



**Pesticide  
Action  
Network**  
Europe

# Environmental Risk Assessment

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EFSA stakeholder NGO meeting – 26 May 2020

# Speedy political evolution in 2019-20

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- IPBES Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services (2019)
- IPCC report on Climate Change and Land (2019)
- Von der Leyen Commission: European Green Deal
- 20 May 2020: Farm-to-Fork and Biodiversity Strategy
- Farm-to-Fork: production of food in a sustainable way; 50% reduction target in pesticide use and risk by 2030 and 50% reduction target in hazardous pesticides by 2030
- Biodiversity Strategy: halting the loss and restoration of biodiversity



## Legal requirements - pesticides

PPPR (EC) 1107/2009:

Rec 8:

*“The purpose of this Regulation is to ensure **a high level of protection** of both human and animal health and the environment.... **The precautionary principle should be applied.**”*

Art 2(b,e): “Residues/products shall not have **any unacceptable effect on the environment.**” (non-target species, biodiversity and ecosystems)

Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (128/2009/EC)

# Specific Protection Goals

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- EFSA (2010) Scientific Opinion on the development of specific protection goal options for environmental risk assessment of pesticides.
- EFSA (2016) Guidance to develop specific protection goals options for environmental risk assessment at EFSA, in relation to biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- 2019: European Commission launched a process of improving ERA thanks to the SPG approach
- Anthropocentric (ecosystem services) and does not encompass all biodiversity
- Setting of SPGs will be a political decision, not a scientific one (e.g. Bee Guidance Document)



# Major upgrade in ERA needed

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- SPG alone approach will contribute to but alone cannot protect biodiversity
- Major upgrade of guidance documents needed: terrestrial risk assessment (recovery concept), aquatic RA
- Development of new guidance documents: amphibians and reptiles
- Conflicts of interests remain a major issue preventing improvements in the field of ERA
- EFSA's timeline is not in line with that from the Commission



*Thank you!*