
European Peat Industry – EU Advocacy Overview

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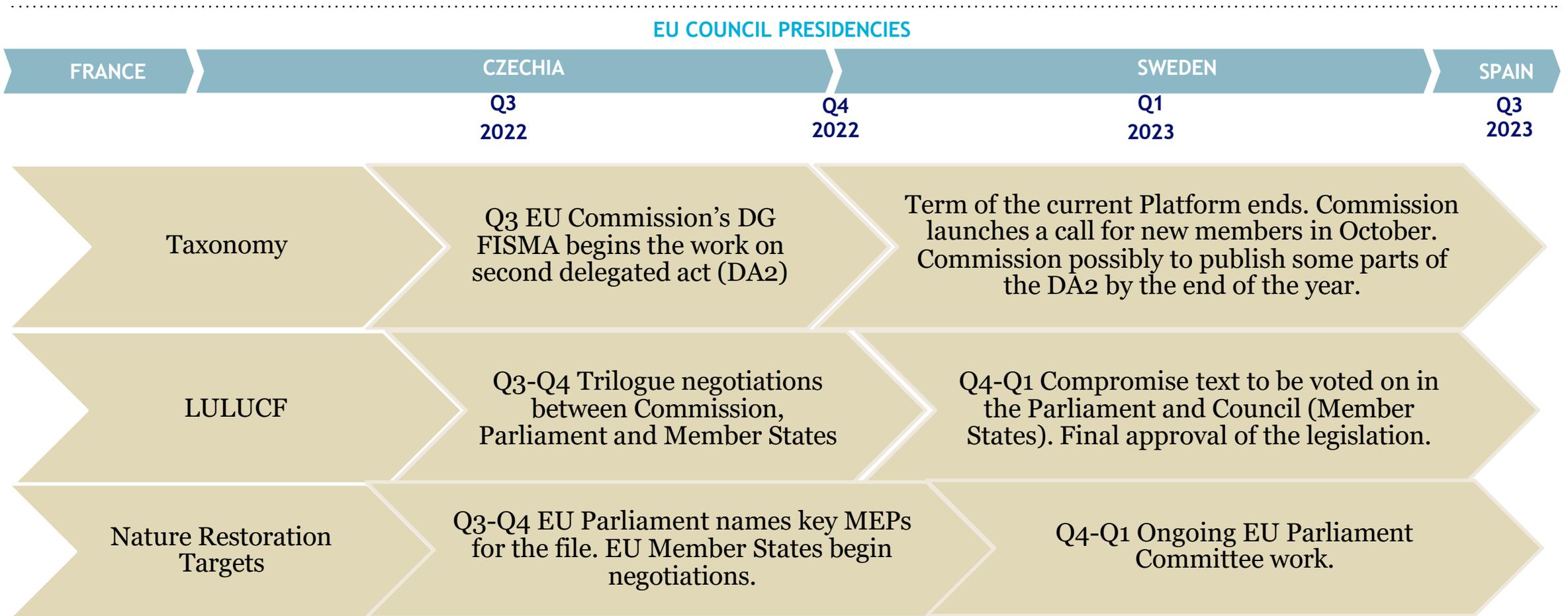
Political Background in the European Union

- Russia's war in Ukraine has placed heavy emphasis on securing the EU's food production & global food security.
 - Rising production costs (e.g. energy, electricity, fuel, fertilizers) have impacted the European agricultural sector and the cost & availability of horticultural peat should be seen as a part of this wider picture.
 - Rising costs have led to increasing food prices and protests.
 - The term of the current von der Leyen Commission is half over.
 - EU's energy concerns will override other political issues & the Commission will focus on its priorities.
 - The preparatory work for the Work Programme of the next Commission will begin in 2023.
 - Despite ongoing challenges, the EU's 'Green legislation' will move forward and affect the national landscape in EU Member States → active advocacy is essential.
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Upcoming Legislative Priorities for the Peat Industry

