉS POUR AMÉLIORER
LA SITUATION DES AGRICULTEURS



2 PROPOSITIONS DE LOI

POUR INDEMNISER LES VICTIMES
DES PRODUITS PHYTOSANITAIRES

UNE MISSION
D'INFORMATION

SUR LE FONCIER AGRICOLE

AVEC PLUS DE 70 PROPOSITIONS FORMULÉES PAR
DOMINIQUE POTIER



On the occasion of the 2019 edition of the **International Agricultural Show**, we wanted to present you the positions we have defended, those for which we have obtained advances and those that the majority of the Republic in the Marche has refused.



Summary

The proposals we have defended for an agriculture that pays farmers⁵

Ensuring a fair sharing of value, with a cost indicator for which the public authority is responsible⁵

Stop unfair competition against French farmers by making fin available for the import and sale of foodstuffs treated with molecules banned for use in Europe⁶

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Ce que nous avons défendu

1. The proposals we have defended for an agriculture that pays farmers

a. Ensuring a fair sharing of value, with a cost indicator for which the public authority is responsible.

The law for the balance of trade relations in the agricultural sector and healthy and sustainable food (EGALIM) provides for the implementation of a cost indicator.

This indicator is crucial for farmers since it is the only objective lever they can use in a negotiation.

This indicator was the subject of a consensus on all benches, whether in the National Assembly or the Senate. We had réaffirmé the role of the interprofessions for diffuser these indicators of production costs. We also added that "in the event of a defect noted by the interprofessional organizations", the Observatory of Price Formation and Margins (OFPM) will have "a period of three months" to provide production cost indicators following the request of a members of the interprofessional organization".



MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE, LE GROUPE DES DÉPUTÉS SOCIALISTES ET APPARENTÉS VOUS DEMANDENT QU'EN CAS DE DÉSACCORD ENTRE INDUSTRIELS ET AGRICULTEURS, SUR LE COÛT DE REVIENT, VOUS NE LAISSIEZ PAS LES AGRICULTEURS TOUT SEULS FACE AUX GRANDS GROUPES ET QUE LA PUISSANCE PUBLIQUE INTERVIENNE POUR TRANCHER SUR LE COÛT DE REVIENT POUR LA PRODUCTION CONCERNÉE.

VALÉRIE RABAULT

Thus, in the event of disagreement on the cost of production between producers and industrialists, the public authorities could have intervened. This will not be the case and the government has therefore chosen to leave farmers to fend for themselves when faced with industrialists. Concretely, this signifie that the imbalance that exists today in the negotiations between farmers and industrialists will remain.

In summary, our proposal:

Do not leave farmers to face the industrialists, by allowing the public authorities to intervene to validate the cost of production.

b. Stop unfair competition against French farmers by putting fin on the import and sale of foodstuffs treated with molecules banned for use in Europe.

We have tabled an amendment to the EGALIM law (number 2447 for the 1st reading) to prohibit the import into France of foodstuffs produced using substances prohibited in the European Union (even in residual doses, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC).



AU NIVEAU EUROPÉEN, LES DEUX ENJEUX ESSENTIELS SONT LA BATAILLE POUR LA PAC 2021-2027 ET CELLE POUR METTRE FIN AUX DISTORSIONS DE CONCURRENCE QUI PROVIENNENT DU FAIT QUE DES DENRÉES TRAITÉES AVEC DES MOLÉCULES INTERDITES D'UTILISATION EN EUROPE CONTINUENT À ÊTRE AUSSI VENDUES EN FRANCE.

OLIVIER FAURE

distortion of competition between European producers and producers from third countries, while protecting public health and the environment.



c. Obtain a fair map of disadvantaged areas for the payment of the Compensatory Compensation for Natural Disabilities (pillar 2 of the CAP)

Since September 2016, Socialist deputies and senators have been mobilizing to ensure that the recasting of the map of disadvantaged areas, planned by the European Commission, is fair, i.e. that it really takes into account the difficulties of our territories.

In total, we have conducted about 100 interventions since the fall of 2017. The mobilization of the farming community and elected officials has enabled the reintegration of many municipalities into the perimeter of disadvantaged areas.

d. Preserve the seasonal regime

In its Social Security Bill financing for 2019, the Government had proposed to abolish the employer's contribution exemption scheme for the employment of casual workers and job seekers (TO-DE).

