

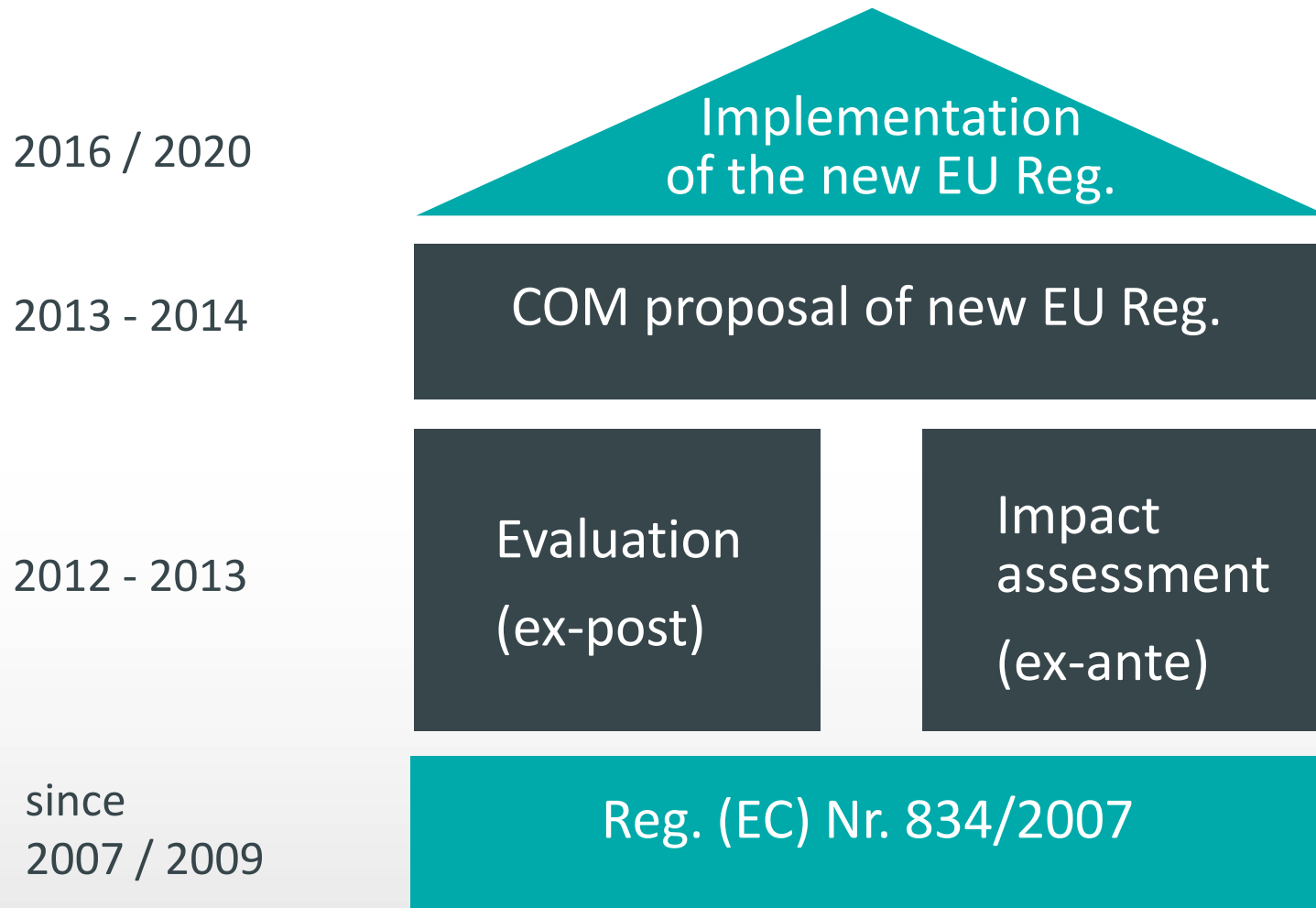
# Evaluation of the EU regulation on organic farming

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# Revision of the EU legislation



