



Newsletter

July 2015
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NEWS

[2nd European Rural Parliament](#)

Second European Rural Parliament will take place from 4th to 6th November 2015 in Schärding (Austria). PREPARE, ERCA and ELARD are co-organizers of the important event for rural civil society. Approximately 350 participants from 40 countries are expected to join the debates about the key issues, concerning rural population in Europe. [More ...](#)

[2nd Latvian Rural Communities Parliament](#)

Over 400 people attended the opening of the [2nd Latvian Rural Communities Parliament](#), held at Ligatne 3 to 5 June. They included 300 people from villages throughout Latvia, and 120 delegates from 30 countries attending the Development Forum, which was organised alongside the Rural Parliament in the context of the European Year for Development Cooperation and the Latvian Government's Presidency of the European Union. [More ...](#)

[1st Rural Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

A strong set of ideas for the European Rural Parliament campaign was agreed on 15 May, when the [1st Rural Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina](#) met in Sarajevo. 150 participants from all parts of the country gathered in the Federal Parliament building to debate the condition of rural areas. They passed a [Declaration](#), covering many issues in agriculture, rural development and civil society. [More ...](#)

[Towards a long-term strategy for European agricultural research and innovation by 2020 and beyond](#)

On 19 June (EXPO Milano) The European Commission organised a workshop to launch the discussion on the future of European agricultural research and innovation until 2020 and beyond, for the following decade. [More ...](#)

[Commission provides extra flexibility for Member States on unspent 2007-2013 RDP funds](#)

The Commission has adopted a Delegated Regulation allowing Member States increased flexibility to use their Rural Development budget (EAFRD) commitments for the 2007-2013 Rural Development Programmes (RDPs). [More ...](#)

[Family Farming Knowledge Platform](#)

The Family Farming Knowledge Platform gathers digitized quality information on family farming from all over the world; including national laws and regulations, public policies, best practices, relevant data and statistics, researches, articles and publications. [More ...](#)

[EC Indicative Roadmap: Communication: Investing in Growth and Jobs – maximising the contribution of ESI Funds](#)

The negotiations on the more than 500 programmes are being finalised in 2015 and implementation is just starting. The Commission will present the outcome of negotiations on the programming documents (the Partnership Agreements and the programmes) at the end of 2015 to the European Parliament (EP), the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the Committee of the Regions (CoR). [More ...](#)

[How to transform ancient alpine forts into tourism resources](#)

In the Alps, across the border between France and Italy, there are several ancient fortifications. Specially, these forts are located in Savoy, Hautes-Alpes, Alpes de Haute Provence and Alpes-Maritimes in the French side and in the Province of Cuneo, Province of Turin and Aosta Valley in the Italian side. These buildings are real treasures in terms of architecture, culture and history. [More ...](#)

[Murcia, an example of how to promote entrepreneurship at regional level](#)

In the framework of the European Entrepreneurial Region Award initiative, launched by the Committee of the Regions, the Region of Murcia (Spain) was elected in 2011 as one of the three European Entrepreneurial Regions together with Brandenburg (Germany) and County Kerry (Ireland). [More ...](#)

[Support the launch of a EU study for Sustainable and Responsible tourism in EU](#)

EARTH (European Alliance for Responsible Tourism and Hospitality) request to launch a European study on sustainable and responsible tourism in Europe is progressing. By now they have collected over 50 signatures of organizations that support EARTH initiative in 9 countries. Deadline to sign the initiative: 31 July 2015. [More ...](#)

[Consultation on an EU ecolabel for fisheries and aquaculture products](#)

The consultation is open to all stakeholder groups and individuals (consumer groups, producer organisations, government bodies, public authorities, fishing and aquaculture companies, suppliers, retailers and NGOs). Deadline: 31 July 2015. [More ...](#)

[EU Funding Documents](#)

Evolution of Interreg 1990-2020. [More ...](#)
Precious tips from 4 SME Instrument evaluators. [More ...](#)

[EU Funding Opportunities](#)

