UECBV
European Livestock and Meat Trades Union
About the UECBV

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What is the UECBV?

The UECBV is the European Livestock and Meat Trades Union. As such, it is the united representative body of national federations of the:

- livestock trade
- livestock markets
- meat industry: slaughterhouses, cutting and preparation plants
- wholesale meat trade
- international meat traders

UECBV focuses on cattle, beef /horses, horse meat /sheep and goats, sheep and goat meat/ pigs, pig meat.

About the UECBV

UECBV represents around 53 associations out of 24 EU Member States as well as certain EFTA countries and EU candidate countries (Turkey). Other countries, EU trade partners in the meat sector, are also associated to the UECBV (Japan, Russia and Ukraine).

As a “livestock and meat trading” union, UECBV members also represent the importers and exporters of meat and meat products.

This relates to the import and export of beef, horse meat, sheep meat, pig meat and poultry meat.
When was the UECBV created? What is the UECBV logo about?

The European Livestock and Meat Trades Union (UECBV) was founded in Switzerland in 1952 only one year after the 1951 Schuman plan. Its headquarters were settled in Strasbourg as a show of post war unity. UECBV’s general secretariat was opened in Brussels in 1980.

The six founding members of the UECBV were the livestock trade federations of Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland. The UECBV celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2012.

Why is UECBV’s logo or trade mark showing a lady sitting on a bull playing the violin?

Mrs Mariann Fischer Boel, former European Agriculture and Rural Development Commissioner, described the logo of the UECBV in the following way: “Let me remind you that before Europa became a continent, in the Greek legend she was a woman. The god of gods, Zeus, impressed by her beauty, disguised himself as a bull and carried her off to Crete on his back where they became lovers.”

What is the link between this legend and a European meat Association?

Europe/the European institutions (= the lady Europa) along with the meat industry and trade (= the bull), are seen jumping together the trade barriers towards a free market. The violin represents the harmony between both EU institutions and the meat industry.

The myth of Zeus and Europa – is represented throughout many EU signs, logos starting with its own currency, the Euro (€).
What is the size of the UECBV in terms of number of enterprises and jobs?

In total, some **20,000 firms of all sizes and over 230,000 jobs** are represented within the UECBV through its national member federations.

The vast majority of these enterprises are small and medium enterprises (SMEs), so a key focus of the UECBV is to promote trade facilitation for Europe’s SMEs.

Nevertheless, Europe’s meat industry “**big players**” are also largely represented in the UECBV. To only name a few:

- ABP
- Bigard
- Danish Crown
- Dawn Foods
- SVA
- Toennies
- Vion
- Westfleisch
Who are the European UECBV members and partners?

**Members**

The UECBV comprises 53 national or regional federations in 24 Member States of the European Union and also in Japan, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine.

**Partners**

The UECBV collaborates with other partners brought together within the organisation, related to the meat industry, and which benefit from “piggybacking” on the existing structures of the UECBV.

- AEMB – European Livestock Markets
- ENSCA – European Casing Industry
- OCEAN – European Ship Suppliers Industry

At the initiative of former president Laurent Spanghero, the UECBV also created the Young European Meat Committee (YEMCo).
What are the UECBV’s general objectives?

**UECBV vision**

- To be a representation body for the European livestock and meat sectors
- To be a trusted discussion partner for European institutions and governments
- To be an effective lobbying organisation in the EU

The UECBV’s core objective is to achieve an optimum business climate for the livestock and meat industry across the European Union and on strengthening the competitiveness of the industry as a whole.

The UECBV plays an important role in creating a better understanding of the livestock, meat trades and industry in Europe.

The UECBV is committed to transparent and open dialogue between the members and European policy-makers.

**UECBV focus**

- Represent and defend the meat sector vis-à-vis the European Institutions
- Promote EU trade and international trade
- Deepen the internal market
- Combat distortions of competition
What are the UECBV’s practice areas?