# Scope of the evaluation

**1) Scope of the Regulation**

**2) Production rules**

**3) Control rules**

**4) Import rules**

**5) Consumer perception**

**6) Simplified admin. and management**

**7) EU-added value**

**8) Sustainable sector development**

# Scope of the evaluation

**1) Scope of the Regulation**

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**7) EU-added value**

**8) Sustainable sector development**



## Production rules

- **Common understanding?**
- **Sustainable management system?**
- **Adequate exceptional rules?**

# Operationalization of organic values and principles

## Common understanding?

- **Yes, but ...**
- **Differences in interpretation and implementation**
  - > partly due to lack of clarity (e.g. definition regional feed stuff)
- **Contradictions between objectives/principles and rules**
  - > challenge to operationalise values and principles
  - > uncertainty as to whether principles are legally binding

## Sustainable management system?

- **Sound scientific evidence that rules provide a basis for establishing a sustainable land management system**
- **Some areas for improvements were identified**

## Production rules and organic objectives and principles

Rules (EU Organic Regulations) Article numbers refer to Council Regulation (EC) 834/2007 [A] and Commission Regulation (EC) 889/2008 [B]	Respect natures systems/cycles	Contribute to bio- diversity	Make responsible use of natural resources			
			Energy	Water	Soil	Air & climate
<b>Prohibitions [A: 4 (a) iii and (c)]</b>						
No mineral nitrogen fertilisers	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö
No herbicides, only authorised products can be used	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö
No landless livestock production	Ö		Ö			Ö
No hydroponic production	Ö			Ö	Ö	
No use of GMOs	Ö					
<b>Strict control of external inputs [A: 4 (b)], minimisation of the use of non-renewable resources [A: 5 (b)] and recycling of wastes and by-products [A: 5 (c)]</b>						
Only permitted fertilisers: low-soluble mineral fertiliser and soil conditioners when need proven	Ö	Ö			Ö	
Only authorised plant protection products when established threat	Ö	Ö			Ö	Ö
Feed primarily from holding or same region (with exceptions)	Ö		Ö			
Stocking density and use of livestock manure restricted to maximum of 170 kg N/ha and year	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö
<b>Obligations to use good husbandry practises and prevention [A: 4 (a) iv and 5]</b>						
Multiannual crop rotation including legumes and other green manures	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	
Tillage and cultivation practices that maintains organic matter, and protects soil	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	
Maintain crop health through prevention (natural enemies, the choice of species and varieties, crop rotation) cultivation techniques and thermal processes	Ö	Ö	Ö		Ö	
Number of livestock limited to minimise overgrazing, poaching, soil erosion or pollution	Ö	Ö		Ö	Ö	Ö
<b>Preference for inputs from organic origin (Art 4b with exceptions (Art 4d))</b>						
Manage entire holding organically (with exceptions)	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö	Ö
Only organic seed (with exceptions)	Ö					
Only organic feed (with 5 % exceptional rule for monogastrics)	Ö					

## Evolution of the seed exceptions granted (2007-2011)

		Den- mark	Spain	Italy	Nether- lands	Poland	UK
<b>Potatoes</b>	Organic area	38%	n. a.	-8%	9%	56%	-30%
	Seeds under exception (quantity)	1523%	118%	-95%	217%	284%	-29%
	Diversity (Number of varieties effected by the exceptions)	88%	26%	33%	132%	85%	13%
<b>Wheat &amp; Spelt</b>	Organic area	52%	n. a.	-13%	-26%	n. a.	-11%
	Seeds under exception (quantity)	-79%	733%	14%	-75%	834%	120%
	Diversity (Number of varieties effected by the exceptions)	-71%	6%	-9%	100%	8%	-5%
<b>Carrots</b>	Organic area	41%	n. a.	-25%	50%	n. a.	n. a.
	Seeds under exception (quantity)	113%	174%	-95%	44%	21%	-92%
	Diversity (Number of varieties effected by the exceptions)	-13%	0%	n. a.	23%	100%	-2%

Source: Own data from consumer survey.





## Control rules

- Adequate inspection requirements?
- Consistent implementation of the control system in MS?
- Adequate implementation of the supervision system in MS?

