Bodenschutz und Energiewende – Ein europäisches Thema?

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Overall objective is the protection of **soil functions** and **sustainable use** of soil, based on the following guiding principles:
- Prevention of soil degradation
- Restoration of degraded soils

Sets out the **four pillars** of EU soil policy

To be implemented by MS

2012 Report from the Commission on the implementation of the STS COM(2012)46
Soils deliver multiple services (soil functions as identified in the Soil Thematic Strategy COM(2006) 231):

1. Biomass production, including in agriculture and forestry;
2. Storing, filtering and transforming nutrients, substances and water;
3. Biodiversity pool, such as habitats, species and genes;
4. Physical and cultural environment for humans and human activities;
5. Source of raw materials;
6. Acting as carbon pool;
7. Archive of geological and archeological heritage.
**Objective:** Protection of soil functions

- Integration in sectoral policies
- Precautionary measures
- Prevention of contamination
- Measures to limit or mitigate sealing

**Prevention**

- Identification of priority areas for erosion, organic matter decline, compaction, salinisation, acidification, and landslides in 5 years
- Identification of contaminated sites in 25 years

**Action**

- Programme of Measures
- National Remediation Strategy

Main arguments against legally binding EU policies related to soils

- "Soils don't move" - subsidiarity principle
- Already to many EU regulations
- Already enough soil protection by existing National legal instruments
## Soil-relevant policies and soil protection legislation

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### Policies instruments for soil protection among the EU Member States: a comparative analysis.

Silvia Ronchi a*, Stefano Salata b, Andrea Arcidiacono c, Erika Pirolì d, Luca Montanarella e

a Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies, via Bonardi 3, 20133 Milano, Italy.
b Politecnico di Torino, Department of regional and urban studies and planning, viale Mattioli 39, 10125 Torino, Italy.
c Joint Research Centre, European Commission, via E. Fermi 2749, 21027 Ispra, Italy.
Why do we need an EU soil policy?

- Common market distortion
- Transboundary soil degradation effects (erosion, climate change, biodiversity loss)
- Global legally binding commitments
- Indirect land use changes
Trade balances of virtual land for the EU-27 with the rest of the world; 2004

Sustainable Europe Research Institute (SERI)
It would easier to feed the planet if more of the crops we grew ended up in human stomachs.
Are renewable energies better for soil protection?
Concepts and perceptions of land degradation and restoration

Reality ("World" or "Nature")

Perceptions

Ecologist: "Degraded!"
Botanist: "Triticum sp."
Tourist: "Beautiful!"
Farmer: "Tidy!"
Baker: "Bread!"

Systems of knowledge, norm and values (cultural filters)

Scientific knowledge
Aesthetic value
Utilitarian value

Concepts

Pesticides = biologically dead soil
Taxonomy = graminaceous plant
Cropfield = typical countryside landscape
Perfect rows = good farmer
Wheat = different kind of bakery products

Yearly soil sealing in the EU: The City of Berlin (ca.100,000 ha)
Land take change in the period 2000-2012 in % of 2000 values

- < -0.3%
- -0.05% - 0%
- 0% - 0.05%
- > 0.3%
- -0.3% - -0.05%
- No land take
- 0.05% - 0.3%

Source: EEA
MAIN LAND-USE PATTERNS IN THE EU WITHIN 2015-2030

Perpiña Castillo C., Kavalov B., Jacobs-Crisioni C., Baranzelli C., Batista e Silva F., Lavalle C., JRC115895, European Commission 2019

Web: https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/luisa
https://urban.jrc.ec.europa.eu/t-board
IS ENERGY POLICY INFLUENCING URBAN SPRAWL?

1. GROWING URBAN AREA
2. UNCONTROLLED URBAN SPRAWL
3. FUA COOPERATION AND COORDINATED SPATIAL PLANNING
   COMPACT URBAN AREA

LAND SUPPORT
An Integrated Web-Based Land Decision Support System

https://www.landsupport.eu
https://www.landsupport.eu

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THANK YOU