

# European quality schemes



## PDO | Protected Designation of Origin

A PDO identifies an agricultural product whose quality or characteristics are essentially due to a particular geographical environment, and the production steps of which all take place in the defined geographical area.



## PGI | Protected Geographical Indication

A PGI identifies an agricultural product whose given quality, reputation or other characteristic is attributable to its geographical origin, and at least one of the production steps of which take place in the defined geographical area.



## TSG | Traditional Specialty Guaranteed

A TSG identifies a product whose specific qualities are linked to a composition, a mode of production or a processing method corresponding to a traditional practice.



## Organic Farming

Organic farming is a system of food production that combines best environmental practices, a high level of biodiversity, the preservation of natural resources, the application of high animal welfare standards and the use of natural substances and processes.

## OQT | Optional Quality Term

The OQT "mountain product" identifies a product whose raw materials come essentially from mountain areas and, in the case of processed products, the processing also takes place in mountain areas.

## Contacts

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# AREPO

Association of European Regions for Products of Origin

## About us

AREPO is a network of **Regions** and **producer associations** that deals with EU quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs.

The network was founded in May 2004 by 16 Regions from 6 European countries.

- AREPO now represents **35 Regions** from 8 different European countries and over 850 producer associations, for more than **60% of European geographical indications**;
- The main objective of the network is to promote and defend the **interests of producers and consumers** of European Regions involved in the valorisation of quality and origin products.

AREPO finds a balance between the **interest of the territories** and those of **producers** and **consumers**

## Our member Regions

### France

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes  
Bourgogne-Franche-Comté  
Bretagne  
Centre-Val de Loire  
Corse  
Grand Est  
Nouvelle-Aquitaine  
Occitanie  
Pays de la Loire  
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

### Italy

Emilia-Romagna  
Friuli Venezia Giulia  
Lombardia  
Piemonte  
Puglia  
Toscana  
Valle d'Aosta  
Veneto

### Greece

Attiki  
Ditiki Makedonia  
Épiros  
Kentriki Makedonia  
Kriti  
Thessalia

### Spain

Andalucía  
Catalunya  
Castilla y León  
Extremadura  
Euskadi

### Germany

Baden-Württemberg  
Bayern  
Hessen

### Portugal

Açores

### Poland

Malopolska

### Croatia

Istria (obs.)

## Our missions

- To defend and promote the European quality schemes:**  
The Geographical Indications -GIs, namely Protected Designations of Origin -PDOs- and Protected Geographical Indications -PGIs; the Traditional Specialties Guaranteed -TSGs; the Organic Farming; and the Optional Quality Terms -OQT, as "Mountain product";
- To support and strengthen** the position of these quality schemes in the European policies;
- To protect the producers** guaranteeing the valorisation and protection of their products on the European market, as well as in third countries;
- To protect the consumers** through an appropriate and transparent communication.

## Our strengths

- A consolidated network of Regions and professionals that generates **negotiated** and **constructive policy guidelines**;
- A **multinational** and **multistakeholder expertise** on quality policy;
- Solid relations** with the European Institutions;
- A **permanent** representation office in Brussels;
- A **Scientific Council** composed of experts from the universities and research centres of our member Regions;
- A constant **expansion of the network** to include the position and expertise of the northern and eastern Regions of the EU.

Our network is recognised by the European Institutions as **one of the main stakeholders in the field of geographical indications**