

Peace bread conference 2019, Vilnius (LT)

Youth more educated and more ready to modernise

→ important to make rural life more attractive for young people

Ideas expressed and experiences outlined in the Center group of CZ, DE, HU, SK

1. First and foremost, more research is needed as a prerequisite. Public and private research (institutes) into agriculture must be strengthened. New technologies and sustainable solutions for climate-neutral agriculture should be made available to farms in an understandable way.
2. In particular, more attention must (still) be paid to the subject of soil (as a large CO₂ reservoir) both by science and politics as well as by farmers.
3. Agriculture must become more resilient to the effects of climate change. But it must also limit its own contributions to greenhouse gas emissions. A regionally adapted, "soil-based" and locally anchored agriculture is a key to this.
4. Agriculture must be attractive to young people and offer them a future. The partly negative image of agriculture must be corrected. A lot of persuasion and PR work is important for this.
5. A new way of thinking for new, unusual business models and forms of cooperation, for digitalization and a start-up mentality must also prevail in agriculture in order to enable young people to enter and succeed in agriculture.
6. A well and reliably financed agricultural policy is (still) a crucial basis for sustainable agriculture. Research, sustainable and climate-neutral production methods and the younger generation/young farmers must benefit from this.

Summing up – three main features

1. Research and new technologies
2. Attractiveness of agriculture to young generation (AgriCOOLture)
3. "soil-based" and locally anchored agriculture is a key