

Farm-Fork-Microbiome Connection: Steps towards a healthier future

June 28, 13:00-15:00 CEST (virtual event)

The event will present the existing evidence on the impact of diet and lifestyle on gut microbiota and human health, with the aim to explore the potential of EU policy in delivering improved gut health.

Looking into lifestyle factors such as diet and alcohol consumption, the discussion will center on policies that aim to influence lifestyle choices through information and education; policies that expand healthy choice options and policies aimed at regulating or restricting unhealthy options.

The event will feature a broad spectrum of experts who will discuss:

- the current scientific evidence on the impact of diet and alcohol consumption on gut microbiota
- missing links and policy options for health-enabling environments

Agenda

Welcome: Co-chair MEP Sarah Wiener (5 min)

Introductory remarks: Co-chair Patrizia Burra, Chair UEG PAC (10 min)

1st Session: Alcohol, Nutrition and the Gut Microbiome - What does the science tell us? (13:15 - 13:45)

- Prof. Shira Zelber-Sagi, School of Public Health, University of Haifa, Israel – *Alcohol, sugar and obesity: Synergies between risk factors and implications for digestive health* (10 min)
- Prof. Benoit Chassaing, Chassaing Laboratory, INSERM, France – *The effects of ultra-processed food on the gut microbiome* (10 min)

Q&A (10 min)

2nd Session: Enabling healthier environments - Policy and Tools (13:45 - 14:15)

- Floriana Cimmarusti, Secretary General, Safe Food Advocacy for Europe (SAFE) and Consumers Representative on the European Food Safety Authority's Management Board – *Views from SAFE* (10 min)
- Dirk Hadrich, Policy and Programme Officer, European Commission, Directorate-General Research & Innovation, People Directorate, Combatting diseases Unit – *RTD's microbiome funding: Results, Trends and Prospects* (10 min)

Q&A (10 min)

3rd Session: Towards a healthier future - Key reflections & Policy pathways (14:15 – 15:00)

Presentations: MEP Biljana Borzan (S&D, Croatia) (5 min) – *From farm to fork - pathways for a healthier EU food system* **TBC**; and Prof. Michael Manns, Co-Chair of the EASL-Lancet Liver Commission and President of Hannover Medical School, Germany – *EASL- Lancet Liver Commission -key findings* (5 min)

Panel discussion & Q&A (30 min): Co-Chairs, Prof. Michael Manns and MEP Borzan (**TBC**)

Closing: MEP Sarah Wiener (5 min)