

Comparison between the Pflimlin Plan and the Mansholt Plan.

Caption: Table comparing the French and the Dutch governmental projects for the organisation of agricultural markets in Europe (the Pflimlin Plan and the Mansholt Plan, respectively).

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Economic and institutional comparison between the Pflimlin Plan and the Mansholt Plan

Economic

The government plans	Pflimlin Plan (France)	Mansholt Plan (Netherlands)
Geographical context	The Europe of the Six already in the coal and steel pool, but participation by additional states is to be warmly welcomed (United Kingdom, Denmark).	Envisages the participation of all the Members of the OEEC.
General aim	To contribute towards the economic and political integration of Europe.	To bring about the economic integration of western Europe by freeing trade.
Agricultural aim	The organisation and unification, in stages, of the main agricultural products: firstly, wheat, sugar, dairy products and wine.	The creation of a single European market for the entire agricultural production of Europe.
Economic and social objectives	<p>To ensure the development of agricultural production in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - satisfy consumers' demands at the best possible prices; - permit a rise in their levels of consumption. <p>To develop a policy of technical progress and rationalisation of production in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - raise the general standard of living; - render the European States' agricultural economies competitive with one another and with those of non-member countries. 	<p>To increase agricultural production in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stabilise the balance of payments of European countries, principally by reducing overseas imports; - face up to the growing needs of the expanding population of western Europe. <p>To increase agricultural productivity by developing technical progress and rationalising the means of production, in order to lower the level of prices and to raise the general standard of living.</p>
Practical application	<p>The progressive organisation of the market for four products or groups of products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wheat; - butter and dairy products; - sugar; - wine. 	The progressive organisation of the entire agricultural sector within the framework of a free trade policy.
Policy to follow	<p>First stage: the joint organisation of the market for the products in question in order to attain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the economic security needed to expand production and increase productivity in the common interest of producers and consumers; - the gradual unification of market conditions to be in line with the competition and to safeguard markets. <p>Second stage: the progressive unification of the market in agricultural products by means</p>	<p>The progressive, but unlimited, freeing of trade in agricultural products by means of the total suppression of all artificial measures such as customs duty and quotas that hinder trade.</p> <p>Greater specialisation in agricultural activity on the national scale and a reduction in the disparity between the conditions of production in order to lower cost prices.</p> <p>Improved distribution of the group's output, and a degree of European protectionism</p>

	<p>of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the total suppression of customs barriers; - the suppression of quantitative restrictions on trade; - the free circulation of produce within the territory of the countries making up the group. 	<p>towards non-European countries.</p> <p>The free circulation of produce throughout the unified European agricultural market.</p>
Measures to take	<p>First stage: the coordination of production on a common basis in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ensure security and stability for prices and markets; - expand trade within Europe; - balance markets for the main products. <p>In practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improve distribution of European output ; - if surpluses and risks of overproduction exist in the group of participating countries, build up stocks, export surpluses and stimulate consumption; - where necessary, coordinate production and investment programmes. <p>Second stage: unification or harmonisation in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bring about equality in the conditions of competition through the elimination of national protection measures: discriminatory practices, dumping and subsidies; - unify or harmonise taxation and welfare costs, transport charges and the external customs tariff; - coordinate or unify guaranteed price mechanisms in the markets; - establish a 'normal European price', higher than the world price and one that can be fixed at the mean national price, for trade within Europe. 	<p>The elimination of all national protectionist practices;</p> <p>the regulation of price fluctuations by creating a 'European agricultural fund' ;</p> <p>the setting up of storage and carry-over arrangements to balance supply and demand;</p> <p>investment to accelerate improvement and efficiency in agricultural enterprises;</p> <p>a decrease in costs of production within Europe by means of regional or national specialisation of agricultural produce;</p> <p>the establishment of a 'European trade price', independent from the world price, based on a system of indicative maximum and minimum prices for trade with non-Member States.</p>
Transitional period	<p>Regarded as indispensable in order to bring about equality in the conditions of competition as well as the removal of customs duty and quotas.</p> <p>Necessity for the installation of a price adjustment mechanism, which implies a community body exercising some control over national borders.</p> <p>Institution of a countervailing charge</p>	<p>Idea of progressivity in order to cater for the special needs of the agricultural sector and for marked national disparities. Instead of a price adjustment mechanism, reduced European customs duty to be maintained temporarily.</p>

	system.	
Relations with non-member countries	Relations specified by the community body, which must - control trade agreements with countries outside the group; - promote the establishment of a customs tariff that is either single or harmonised with overseas territories. Institution of a degree of European protectionism through the fixing of 'import quotas'. European preference.	Association of non-member countries with the community is planned. But there must be strict control and coordination, through multilateral agreements on prices and on the import of agricultural products from non-member countries. European preference.
Plans of the Special Agriculture Committee	Charpentier Plan (France)	Eccles Plan (United-Kingdom)
Geographical context	The member countries of the Council of Europe.	The member countries of the Council of Europe, but envisages the inclusion of all the member countries of the OEEC.
General aim	To create one of the institutions intended as a basis for a European Federation; to contribute towards the economic and political integration of Europe, and towards true European solidarity.	To encourage the development of European solidarity.
Agricultural aim	The unification or integration of European agricultural markets.	The organisation of western European trade in agricultural produce.
Economic and social objectives	The improvement of living conditions and levels of consumption among producers and consumers; the balancing of production and consumption in order to avoid waste; the cushioning of price fluctuations for agricultural produce; the possibility to halve the deficit in the European trade balance.	Main function: to increase consumption by organising the European market in foodstuffs; to raise the standard of living of producers and consumers; to help solve world problems of malnutrition by increasing European agricultural production; to facilitate the international stabilisation of agricultural produce prices.
Practical application	The organisation, in stages, of markets for the whole of the European agricultural production.	The progressive organisation of the entire European agricultural production and its markets within the framework of an internationalist policy.
Policy to follow	The setting up of a European High Authority for agriculture ; the development of technical progress and rationalising of production; the encouragement of standardisation in	The setting up of a European body to examine national programmes for production and imports; the development and rationalising of the production and consumption of foodstuffs;

