



# Ungarn

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# GMO-free Hungary

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# *Legal situation in Hungary*

- GMO Act (XXVII/1998.)  
Last modified in 2006 – coexistence regulations
- GMO Advisory body (17 members: academy, govt., NGO delegates)
- only field trials – no commercial planting



## *Mon810 moratorium in Hungary*

- 20 January 2005: Ministry of Agriculture banned the cultivation of Mon810 maize
- November 2006: Parliament resolution supports the moratorium  
*(all the 5 parties voted yes – unique political consensus, key role: GM Round Table)*



# *Arguments for the Mon810 moratorium*

## **a) Legal arguments:**

At the time of the notification procedure Hungary was not member of the EU.

→ Hungary was unable to exercise the participative and control rights under the EU Directives

→ The environmental risk assesment did not cover the Pannonian Biogeographical Region.



# *Arguments for the Mon810 moratorium II.*

## **b) Scientific arguments:**

- Extremely high production of ~Cry1A-toxin per hectare
- Very slow decomposition of ~Cry1A-toxin in stubble residues
- High mortality of hatching caterpillars of protected butterflies exposed to MON810 pollen  
*Inachis io* (European peacock) 20%, *Vanessa atalanta* (Red Admiral)



# *The Commission attempts to lift the moratorium*

- September 2006: 51% percent of the votes supported Hungary
- **20 Feb 2007: The first victory for Hungary**  
The member states rejected the commission proposal (262 votes – *qualified majority*)



## 2009: another attempt of the Commission

- January: Commission puts the HU & AT moratorium on the Council agenda
- 2 February: Nation wide coalition for GMO-free Hungary (*green NGOs, farmers groups, bee keepers, political parties*)
- 20 February: demonstration at the Czech Embassy





## 2 March 2009: Second victory!

- Council meeting: the Member states supported again the Hungarian moratorium

*(272 votes – only UK, SE, FI,NL,EE, supported the Commission's proposal)*





# Thank you!

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