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Latest news from the Lascaux Program



Several scientific meetings took place during the last few weeks, some of them initiated by Lascaux and some others that Lascaux took part in.

First of all, some members of the Program drafted a questionnaire and a report on

“agriculture and the requirements of sustainable development”. To this end, they gathered several times in order to prepare together the documents that will be presented at the [XXVIst European Council for rural law in Bucarest](#) from September 21 to 24th, 2011.

Besides, François COLLART DUTILLEUL, Director of the Lascaux Program, participated on May 13th to the [European Discussions of the Delegation of French Bars in Brussels](#). During his intervention, he raised several issues in relation to European agro-food law.

On May 16th and 17th, the members of the Lascaux Program took part in the **Journées Guépin**, organized by the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme of Nantes. This year, the event was held under the scientific coordination of Fabien TRIPIER and the discussion focused on the **notion of risk** (see the [presentation](#) and the [program](#) of the event). The participants discussed the place reserved for law in the management of the risk, whether in the food, bank or finance sectors, especially in a context of crisis that inevitably refers to a number of questions related to poverty.

On May 23rd, the PhD students presented the result of their work to the members of the **thesis committee**: François COLLART DUTILLEUL, Director of Lascaux, Catherine DEL CONT, Carine BERNAULT and Valérie PIRONON.

New events are also planned for next June. In addition to a [workshop on food law and development](#) held at the MSH on June 10, François COLLART DUTILLEUL and [Otto HOSPES](#), Professor at the University of Wageningen, The Netherlands and associate researcher for Lascaux, will host a **seminar on these issues** at the University of Nantes on June 15th and 16th.

Launch of Lascaux's blog

The members of the LASCAUX Program inaugurated a few weeks ago **a new blog** that will be managed collectively.

Since April 5th, they have been taking turns to submit to their readers short articles on topical issues and reading advices in relation to the thematic areas of the Program.

For example, Brice HUGOU recently wrote [an article on speculation in financial markets related to agricultural commodities](#); Camille COLLART DUTILLEUL focused on [the objective of transparency imposed by European law in restaurants and eateries](#). Then, Pierre-Etienne BOUILLOT proposed a short report of Mali's former Minister of Culture [Aminata TRAORE's conference](#), which took place on April 13th at the University of Nantes. Finally, Juanjuan SUN wrote [a note on food security in China](#) and Sylvestre YAMTHIEU drafted a short paper entitled [“What law for a world without hunger?”](#).

Worldwide agri-food activities and news ([click here](#) for further information about current news)

Because of the **French presidency of the G20**, the emphasis has been placed in recent weeks on issues such as the volatility of agricultural markets and the prevention of food crises. Improvements of the transparency of agricultural markets, a regulation of financial markets in commodity derivatives as well as a general policy against speculation have been recommended. Bruno LE MAIRE, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Affairs and Planning, gathered, on May 3rd, representatives of producers, processors and distributors for the signing of [a voluntary agreement](#) designed to provide a better impact on the volatility of commodity prices in the livestock sector.

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