

MANIFESTO FOR THE 2024 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS



5 KEY ASKS



1/
Decarbonisation of
EU rural industries
is supported by
European policies!



2/
Policymakers act
proactively to defend the
EU sugar sector against
market disturbances!



3/
The EU sugar market
is protected from
unfair competition!



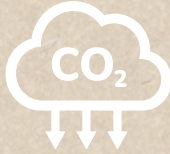
4/
Sugar beet growers are
well-equipped to replace
lost Plant Protection
Products (PPPs)!



5/
Consumers are
supported to make
informed choices on
food products!



1/



The EU beet sugar sector is committed to **carbon neutrality by 2050**. To achieve this, we need support for the **energetic use of biomass residues** and **EU funding** for the decarbonisation of energy-intensive rural industries such as ours.

2/



The EU beet sugar sector is a pillar of Europe's **food security**. But our sector faces much uncertainty: rising **input costs**, **market opening** to Ukraine, and exposure to the highly **volatile world sugar market**. Policymakers need new tools to proactively defend the EU sugar sector against market disturbances.

3/



The **availability of third country sugar** on the EU market has increased considerably over the past decade as a result of concessions in new Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). We need the EU's **strict environmental and social sustainability standards** to be upheld and avoid letting in subsidised or dumped foreign sugar. **No additional EU market access** should be granted to third country sugar where no level playing field exists.

4/



While **adverse climatic conditions and pests** are becoming increasingly challenging for sugar beet cultivation, **active substances available** to protect crops and mitigate these effects are **decreasing**. Our beet growers urgently need **innovative technologies** such as New Genomic Techniques (NGTs) and alternative substances to maintain EU agricultural competitiveness and keep farmers within the sugar family.

5/



We believe consumers should be able to make decisions based on **clear, informative, science-based, and non-misleading labelling** of food products. We need better labelling information that helps consumers make healthier and more sustainable food choices.

