



19 March 2024

Ministry of Rural Affairs and infrastructure  
Minister for Rural Affairs

Minister of Agriculture and Rural  
Development  
Mr Florin Barbu

## Concerning the Nature Restoration Law vote

Dear Esteemed Colleague,

I am writing to you regarding the forthcoming vote concerning the Nature Restoration Law. It is with great consideration and respect for our shared interests that I address this matter.

As you are undoubtedly aware, farmers, forest owners, and rural communities throughout Europe have voiced significant reservations regarding this legislation. Their concerns do not stem from opposition to its overarching objectives, which we all can agree with, but rather from reservations regarding its potential consequences for European agriculture and our rural areas.

The vote on the Nature Restoration Law was closely contested in both the Parliament and in the Council, during the previous summer session. We now have a final result on this new legislation to consider. I urge you to carefully examine the impact of the law on rural areas.

Several member states, including Sweden, [REDACTED], have undertaken thorough analyses, leading to the shared conclusion that the proposed law will do more harm than good.

**I would like to draw your attention to the fact that [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], having previously signalled their intention to support the legislation at the latest Coreper meeting on November 9, have now signalled that they intend to [REDACTED] at the Council meeting on March 25.**

Given the widespread farmer protests across Europe, I would not be surprised if more governments will reconsider their position.

Romania has long been recognized as a steadfast advocate for rural development and agricultural prosperity. We have collaborated previously on rural matters and I would welcome further fruitful cooperation on agricultural issues that are important to Romania and Europe.

I trust that we can again stand united in a concerted effort at next week's Environment council meeting, ensuring that our collective voice resonates in a manner that safeguards our shared interests and aspirations and that Romania will join us in trying to form a blocking minority.

With sincere regards,



Peter Kullgren



19 March 2024

**Ministry of Rural Affairs and infrastructure**  
Minister for Rural Affairs

Federal Minister for Agriculture,  
Forestry, Regions and Water  
Mr Robert Totschnig

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Given the widespread farmer protests across Europe, I would not be surprised if more governments will reconsider their position.

Austria has long been recognized as a steadfast advocate for rural development and agricultural prosperity. We have collaborated previously on rural matters and I would welcome further fruitful cooperation on agricultural issues that are important to Austria and Europe.

I trust that we can again stand united in a concerted effort at next week's Environment council meeting, ensuring that our collective voice resonates in a manner that safeguards our shared interests and aspirations and that Austria will join us in trying to form a blocking minority.

With sincere regards,



Peter Kullgren



19 March 2024

Ministry of Rural Affairs and infrastructure  
Minister for Rural Affairs

Minister of Agriculture  
Ms Marija Vučković

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Given the widespread farmer protests across Europe, I would not be surprised if more governments will reconsider their position.

Croatia has long been recognized as a steadfast advocate for rural development and agricultural prosperity. We have collaborated previously on rural matters and I would welcome further fruitful cooperation on agricultural issues that are important to Croatia and Europe.

I trust that we can again stand united in a concerted effort at next week's Environment council meeting, ensuring that our collective voice resonates in a manner that safeguards our shared interests and aspirations and that Croatia will join us in trying to form a blocking minority.

With sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Kullgren', with a stylized, flowing script.

Peter Kullgren