## Europe's hay meadows in decline What are we losing and what can we do?

## A test case for EU agriculture and biodiversity policy

09.30 – 11.00 Thursday 8 November 2012 European Parliament, Rue Wiertz 60, B-1047 Brussels Hosted by SÓGOR Csaba MEP

Starting with a video message from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

Traditionally managed hay meadows full of flowers, insects and other animal life are among the most biodiverse places in Europe and a source of joy, inspiration and beauty to everybody. They are a living part of our shared culture and heritage. They provide many environmental, social and economic benefits. They are protected by EU policy and subsidies. Yet they continue to disappear, through abandonment, intensification or conversion to other uses.

> This policy seminar will discuss how European institutions can protect these treasures and support the farmers who manag them more effectively.

Please confirm your participation by sending your name and organisation to Richard Kovács <u>richard.kovacs@europarl.europa.eu</u> by 1 November. Please note that if you need a badge for entry to the Parliament, you must send your full name, date of birth and nationality, ID type (passport, ID card, driving license, etc), number of that ID, postal address (as is in the ID) and bring the ID with you.



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