# Adequacy of the overall control system

### Adequate inspection requirements?

- What are effective controls?
- Cost-effectiveness of annual and risk-based controls

### Consistent implementation of the control system in MS?

- Residue sampling and analysis
- Catalogue for issuing of sanctions

### Adequate implementation of the supervision system in MS?

- Number of witness audits
- Formal requirements involving extensive reporting
- Limited resources of competent authorities
- Deficiencies in the exchange of information (fraud case)

## Average number of control visits per operator and year

	Total	Producers	Processors	Importers
<b>Germany</b>				
2007	1.07	1.07	1.04	1.06
2009	1.24	1.27	1.08	1.05
<b>Czech Republic</b>				
2007	1.01	1.01	n.d.	n.d.
2009	1.05	1.06	1.03	1.13
<b>Denmark</b>				
2007	1.04	1.04	n.d.	n.d.
2009	1.03	1.30	n.d.	n.d.
<b>Italy</b>				
2007	1.50	1.49	1.53	3.00
2009	1.44	1.43	1.50	3.60
<b>United Kingdom</b>				
2007	1.12	1.14	1.10	1.16
2009	1.12	1.30	1.09	1.11

## Views regarding differences in the control system

Differences in the control system between EU Member States ...	... are necessary to meet national conditions		... lead to unfair competition between organic operators		... disturb the functioning of the EU internal market and do not lead to fair competition	
	Mean value	n	Mean value	n	Mean value	n
Producer	0.1	18	1.6	18	1.1	18
Processor	1.2	9	0.9	9	1.0	9
Retailer	0.1	19	1.7	19	1.5	19
Importer	0.2	18	1.3	18	1.4	18
Organic Operator Organisations	0.5	35	1.2	35	0.8	35
Control Body/Control Authority	0.1	58	1.6	58	0.9	58
Competent Authority	0.4	22	1.5	22	1.0	22
Governmental Authority	0.6	16	1.3	16	0.3	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.3</b>		<b>1.5</b>		<b>1.0</b>	

*Question: To which extent does the EU organic farming legislation meet its general aims with respect to the actual control procedures? (7-point Likert scale, +3 = total agreement; 0 = neutral; -3 = total disagreement)*



## Import rules

- Adequate import procedures?
- Effective controls for imported products?
- Trust in imported products?

## Adequacy of the import procedure

### Views of control bodies and authorities

		Agree			Neither/ nor	Disagree			I don't know
		totally	largely	partly		partly	largely	totally	
The production and processing standards for imported organic products are equivalent to the EU requirements	n	33	64	41	5	28	10	7	16
	%	16	31	20	2	14	5	3	7
The control system for imported organic products is equivalent to the EU requirements	n	30	50	43	10	29	18	6	18
	%	15	25	21	5	14	9	3	8
In case of suspected or detected irregularities of imported organic products: the existing procedures are adequate to ensure fair competition and functioning of the EU internal market	n	16	42	32	11	30	24	15	34
	%	8	21	16	5	15	12	7	16

*Question: Please indicate the degree of your personal agreement to each of the following statements.*

## Adequacy of the import procedure (cont.)

- **General yes, but ...**
- **Recognition of TC and CB very labour intensive**
- **Varying interpretation of equivalency (import authorisation)**

## Effectiveness of the control system for imported products

### Views of control bodies and authorities

		Effective				Not at all effective	I don't know
		extremely	very	moderately	slightly		
For imports based on import authorisation	n	1	11	17	9	1	11
	%	2	22	34	18	2	22
For imports from countries listed on the third country list	n	4	14	16	5		11
	%	8	28	32	10		22
For imports certified by regime control bodies recognised for their operations in third countries (new system)	n	6	4	10	12	1	17
	%	12	8	20	24	2	34

*Question: How effective is the control system for imported organic products to ensure fair competition and functioning of the EU-internal market?*



