EU Green Parties: Crops produced with New Breeding Techniques are 'new GMOs' that perpetuate 'industrial agriculture'

The EU Court of Justice will soon publish its ruling concerning the legal statute of a group of biotechnologies, which have been called "new plant breeding techniques" by the industry.

The ECJ will decide if these techniques produce GMOs – <u>as the Greens/EFA</u> and <u>many environmental NGOs</u> have been arguing for years – and if some of these will be exempt from proper assessment, traceability and labelling as if they weren't GMOs.

As Greens, we are opposed to these GMOs being put in our fields and food, as they are dangerous for the environment and do not serve in any way the public interests.

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GMOs are by definition leading to large-scale monoculture and industrial animal farming. These are at the root of many problems of the food and farming system: pollutions by effluents and pesticides; quick decrease of the number of farms and farmers; low prices for agricultural produce; nutritional problems; quick appearance of new pathologies; animal suffering; global warming; depletion of soil resources; ecosystems collapse (with notably a steep decrease of the number of insects and birds) etc.

Editor's note: This opinion article is co-signed by Members of the European Parliament from the Greens/EFA political group: José Bové, Martin Häusling, Maria Heubuch, Bart Staes and Thomas Waitz

Read full, original article: 'New GMOs' are not progress, but another tool of industrial farming