	trade by progressively eliminating the artificial measures that aggravate national disparities in prices: subsidies, dumping, etc.	the creation of large-scale diversified markets, and the enlargement of those already existing.
Measures to take	<p>Proceeding by stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stage I: balance European production and consumption and, if necessary, take measures to stock and export surpluses. - Stage II: abolish quotas; fix 'European prices' independently of world prices for each product coming onto the intra-European market; put in place countervailing charges to be fixed and collected by the High Authority, in order to reduce the gap between the national and the European prices. - Stage III: increase specialisation at the national level; coordinate programmes of national production; develop technical progress, investment and agricultural credit. - Final stage: in order to achieve unification: progressively harmonise production costs, social security contributions and taxes; abolish the countervailing charges; give free circulation to agricultural produce at a single price within countries belonging to the group. 	<p>Stimulate production, make it as efficient as possible and find new markets for it; protect European markets by maintaining customs barriers and quotas; develop the stocking and storage of products; encourage long-term contracts for imports and exports between the different European countries; stabilise prices of internationally traded agricultural produce in such a way that the European prices are no higher than the world prices; promote growth in consumption of those products subject to over-production.</p>
Transitional period	<p>The three stages preceding European agricultural unification are transitional stages of indeterminate duration.</p> <p>Note the introduction of temporary countervailing charges.</p>	<p>The concept is not so much one of transition as of progress towards the fulfilment of the policy advocated.</p>
Relations with non-member countries	<p>Long-term agreements with non-member countries of the community, particularly for exporting surpluses.</p>	<p>A high degree of European protectionism but the national governments are solely responsible for imports from extra-European countries.</p> <p>Participation by European countries in international agreements on products and the conclusion of long-term bilateral contracts.</p>

Institutional

The government plans	Pflimlin Plan (France)	Mansholt Plan (Netherlands)
Type of authority	Supranational authority	Supranational authority
Reference to other institutions	Envisaged within the framework of the Six participating in the Schuman Plan; the negotiations setting up the ECSC should be a model for those organising agriculture. Liberalisation of trade and possible links with the OEEC are to be borne in mind.	A system of agricultural organisation modelled on that of the Schuman Plan is sought after, but it is to be within the framework of the OEEC.
The institutions	<p>1) Planned for October 1950:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - vague: one or several European institutions; - for each product, or group of products, European offices to be set up acting in a regulatory capacity for markets in wheat, sugar, milk and wine. <p>2) At the start of 1951:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European product offices as well as - an additional institution created by setting up a European Office for Agriculture, to be financed by countervailing charges. <p>3) The note of 29 March 1951:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - foresees institutions similar to those in the draft Coal and Steel Treaty, namely: a High Authority, a Council of Ministers, a Consultative Committee, an Assembly, a Court of Justice. <p>The Assembly and the Court of Justice would be shared with the pools planned for coal and steel and for agriculture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A European agricultural treaty would be signed. - An Ad hoc organisation. 	<p>1) Planned for November 1950:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a European Committee for Food and Agriculture in which the interests of producers and consumers will be represented; - a European Agricultural Fund; - an Assembly made up of members of national parliaments; - technical and administrative services; - the possibility of a judicial authority. <p>2) Structure planned for 1951:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a High Authority: the European Council for Food and Agriculture, endowed with wide-ranging supranational powers; - a European Agricultural Fund managed by the High Authority; - a Council of Ministers for Agriculture; - a Parliamentary Assembly; - a Court of Justice, that of the Coal and Steel Treaty.
The plans of the Special Agriculture Committee	Charpentier Plan (France)	Eccles Plan (United Kingdom)
Type of authority	Supranational authority	Intergovernmental authority
Reference to other institutions	No direct link with the Coal and Steel pool, but the High Authority specialising in Agriculture is to be set up within the Council of Europe.	Modelled partly upon the OEEC.
The institutions	The High Authority is to have the following	The creation of a European

	<p>structure :</p> <p>an Executive Committee, political in nature, assisted by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a consultative body bringing together representatives of producers, consumers, processors and traders; - specialised technical sections equipped with a statistical service and a service dealing with information, education and dissemination; <p>a parliamentary Assembly with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - one upper Chamber: the Committee of Ministers for Agriculture or their deputies; - one lower Chamber: the special Assembly, made up of members chosen from the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe; - a Court of Justice. 	<p>intergovernmental Authority for agriculture made up of representatives of the governments and producers.</p> <p>Structure:</p> <p>one mixed intergovernmental Authority; one consultative council of consumers; product sub-committees.</p>
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