# Effectiveness of the control system for imports (cont.)

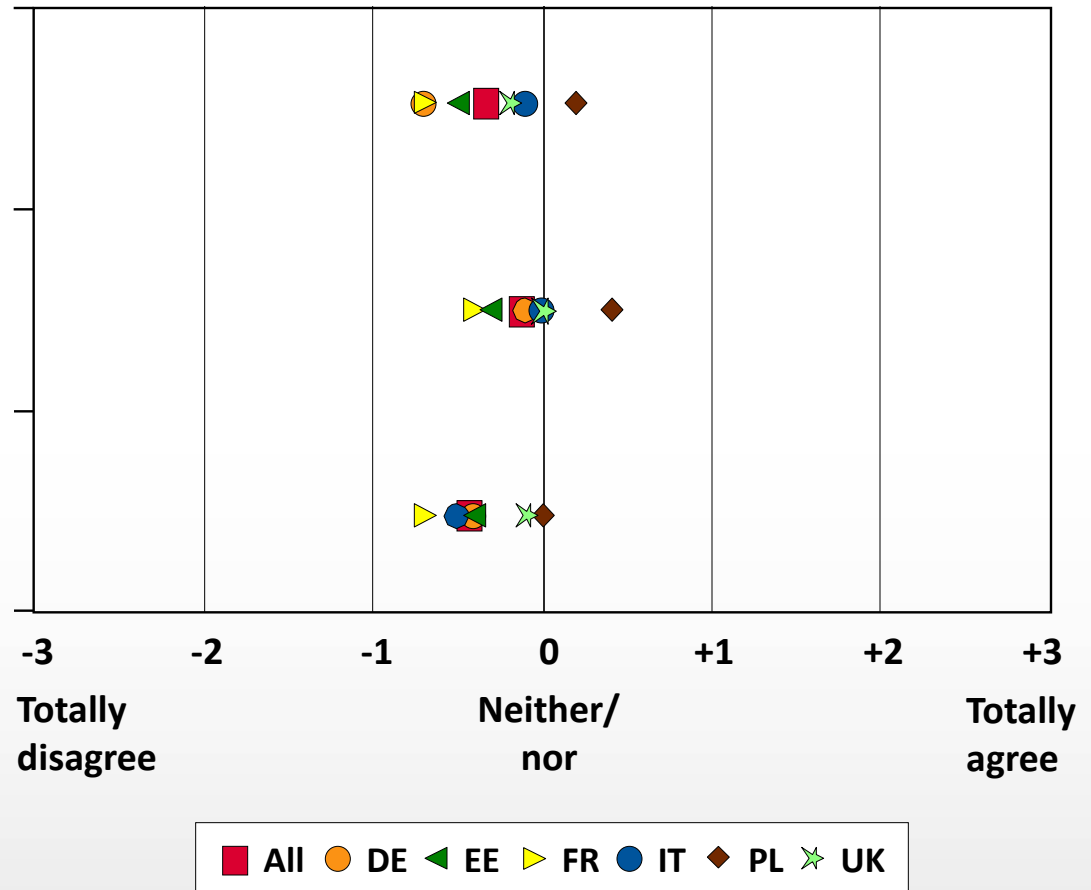
- **General yes, but ...**
- **Lack of specific preventive measures (e.g. training for operators) and risk-orientated control measures**
- **Concerns whether supervision is sufficiently implemented**
- **Some indications that procedures to follow up on irregularities are not always satisfying**

## Trust in organic products coming from other countries

I am convincing that, regardless of the country of origin, all products labelled as organic are really organic products

Organic products from other European countries are of the same quality as organic domestic products

Organic products produced outside of Europe are of the same quality as European products





## Consumer perception

- **Recognition of the EU organic logo?**
- **Trust in organic food?**

# Consumer perception

## Recognition of the European organic logo































Share of consumer having seen the EU logo before  
(in percentage, n = 500 per country)

	All	DE	EE	FR	IT	PL	UK
Yes	25	28	36	35	19	13	17
No	45	37	38	38	51	53	51
Don't know	31	34	26	27	30	34	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Question: We will show you a logo:  Have you seen this logo before?

Source: Own data from consumer survey.

## Recognition of other organic food logos

	DE	Share (%)	FR	Share (%)	IT	Share (%)
EU organic logo		25		25		18
Old EU organic logo		4		19		34
German Biosiegel		94		29		38
Organic logo 1		54		96		19
Organic logo 2		28		27		7
Organic logo 3		36		2		5
Fake organic logo		16		36		34
Fairtrade logo		52		14		12
Animal welfare / 'green' logo		10		31		17
Non-organic quality food logo		12		2		6

