



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Food and feed safety, innovation  
**Biotechnology**

Brussels,  
SANTE/E3[REDACTED]sante.ddg2.e.3(2018)6072654

Dear [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED],

**Subject: Reply to your e-mail: Inquiry - Positioning and Future Plans of Regulating Novel Plant Breeding Techniques on EU Grounds**

Thank you for your mails of 8 October 2018 addressed to Commissioner Andriukaitis and Commissioner Hogan, concerning the application of the EU GMO legislation on new mutagenesis techniques following the recent judgement of the Court of Justice of the European Union. As your enquiry falls under the competency of Commissioner Andriukaitis, he has asked me to reply on his behalf.

The Commission has taken note of the Court judgement in Case C-528/16<sup>1</sup> and is currently assessing whether action is required for its implementation. The Commission, as guardian of the Treaties, is working to ensure the correct application of Union legislation and a high level of protection of human and animal health and the environment.

Member States are responsible for the enforcement of the EU GMO legislation. The Commission services have discussed in the meetings of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed of 11 September and of the Regulatory Committee for Directive 2001/18/EC on 18 October the implementation of the Court judgement with national competent authorities and reminded them of their obligation to ensure that decisions regarding experimental releases of organisms covered by Directive 2001/18/EC are in line with the requirements of the Directive.

The current College of Commissioners is approaching the end of its term and has no plans to put forward new legislative proposals concerning the GMO legislation.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

<sup>1</sup> Case C-528/16, *Confédération paysanne and Others*, Judgement of 25 July 2018, ECLI:EU:C:2018:583.

[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]@students.boku.ac.at