- As early as June 2018, we alerted the Minister of Action and Public Accounts and the Minister of Solidarity and Health to the disastrous consequences of this suppression.
- During the discussion of the text at the National Assembly and the Senate in the fall of 2018, we defended the maintenance of the current TO-DE system which allows farmers who employ labor from bénéficier a total exemption from employer contributions up to 1.25 SMIC. After several hours of discussion, the Government proposed the implementation of a transitional scheme for 2019 and 2020 afin to compensate effets for the abolition of the TO-DE scheme. This new mechanism provided for a total exemption of employer contributions up to 1.15 SMIC in 2019 and 1.10 SMIC in 2020. This compensation nevertheless represented a loss of 40 million euros for French agriculture compared to the current TO-DE exemptions, which we have of course denounced.
- During the discussion of the text in the Senate, the senators restored the current system of exemption up to 1.25 SMIC.
- However, during the second discussion of the text in the National Assembly on November 27, the Government proposed to return to the



transitional arrangement initially adopted. Finally, against the advice of the Government and the majority of the Republic's deputies in the March, all opposition groups were able to obtain an increase in the exemption threshold to 1.20 SMIC and the continuation of the mechanism.

If the device voted is below the threshold of 1.25 SMIC that the socialist deputies defended, it should nevertheless make it possible to bring to the agricultural producers an increased support as well as a better economic visibility.

2. Les propositions que nous avons défendues pour l'agriculture au 21st siècle

a. Making High Environmental Value (HVE) the territorial brand of agroecology

The Etats Généraux de l'Alimentation marked a major change: in 2012 choosing agro-ecology was an object of controversy, in 2018 the debate now focuses on different transition scenarios to achieve this. Thus, during the Etats Généraux de l'Alimentation, most of the different actors have drawn a new agricultural France by 2030 with 30% organic, 30% High Environmental Value (HVE) and 30% committed to environmental certifications.

The HVE is based on an obligation of result for 4 themes: biodiversity, use of phytosanitary products, fertilization and irrigation.

Initiated by pioneers before being promoted by the public authorities, agroecology signs a new alliance between agriculture, nature and citizens. The success of this alliance depends on multiple factors: a generational changeover, increased research, a new CAP... One of the most powerful levers is, in our opinion, the emergence of the HVE standard. Created 10 years ago during the Grenelle Environment Forum, this public standard has so far only been tested in a few sensitive sectors.

Of course, not everything falls under the law and the plans of filière, territorial projects are part of the solution. But, for lack of being incoherent,



the State must commit itself in a more proactive way. This little music of saying to the farmers "get organized, take charge, it's up to you" is an illusion. It is necessary that the State affirms its ambitions and its will to accompany the actors in the transition. An example: if the State does not affirm that the HVE is now the environmental standard, it gives the power of the standard to the private sector. The efforts of the filières are fragile in the face of the risks of a weakened CAP and unfair competition from future international treaties .

Alongside the signs of "product" quality, we believe that the HVE approach should be a "territorial" brand that recognizes and encourages good practices in herbivorous breeding, mixed farming and livestock farming, field crops with long rotations (including the production of plant proteins and enabling phytosanitary control) or the orchard of the future.

The deployment of this standard, supported by the public authorities, can become the basis of a strategy to protect water and soil... Under these conditions, the HVE updated in the Law can contribute to make our country the leader in agro-ecology in Europe and become an instrument for the reconquest of all the added values.

In summary, our proposal:

To make the HVE the rewarding mention of the agro-ecological approach. In effect, in addition to organic agriculture, the HVE is the public standard of confidence that links agriculture and society.

b. Protecting and sharing agricultural land as a common good

The renewal of generations is a *sine qua non* condition to ensure the safety and quality of our food, to produce economic and environmental added value in agriculture and to develop the whole territory. This

he national priority is based on a major tool: the regulation of the land market. The rules that govern it must make possible the freedom of movement of people.



to undertake "for all" and to guarantee the use of the land as a common good in the long term. A responsible structural policy must give priority to the human factor over capital, and promote diversity to the detriment of monopolies.

