

Draft Resolution

1 *Tabled by Oikologoi Prasinoi – Greece*

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4 **Call to member states on GMOs**

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7 The EU must respect the precautionary principle and take into account the established and legitimate
8 opposition to this controversial technology. At a time when American consumers and farmers are
9 beginning to realize the negative effects of biotechnology, Europe must not abandon the most logical
10 approach that has been being defended by Europeans for decades.

11 The European Parliament has recently adopted with a large majority (People's Party, Social Democrats
12 and Liberals) an agreement on a new system in order to approve genetically modified organisms (GMOs)
13 in the EU. The European Greens voted against the new regime, as this will restore move the decisions on
14 GMO cultivation nationwide, instead of requiring the EU to reform the risk assessment process.

15 The European Greens brought harsh criticism of the decision of the European Parliament on GMOs, since
16 by this way the EU facilitates their penetration to cultivation, although individual Member States may
17 refuse them.

18 However, although the countries opposed to GMOs are given the carrot to refuse apply these licenses,
19 the system that was adopted fails to give them a legally basis for this. This is a false solution.

20 The EGP considers that the most critical issue is the need to reform the EU's process for approving
21 GMOs. We can not be tolerant to the current situation, in which the permits were approved despite the
22 incorrect assessment of the risks and the consistent opposition of the majority of EU Member States in
23 the Council and, most importantly, the opposition of a clear majority of EU citizens.

24 The answer to this problem can not be a game of give and take of the easier movement of GMOs with
25 easier national bans. This agreement eventually threatens to open the door of GMOs throughout Europe.

26 "Oikologoi Prasinoi" in the previous period, had stubbornly contributed to the resistance of Green and
27 other MEPs on the Commission's manipulations to impose undemocratically the cultivation of GMOs.

28 This time things are more serious, since the Greek Presidency was unable to exercise independent policy,
29 but was forced into a humiliating support of GMO's lobbying.

30 Just before Greek's term is completed, the European Commission tried to impose new varieties of
31 Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) to citizens who largely do not want the "mutant" in their diet.
32 But in this game, the Greek government having hold the EU Presidency in the first half of 2014, either by
33 complete ignorance or by suspicious reasons, seems to have contributed to the efforts of the European
34 Commission to reopen, after many years, the back door to genetically modified corn varieties and not
35 only, bowing to big business' pressure, against of the environmental protection and health of European
36 consumers' health as well.

37 However, European citizens' awareness, who in their vast majority refuse to accept eating forcibly
38 GMO's, can make a difference and stop them for one more time.

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- 39 The EGP believes that this decision will turn the EU to a mosaic of GMO's status quo, while what we
40 need is a common approach. So the EGP asks from all Europe Member States to take the necessary
41 binding initiatives in banning genetically modified organisms in Europe.
- 42 EGP calls for a comprehensive review of EU legislation on GMOs, and for reviewing the way in which the
43 impacts of Gmo's on health and the environment are assessed. Until this review will be completed, no
44 approval for cultivation of GMO's in the European Union should not proceed.