

## Viewpoint: How Russian-Ukraine war and looming global food shortages underscore absurdity of Europe's unsustainable 'green' Farm-to-Fork policy

The war [in Ukraine] has served as a wake-up call for the EU, heavily dependent on Ukraine's grain and Russia's fertilizer imports. Europe has now realized that it can no longer afford its green agriculture plans, once so passionately advocated for. The Farm to Fork (F2F) strategy ambitiously [sought](#) to cut the use of pesticides in the EU by 50 percent while increasing organic farming production from 7.5 percent to 25 percent.

Ferociously endorsed by green groups, the strategy was also highly [costly](#) and hardly [climate-friendly](#). As the world cripples with limited resources, organic farming requires more farmland. To drastically reduce the use of pesticides – without giving farmers an alternative – would be a final nail in the coffin of European food production. Farmers' associations understandably protested, but that wasn't enough to make European policymakers change their minds.

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But, ironically, it took a war to make the EU realize that the F2F was not workable. Less than two weeks into the Ukraine-Russia war, as food prices climbed up and food security was at risk, the strategy got called off. In arguing for the pausing of the F2F, French President Emmanuel Macron [said](#) that "Europe cannot afford to produce less."

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