We need new tools and especially a compass. Contrary to other public policies, to the choices of filières, land tenure is a "mother" policy for the economy of resources. To renounce or reinvent regulations, we have a duty of truth: here, as for the peasantry of the South, we must choose between the commodification of land and a rural renaissance. This is the meaning of the proposals formulated by Dominique Potier, deputy for Meurthe et Moselle, in the information report submitted to the government on December 5, 2018.

In summary, some of our 14 proposals:

Control of predatory investment companies that are currently beyond the control of SAFER. This control would have prevented speculative phenomena by certain investors.

Based on the model of the Livret A, creation of a green passbook savings account enabling farmers to borrow from bénéficiaire bonifiés thanks to the fléchage savings account of the French people.

Recognize soil as a common good in the constitution and in article L.110.1 of the environmental code

3. Les propositions que nous avons défendues pour protéger les agriculteurs

a. *Compensate the victims of phytosanitary products* Each parliamentary group has a day once or twice a year reserved for it afin to defend its legislative proposals. In the National Assembly, the Socialist and related deputies have wished to devote part of "their" day to a bill in favour of farmers. This draft law aims to provide full compensation for the damages of all people suffering from diseases related to the use of plant protection products (10 000



potential occupational victims, currently uncompensated, and 100,000 people at risk of exposure), through the **creation of a compensation fund to which the public authorities and the plant protection industry contribute.**

Inspired by the compensation fund **for** asbestos victims by Senator Nicole Bonnefoy and voted **unanimously** in **the Senate in February 2018, this** bill was born from the fight initiated by Paul François (farmer victim of phytosanitary products) and activists from all over France gathered within the association Phyto-Victimes, with whom we have been working for years.

The time has come both to implement genuine prevention policies for public health and the environment and to do justice to those who have been victims of pesticide use.

In summary, our proposal:

**Creation of a compensation fund for victims of phytosanitary products
10,000 potential professional victims could be compensated in this way.**

**Funds between 25 and 30 million euros
by Financé à la fois sur le budget de l'Etat et the
phytopharmaceutical industry**

***b. Compensate victims of
chlordecone***

Pesticide banned since 1993, the chlordecone is still present in agricultural land in Guadeloupe and Martinique, exposing people to this substance through their food. Even more than any other plant protection product, the "Republic of Martinique" is the only country in the world to have banned chlordecone.



“ VOUS COMPRENEZ TOUS LA RÉSONANCE QUE PEUT AVOIR CE TEXTE EN GUADELOUPE ET EN MARTINIQUE. LA POLLUTION DES PESTICIDES, NOUS LA SUBISSONS ; LA CONTAMINATION, NOUS LA VIVONS. CHEZ NOUS, CE POISON A UN NOM : LE CHLORDÉCONE. CHEZ NOUS, LES VICTIMES ONT UN VISAGE : CELUI DES EXPLOITANTS AGRICOLES. ”

HÉLÈNE VAINQUEUR-CHRISTOPHE



must recognize the health, environmental and economic damage suffered by the territories of Guadeloupe and Martinique and their populations resulting from the use of chlordecone as an agricultural insecticide. The French government "must recognize the health, environmental and economic damage suffered by the territories of Guadeloupe and Martinique and their populations as a result of the use of chlordecone as an agricultural insecticide" and create a compensation fund for victims of this product.

We therefore tabled a bill, whose rapporteur was the deputy of Guadeloupe Hélène VAINQUEUR-CHRISTOPHE, aiming at :

- To solemnly recognize the sanitary, ecological and economic damage for these territories and their populations, resulting from the use of chlordecone;
- To create a compensation fund for victims of chlordecone and paraquat in Guadeloupe and Martinique.

In summary, our proposal:

→ Creation of a compensation fund

⇒ Nearly 750,000 victims concerned

4. The proposals we have defended for agricultural retirees

Progress in favor of the revaluation of agricultural pensions has always come from the left, since the government of Lionel JOSPIN.

until the implementation in 2013 of the promise made by the President of the Republic François HOLLANDE to raise the pensions of the heads of operations to 75% of the net minimum wage. As a result, 230,000 farm managers have been able to benefit from *bénéficiaire*. At the same time, free points have been granted to spouses of farmers and family carers so that they can increase their supplementary pension. 500,000 people were able to access *bénéficiaire*: more than



LE GOUVERNEMENT A EMPÊCHÉ LE SÉNAT DE VOTER LA REVALORISATION DES RETRAITES AGRICOLES. IL A MUSÉLÉ LA DÉMOCRATIE, C'EST UNE SOIRÉE NOIRE POUR LA DÉMOCRATIE.