In order to support ideal market activity, the UECBV provides its members with advice and assistance. It maintains a constant dialogue with the European Union decision-makers (European Commission, European Parliament and the Council of Ministers as well as others) on the European policy matters affecting the daily European meat enterprises business.

The UECBV provides advice and assistance on:

**Trade**

- Multilateral negotiation
- Bilateral & plurilateral negotiation
- Enlargement
- Market access
- Civil society dialogue

**Competition**

**Industry & EU funded research projects**

**Social Affairs**

- Education
- Training
- Monitoring

**Customs & Indirect taxation**

- Customs legislation
- Import & export formalities
- Customs code
- Combined nomenclature/tariff classification
- Tariff quota management
- Transit procedure
- Indirect taxation (VAT, excise duties)
**Agriculture**

Single Common Market Organization

Horizontal matters/market mechanisms,

Animal product market (beef, pork, poultry meat, sheep meat)

Management of market measures

Import quota management

Direct support

Agricultural policy analysis/perspectives

CAP

Rural development

Sustainability and quality

Promotion

Consumer perception/image of meat

Legal affairs/infringement procedure,

Simplification

Civil Dialogue Groups

**Health & Consumers**

Animal health

Animal welfare

Import conditions & certification

SPS issues

Biotechnology

Chemicals/contaminants

Nutrition

Food law/hygiene/public health/official controls

Rapid alert for food & feed

Legal affairs/infringement procedure

Food information (labeling)

Advisory groups

**Climate change & Environment**

**Single Market**
What does the UECBV offer its members?

**Interest Representation**

The UECBV Brussels-based office provides members with regular updates and analysis on the upcoming issues or major legislation. This allows UECBV members to actively shape policy at a national level.

The UECBV also supports the future of the meat sector by managing YEMCo – the Young European Meat Committee – an exchange of best practice platform dedicated to young executives and managers of European livestock and meat business companies.

**Information**

UECBV members receive:
- Updated news
- Newsletters, notes and debriefings
- Invitations to meetings of Working Groups, AGMs and other key events – idea exchange forum and proposal force, the UECBV organizes some 30 meetings a year.

**Expertise**

The UECBV presents the latest European developments at AGMs or regional meetings within a member’s country allowing meat traders and industrials of the region / country to perfect their knowledge of Europe and of the meat market.

**Network**

The UECBV acts as a European meat sector industry and trade network, whose basis is an experts’ chain.
How does the UECBV achieve its lobbying goals?

The UECBV has a secretariat in Brussels, close to four of the European institutions.

A staff of eight is available for members, answering their daily questions or implementing the UECBV policy objectives.

**UECBV team comprises:**

- Secretary General: Jean-Luc Mériaux
- Secretary/Translator: Loredana Lazarescu
- Secretary/Translator: Sylviane Bruyneel
- Veterinary Advisor: João Vieira
- Legal Advisor: Ingrid Morvan
- Food Policy & Sustainability Advisor: Angelantonio d’Amario
- Policy Advisor: Pascual Martinez
- Customs & Trade Issues Advisor: Arne Mielken
How does the UECBV work?

The UECBV works in sections and committees.

In these, experts on the relevant subjects among UECBV members of many different countries participate and exchange their views, define concepts, establish positions and advocate points of views as well as inform participants about national and international practices.

When required, a working group can draft a position paper on any issue they deem appropriate for submission to the European institutions.

Regularly, these decision-makers participate in the working group and section meetings allowing participants to have a direct contact with the European policy-maker. Meetings usually take place in Brussels and last either ½ or a day.

Philippe Borremans
President
The UECBV regularly participates in conferences, seminars, press debriefings and lectures with key EU officials and other stakeholders in Brussels and across the EU.

Finally, it is worthwhile mentioning that the UECBV activities are supported by a competent and active Steering Committee and a Plenary Board – driving the work organisation and actions of the UECBV. They are senior experts with a wealth of experience in industrial and trade activities. They are always available, to the benefit of the livestock and meat trades.

