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ELEMENT

A European Leap?
The History of EC/EU Environmental
Policy, 1980-2000

A European Leap? The History of EC/EU Environmental Policy, 1980-2000 (ELEMENT)

Case study 4: “Greening” the Common Agricultural Policy (PhD thesis)

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As part of the [ELEMENT](#) research project, this dissertation examines how notions of “environment”, being a relatively recent and shifting concept, impacted the EC/EU’s well-established Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The CAP has been the EC’s flagship policy – both in terms of allocated resources as well as political, administrative and intellectual EC capabilities – for several decades from the 1960s onwards, which complicated reforms. While particular attention will be paid to the role of member state actors in CAP negotiations, especially to those from France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, agricultural and environmental pressure groups are also addressed as key actors. Importantly, the project aims to transcend the boundaries of the EC/EU, relating the debates and developments surrounding the “greening” of the CAP to global reform trajectories discernible in GATT trade negotiations (1986-93) and US regulations.