PATRICK KANNER



half of them are women.



In February 2017, we supported a proposed law to increase agricultural pensions to 85% of the net SMIC for full career farmers. This bill was passed unanimously.

To come into effect, this proposal had to be passed by the Senate in 2018. Supported by all parliamentarians from all political parties, its adoption would have allowed the immediate application of the revaluation.

However, twice the Government refused to vote on this proposal.

This is a hard blow to the agricultural pensioners: these blockades reflect the Government's contempt and disregard for agricultural pensioners, for whom this increase would have been a fair recognition of their careers. indifference.

We therefore call on the Government to back down so that this proposal supported by all parliamentarians can be voted on.

In summary, our proposal:

Increase farm pensions to 85% of the minimum wage for farm managers who have had a full career.

5. The proposals we have defended for food safety, health and the fight against food waste

a. Make public procurement a more significant lever in agro-ecology

The law EGALIM proposed by the Government provides that the public collective catering uses **50% of local products or products under signs of origin and quality (including organic products) from January 1, 2022.**



If we want public procurement to become a more consistent lever for public health and agro-ecology, we must, alongside AB and SIQO, fixer eventually set the level of requirement for other High Environmental Value (HVE) products. With this in mind, we have proposed that by 2025, the rest of the order for public catering should be labelled HVE.

b. Fight against food waste



NOUS NOUS EFFORCERONS DE RÉPONDRE AUX ATTENTES DES ACTEURS DE L'ALIMENTATION, MAIS PLUS GÉNÉRALEMENT AUX ATTENTES DES CITOYENS, POUR POUVOIR GARANTIR À CHACUN, DANS NOTRE PAYS, UNE ALIMENTATION SUFFISANTE ET SAINE. C'EST UN ENJEU DE JUSTICE SOCIALE : NOUS SAVONS QUE L'ALIMENTATION EST LE MIROIR DES INÉGALITÉS.

GUILLAUME GAROT

We have proposed that managers of contract food services put in place, before September ¹, 2020, an action plan to combat food waste. This action plan is based on a prior diagnosis, the details of which are définies by decree. It is made public to the users of these public services and to the deliberative assemblies.

We have also proposed the creation of a financing fund for local projects to fight against food waste, part of the general tax on polluting activities

(TGAP).

In summary, our proposal:

**Reduce food waste in the catering industry and support local initiatives.
The majority of the Republic in March voted against!**

c. To monitor food marketing to which children are exposed

In accordance with the conclusions reached by the participants of Workshop 9 "How can we facilitate the adoption by all of a healthy diet? of the "États généraux de l'alimentation", and following up on the measures adopted in the previous legislature, we have tabled an amendment aimed at protecting young people from the messages of the "Healthy Eating" campaign.



advertising that would thwart a necessary education in nutrition.

These provisions must be consistent with WHO recommendations to promote a healthy diet, at a time when overweight and even obesity among the youngest Europeans is developing in a worrying way.

In summary, our proposal:

**Control food advertising and marketing to which children are exposed.
The majority of the Republic in March voted against**

d. Propose an educational program on food at school.

There is no free and responsible citizen with regard to his food unless he is educated.

It is from school that the fundamental reference points must be transmitted. This is the meaning of the educational path to food that we proposed, which was to be deployed from school to high school and make students aware of nutritional benchmarks, the fight against food waste, the need to practice regular physical activity, the economic, cultural and heritage values of food, knowledge of food production and manufacturing, and seasonality.

Several workshops of the French "Etats Généraux de l'Alimentation" had, in their work, stressed the need for consumer and citizen education to fully understand the issues and information diffusées.

In summary, our proposal:

**Create an educational pathway to nutrition, modelled on the existing
health education pathway.
The majority of the Republic in March voted against.**

SALON INTERNATIONAL DE L'AGRICULTURE 2019

L'ACTION DES SOCIALISTES AU PARLEMENT

