



RECONFIGURATION OF DIRECT PAYMENT MECHANISMS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION UNDER C.A.P. REFORMS

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Abstract: This paper analyses the reconfiguration of direct payment mechanisms under successive CAP reforms, focusing on the transition from coupled support towards decoupled, redistributive and sustainability-oriented instruments. The study highlights the increasing importance of environmental conditionality, eco-schemes and redistributive support within the CAP 2023–2027 framework.

• Introduction

- ❑ CAP progressively shifted from market support to income support
- ❑ Direct payments became the main CAP instrument
- ❑ CAP 2023–2027 strengthened environmental and redistributive objectives
- ❑ New mechanisms focus on sustainability and farm resilience

• Material and method

- ❑ Qualitative and comparative analysis
- ❑ EC and Eurostat data
- ❑ Analysis of: CAP reforms; direct payment mechanisms; convergence and redistribution; eco-schemes and environmental conditionality

• Conclusions

- ❖ direct payments became multifunctional instruments
- ❖ stronger environmental orientation under CAP 2023–2027
- ❖ convergence improved, but disparities remain
- ❖ future CAP must balance equity, efficiency and sustainability

• Results and discussions

Evolution of C.A.P. expenditure

Year	C.A.P. SHARE IN E.U. BUDGET
1980	65.5%
2000	45.0%
2022	23.5%

- declining share within EU budget
- increasing policy diversification

C.A.P. 2023–2027 payment instruments

INSTRUMENT	SHARE %
BISS	31
Eco-schemes	15
CRISS	7
Coupled support	7

- stronger environmental orientation
- redistributive mechanisms strengthened

Direct payment convergence

YEAR	ROMANIA (€/HA)	EU AVERAGE (€/HA)
2007	50	260
2023	225	320

- Convergence process after EU accession
- disparities still persist