INTERREG EUROPE: 1st Call for proposals. Deadline: 31 July 2015. [More ...](#)
EC-Call for Proposals for Operating Grants Open To EU-Level NGO Networks Having Signed a Framework Partnership Agreement for 2014-2017 and Being Active in the Area of Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction or Microfinance and Social Enterprise Finance. Deadline: 24 August 2015. [More ...](#)
EACEA: Europe for Citizens - Town twinning 2015. Deadline: 1 September 2015. [More ...](#)
EACEA: Europe for Citizens - Networks of towns 2015. Deadline: 1 September 2015. [More ...](#)
EIP-AGRI: Call for Focus Group Experts. Deadline: 7 September 2015. [More ...](#)
Interreg MED 2014-2020: 1st call for modular project proposals. Opening Date: 1 September. Closing Date: 2 November 2015. [More ...](#)
EC: Call for experts: Structured Dialogue under ESI Funds. Deadline: 14 September 2015. [More ...](#)
LIFE: Action Grants 2015. [More ...](#)

Competitions

European Cooperation Day: Vote for your favourite Interreg slogan. Deadline: 31 July 2015.

[More ...](#)

Photo competition "Europe in my region". Deadline: 28 August 2015. [More ...](#)

12th UNWTO Awards for Excellence and Innovation in Tourism. Deadline: 30 October 2015. [More ...](#)

The European Capital of Innovation Award 2016 – iCapital. Deadline: 18 November 2015.

[More ...](#)

Newsletters and Publications

Newsletters

ENRD Newsletter, July 2015. [Read ...](#)

Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation, July 2015. [Read ...](#)

IFOAM EU Newsletter, June 2015. [Read ...](#)

FiBL Newsletter July 2015. Published by: Research Institute of Organic Agriculture. [Read ...](#)

ARCHE NOAH Newsletter, June 2015. Published by: Gesellschaft für die Erhaltung der Kulturpflanzenvielfalt & ihre Entwicklung. [Read ...](#)

Publications

The Cohesion Policy Dimension of the Implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy. Published by: European Parliament's Committee on Regional Development, 2015. [Read ...](#)

The World of Organic Agriculture. Statistics & Emerging Trends 2015. Published by: FiBL and IFOAM, 2015. [Read ...](#)

Organic Food at a Glance: Infographic. Published by: European Parliamentary Research Service, 2015. [Read ...](#)

Journal of Environmental and Agricultural Sciences (JEAS), Vol. 4, 2015. [Read ...](#)

EVENTS

2nd European Rural Parliament, 4-6 November 2015, Schärding, Austria

The second European Rural Parliament will be held in the beautiful small town of Schärding in Austria, 4 to 6 November 2015. 300 delegates are expected, from over 40 European countries. [More ...](#)

11th Estonian Rural Parliament, 7-9 August 2015, Säreveere, Järva County, Estonia

Estonian Village Movement Kodukant has sponsored Rural Parliaments of Estonian Villages since 1996 to bring together village members, organizations, local and national representatives with the aim to discuss the issues and look for solutions to the problems facing rural development. [More ...](#)

Special session during ERSA meeting: Towards a Smart Rural Europe, 25-28 August 2015, Lisbon, Portugal

The aim of this special session is to identify the main conditions for an enlarged definition of a Smart Rural Europe, given the regional dynamics, facts and figures, the profound changes in rural areas and the new regional and rural policies. [More ...](#)

LEADER-CLLD Conference on Co-operation, 25 September 2015, Milano, Italy

The main objective of the conference is to exchange on how to support inter-territorial and transnational co-operation (TNC) within the EU and with third countries. [More ...](#)

[LINC Congress 2015, 29 September-1 October 2015, Maratea, Basilicata Region, Italy](#)

LINC – Leader Inspired Network Community – is a European Conference which combines European exchange of experience with sport events and the European culinary tradition. LINC Conference 2015 marks the beginning of the new European Programming Period: the conference will be a great chance to share ideas and proposals and to start new cooperation projects. Deadline for registration: 28 August 2015. [More ...](#)

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The PREPARE partnership is a group of European and national non-government organizations. The partnership was created in 1999 and has expanded as new national rural movements have joined. The aim of PREPARE programme is to strengthen civil society and to promote multi-national exchange in rural development, with a main focus on the new EU member states of Central and Eastern Europe, as well as accession countries and the "new neighbours" of the enlarged EU.

More about PREPARE: www.preparenetwork.org

The main founder of PREPARE activities is **Charles Steward MOTT Foundation**.

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