# Consumer perception

## Trust in organic food

In terms of organic products, I do have a good feeling

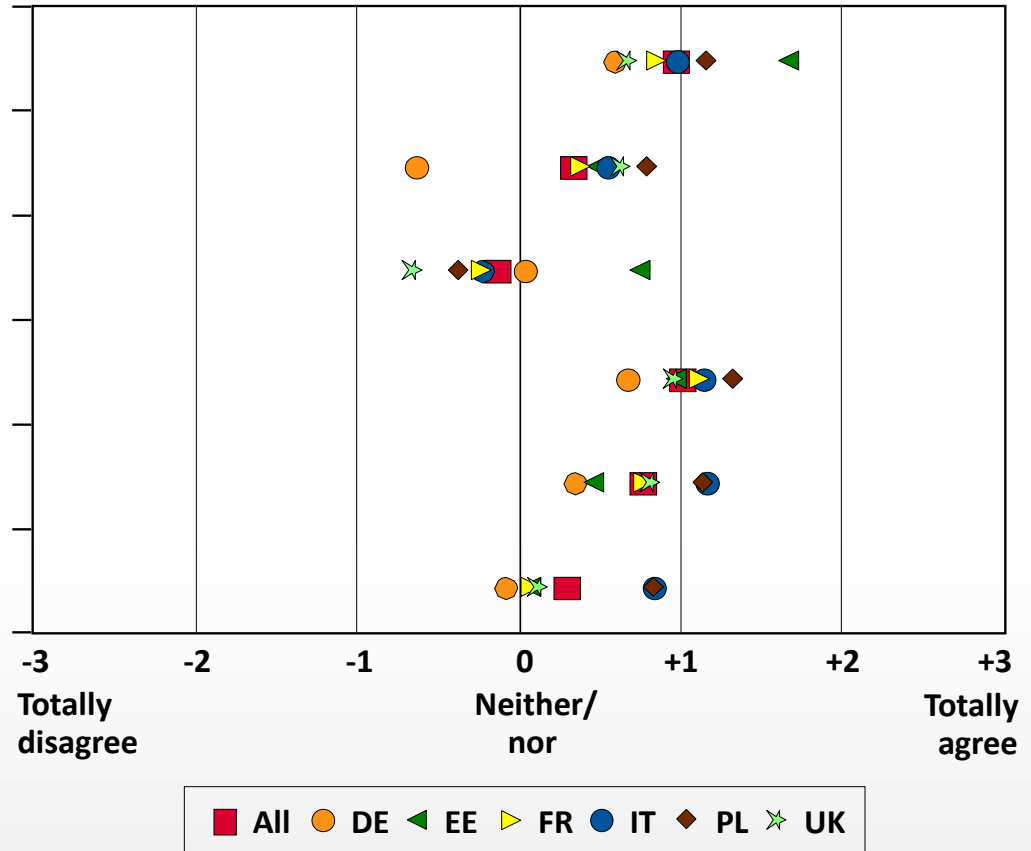
I am sure that products sold as organic are really organic products

Organic is only about marketing

Organic products fulfil strict rules

The EU logo for organic products guarantees at the products are really organic

I have great trust in the control system behind an EU-wide organic logo



Question: Below you find a list of different statements regarding organic food. Please indicate to which extent you agree or disagree with the following statements. (+3 = total agreement, 0 = neither/nor, -3 = total disagreement).

## Concluding remark

- **EU legislation on organic farming generally provides a sound basis**
  - **to achieve the objective of the Regulation**
  - **to achieve the objectives of organic farming**
  - **for a sustainable development of organic production**
- **However the results draw attention to a number of areas where action is needed and the regulatory framework could be improved.**

**Study available at:**

**[http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/evaluation/market-and-income-reports/2013/organic-farming/fulltext\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/evaluation/market-and-income-reports/2013/organic-farming/fulltext_en.pdf)**





