

# CZ Report from National consultation on European CSA declaration draft

The national consultation on European CSA declaration in the Czech Republic took part on 6th November 2015 in the city of Olomouc. The consultation was interconnected with the first national CSA meeting in the Czech republic. Thus the main focus of the event was to gather as much CSAs as possible, share experiences and information and of course comment on the European CSA declaration draft.

The event was attended by 29 participants. Majority of participant were CSA members from 9 CSA groups (KPZ Ekumenická Akademie, KPZ Zdiby, KPZ Blahutovice, KPZ Cooland, KPZ Ostrava, KPZ Brno, KPZ Příbor, KPZ Svobodný statek) and their farmers as well (Kuchaříkovi, Šelongoři, Jaroslav Lenhart). The meeting was enriched by farmers and people from community gardens who are interested to join the CSA system or share the same values and ideas.

The icebreakers and introduction of the participants initiated the meeting. It was followed by group discussion among farmers together and CSA members and coordinators together. The main topic of the farmers group was this year's draughts that stroke our country hard and affected nearly all of the farmers. Some of them experienced the shortage of production and thus it was also a test of members understanding of risk sharing principle in the CSA system.

Farmers also discussed the possibility for networking and identified several reasons where networking could help CSA development: education, information sharing and assistance. Farmers expressed an interest to organized next meeting in February 2016. Also member group discussed networking possibilities and its role in the development of new CSAs and the stronger voice of CSAs as a network than individual initiatives.

After lunch facilitators of each group presented shortly the content of their morning discussion, organizers showed a website [adresarfarmaru.cz](http://adresarfarmaru.cz) where CSA groups are represented and an educational project Be part of CSA! of four seminars learning about setting up and running CSA.

Then CSAs discussed together with the preservationist organization Gengel option to preserve heirloom seeds on CSA farms, it was agreed that each CSA farm could adopt one (or more) heirloom seed from traditional Czech varieties and it will preserve it together with the Gengel organization.

The last part of the meeting was dedicated to consultations of the European CSA declaration draft. The facilitator has divided participants into four groups, accordingly to

each part of the declaration. Each group started with another part of the declaration made comments for each part. Groups basically commented the content, terminology and also convenient words.

The main overall suggestions aimed towards explanation of not widely known terms within Czech context like agroecology and food sovereignty, to unify the terminology, meaning that the use of terms like members of CSA, shareholders, consumers, purchasers... and farmers or peasants should be consistent through out the whole documents..

Specifically in the preamble part, participants were missing mention of access to land for small-scale farmers, context of climate changes, support for local economy and mainly the social dimension of CSA - mentioning that partnership and social interaction is what creates CSA.

The definition of the CSA scheme was proposed to be located in the beginning of the whole declaration as a description of what is it all about also for readers who are unfamiliar with the term CSA itself.

It was also proposed to mention historical roots of CSA in the biodynamic farming and anthroposophy, renewal of traditions and cultural heritage, the soil and its protection not only care for it.

The participants agreed that we must think about the agriculture in a wider context (for example in case of economizing the water, its polluting etc.). It is necessary to emphasize grassroots principle of CSA.


Detailed proposals for changes in the declaration are recorded in the document [here](#).

Dissemination:

<http://www.kpzinfo.cz/news/prvni-setkani-komunitou-podporovaneho-zemedelstvi-v-cr1/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1689826124572685/>

our world  
our dignity  
our future

 European Year for Development 2015

**The Common Ground for Community-Supported Agriculture in Europe project is financed in the framework of the European Year for Development / CONCORD.**

Rapporteur:

Jan Valeška, AMPI

[honza@asociaceampi.cz](mailto:honza@asociaceampi.cz)