### Sections

**International Trade Section**
- Export Committee
- Import Committee

**Livestock Section**
- Animal health & Livestock movement
- International trade

**Meat Industry Section**
- Beef Committee
- Veal Committee
- Sheep meat Committee
- Pig meat Committee
- Horse meat Committee
- Offal Committee

### Horizontal Working Groups

- Image of Meat Network
- Veterinary Issues
- Sustainable Meat Task Force
- Brexit Task Force
- Social Affairs

### Platforms & External Meetings

- Platform on sustainable food production
- Ad-Hoc Platform on EU-Japan trade relations
- EU platform for Processed Animal Proteins (PAPs)
- EU Animal Welfare Platform
- Civil Dialogue Groups / Advisory Groups / Civil Society Dialogue meetings
- Meat Market Observatory

UECBV provides expertise in the framework of the European Commission’s Civil Dialogue Groups (former Advisory Groups) on:

- Pig meat
- Beef meat
- Sheep meat
- Food chain, animal and plant health
- Agricultural quality policy
- Customs Code
- Veterinary issues
- Rural development
The Steering Committee

Mr Philippe Borremans – President

Mr José Friguls – Treasurer, Spain

Mrs Margaret Boanas – Vice-president, UK
Chairwoman International Trade Section

Mr Jos Goebbels – Vice-president, Netherlands
Chairman Meat Industry Section

Mr Heinz Osterloh –
Vice-president, Germany
Chairman Livestock Trade Section

Mrs Clara Fossato, Italy

Mr Knud Buhl, Denmark

Mr Gérard Poyer, France
How does the UECBV support the next generation of young managers in the meat industry?

One of the key additional works of the UECBV is YEMCo – the Young European Meat Committee.

YEMCo stands for young European commercial executives, managers and industrial firms engaged in livestock and meat business across Europe.

Hosting conferences twice a year, informal dinners and other network events, YEMCo is the only prime forum for exchanging ideas and experiences amongst meat business leaders at European level.

The mix of professional visits and conferences allows young managers to look towards new, innovative ways of doing things and may well give them a competitive edge.
During the conferences, young managers analyse all the key areas in relation to the meat industry (e.g. consumption pattern, retail, technology, international trade, food safety etc.).

YEMCO’s activity establishes a wide network of young professionals in the European meat industry, allowing for cross-border cooperation and greater business opportunities. In 2021, YEMCo will celebrate its 20th anniversary.

Becoming a friend of YEMCo is free and not dependent on membership to the UECBV. The only requirement is to represent a meat company. Request to be sent to info@uecbv.eu.

YEMCo works in partnership with Sealed Air.

Visit the YEMCO website: www.uecbv.eu/en/yemco

Please read our 2017 YEMCo conference reports, here and here
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<td>Fédération Belge de la Viande a.s.b.l. (FEBEV)</td>
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<td>Fédération Nationale du Commerce de Bétail (FNCB)</td>
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<td>HUNGARY</td>
<td>Hungarian Meat Industry Federation</td>
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<td>IRELAND</td>
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<td>ITALY</td>
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<td>Associaçao Comercial e Industrial do Funchal - Câmara de Comércio e Industria da Madeira (ACIF)</td>
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<td>Asociatia crescatorilor si exportatorilor de bovine, ovine si porcine din Romania (ACEBOP)</td>
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<td>Asociatia producatorilor de carne de porc din Romania (APCPR) &lt;==&gt; Romanian Pork Producers Association (RPPA)</td>
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<td>RUSSIA</td>
<td>National Meat Association (NMA)</td>
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<td>SPAIN</td>
<td>Asociación Nacional de Industrias de la Carne de España (ANICE)</td>
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<td>SWEDEN</td>
<td>Swedish Meat Industry Association</td>
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Contact

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