**Thank you for your attention  
and contributions!**



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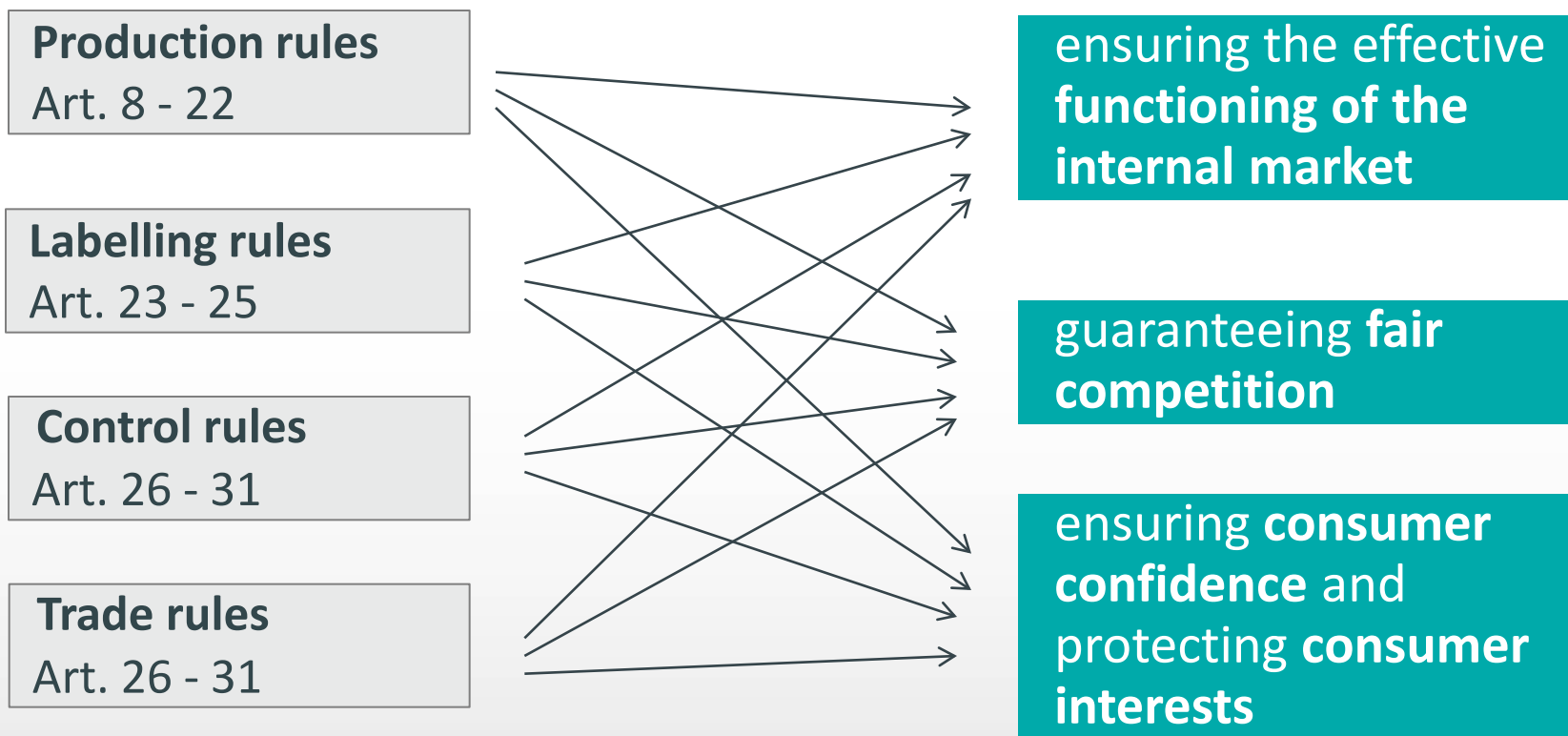
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# Annex