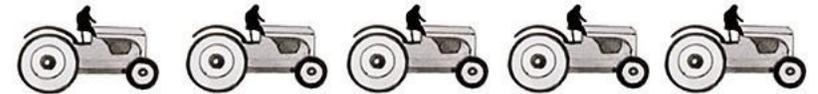
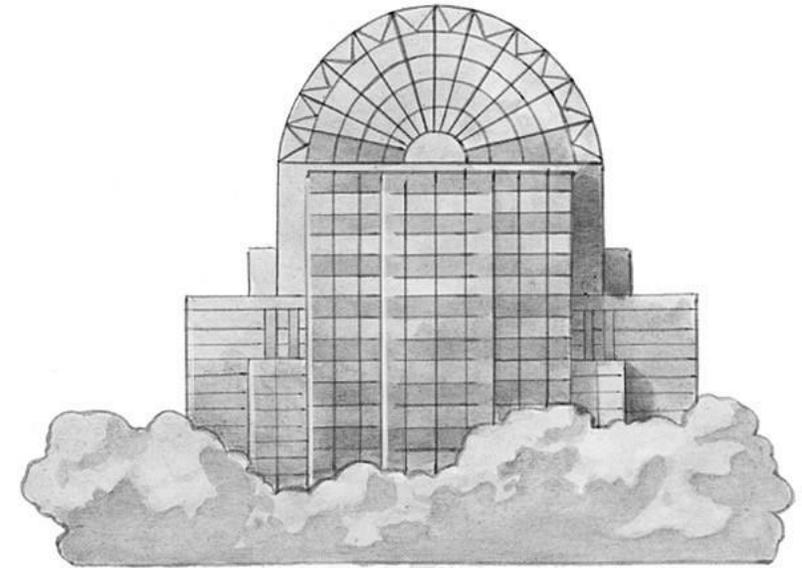
- Sustainable Finance Taxonomy
 - Threat: Guiding investment away from the peat sector & de facto limiting the use of peat in plant production
- Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry Regulation (LULUCF)
 - Threat: Overly ambitious and intrusive peatland restoration & rules for the management of peatlands
- EU Nature Restoration Targets
 - Threat: Overly ambitious and intrusive peatland restoration targets
- Other upcoming EU legislation:
 - Certification on Carbon Removals
 - Soil Health Law

Windows for Influencing



Visibility & Alliance Building

GETTING THE INDUSTRY MESSAGE
ACROSS TO EU DECISION MAKERS



Legislative Priorities – Who to Influence

European Commission

- Commission Cabinets
- Directorates-General
- Public consultations
- Trilogue negotiations

European Parliament

- MEPs & Committees responsible for legislation
- Committee & Plenary votes
- Trilogue negotiations

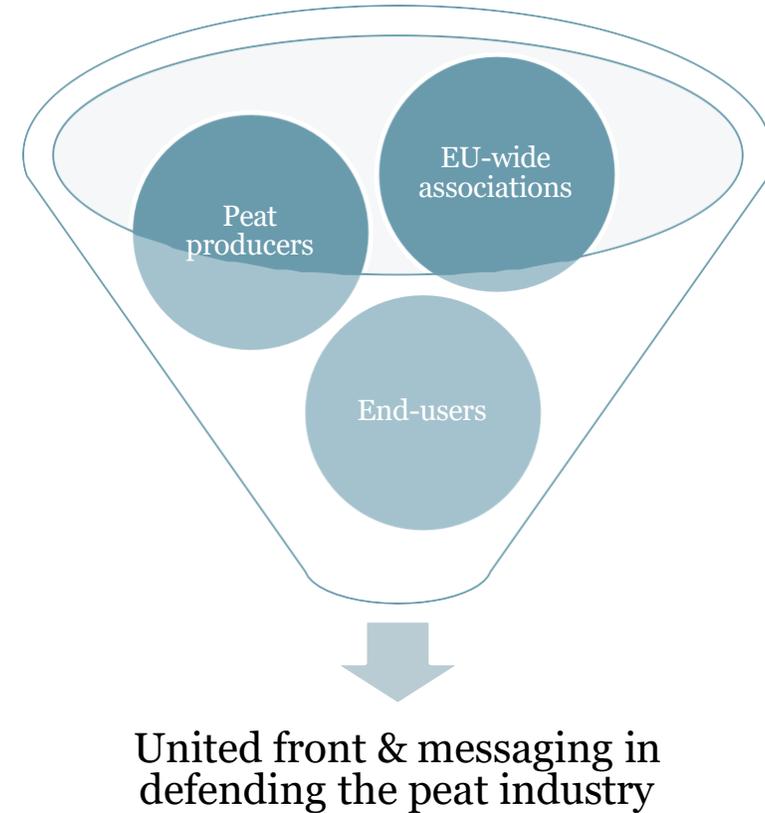
Member States

- Agricultural & Environment Ministries
- Member State's EU Embassy attachés
- Trilogue negotiations

- Active monitoring and participation in drafting upcoming EU legislation is vital.
 - Regular contacts with national Agricultural & Environment Ministries and national actors in Brussels are especially important.
 - The role of horticultural peat in the EU's growing media market is not widely understood. This can lead to uninformed legislation and unintended negative consequence.
 - Anti-peat lobby is strong and active in the EU.
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Other Stakeholders & Alliance Building

- Mobilizing relevant stakeholders – identification of friendly partners.
- Ensuring that the peat industry's message is heard and echoed in different forums through alliance building.
- Activating retailers, EU-wide associations, greenhouse growers etc.





Thank you!



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