



## Support statement from the European Coordination Via Campesina

Brussels, June 28<sup>th</sup>

The European Coordination Via Campesina, European farmers and farm workers organisation fully supports the demand of the Serbian organisation « Freedom Fight Movement » (Pokret Za Slobodu, PZS), concerning the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) between Serbia and the EU, to suppress the amendment enabling foreign companies to own agricultural land in Serbia, and to urge public authorities to seize land that was obtained during the privatisation process.

Access to land for farmers, and preventing speculators from land grabbing are growing issues all over Europe and especially in Eastern countries.

We assume that in order to achieve food security, priority must be given to sustainable family farms and community farms based on fair access to resources.

A recent study (1), carried by ECVC with several NGOs such as FIAN(2) and TNI (3) clearly shows the scope of the problem, and the need for a land reform in Europe based on the « Voluntary guidelines for responsible governance of land, fisheries and forests », a document elaborated by the Committee on World Food Security of the United Nations.

The Coordination Committee

1 - <http://www.eurovia.org/spip.php?article757&lang=en>

2 – FIAN international – NGO for the right to adequate food

3 – TNI – Transnational Institute – (Research)

4 - <http://www.fao.org/nr/tenure/voluntary-guidelines/en/>

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*The European Coordination Via Campesina regroups 28 small and medium-size farmers organisations from 18 countries in Europe.*

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