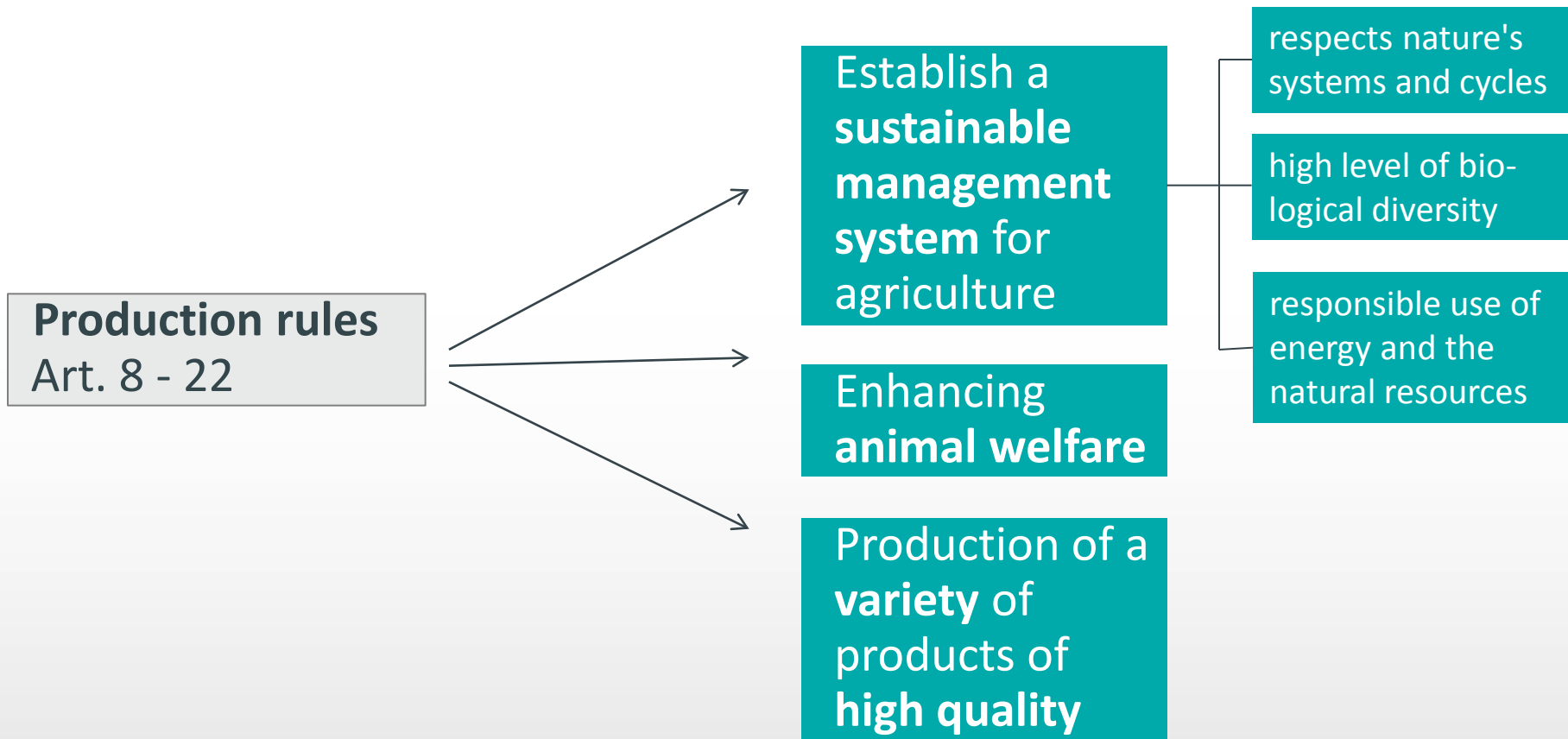
# Adequacy and effectiveness of rules with regard to the objectives of the Regulation

**§1 This Regulation provides the basis for the sustainable development of organic production**



# Adequacy and effectiveness of rules with regard to the objectives of organic farming

**§3 Organic production shall pursue the following general objectives:**



# Evaluation questions

- Q1 To what extent is the **scope of the regulation** adequate to match the current needs of the organic sector and those of organic consumers?
- Q2 To what extent have the **organic production rules** been adequate to achieve the objectives of the regulation and objectives of organic ?
- Q3 To what extent has the overall **control system of organic farming** been adequate to achieve the objectives of the regulation?
- Q4 To what extent have the **import rules** been adequate to achieve the global objectives of the regulation?
- Q5 To what extent is the concept of organic farming understood by the **consumers** in the EU?































# Evaluation questions (Cont.)

Q6 To what extent has the current legislative framework for organic farming contributed to achieving a **simplified administration and management** of the legislative measures applied to the organic sector?

Q7 To what extent has the EU legislative framework for organic farming created **EU added value**, notably by introducing common rules on the internal market?

Q8 To what extent has the EU legislative framework for organic farming contributed to the **sustainable development** of the organic farming sector?

## Recognition of other organic food logos

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