

Official Controls in the Food Chain

Study Programme: MIMV Curricular Year: 5th Semester: 9th Optional Credits: 2,5 ECTS

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1. Contact hours: Lectures – 28 h

2. Objectives

Students should be able to:

- Understand the functioning of international organizations that establish standards in the SPS (Sanitary and Phytosanitary) domain.
- Understand European and national legislation related to official control systems applicable to the food chain.
- Define, describe the scope, and identify the modalities of official control in the food chain.
- Identify the competent authorities for carrying out official controls.
- Understand the official control plans applicable to various segments of the food chain.
- Identify and classify the operators involved.
- Describe the application of official control to:
 - Animal feed producers;
 - Production animals (milk, meat, eggs);
 - Primary production of non-animal origin products;
 - First and second processing industries;
 - Wholesale and retail trade of foodstuffs;
 - Import and export controls;
- Understand the typology of administrative offenses and criminal infractions.

3. Programme

The program content includes:

- General principles of international trade and international framework of SPS systems
- Legal provisions – Regulation (EU) 2017/625 obligations and preparation of official control plans
- Official control modalities – Emergency and alert control plans
- Rules for preparing control reports, notifying operators, and reporting infractions
- Official control (O.C.) of animal feed and CAA analytical plan
- O.C. in Primary Production: poultry and eggs
- O.C. in Primary Production: milk (cattle and small ruminants)
- O.C. in Primary Production: swine production
- O.C. of Primary Production: foodstuffs of non-animal origin PCPP
- O.C. of the food industry and wholesale trade of foodstuffs of non-animal origin PCAI
- O.C. of the food industry and wholesale trade of foodstuffs of animal origin
- O.C. of transport, distribution, and retail trade of foodstuffs and establishments serving food and drinks
- O.C. Import of products of animal origin
- O.C. Import of products of non-animal origin
- O.C. Export - qualification and certification
- Analytical plans supporting O.C. (Surveillance, monitoring, and control of microbiological and chemical hazards)
- Emergency plans and operation of alert and administrative support networks

- Analytical plans supporting O.C. PNCA
- Administrative offenses and criminal infractions
- Review and conclusions
- Written Exam

4. Bibliography

- Class presentation slides.
- Legislation – Regulation (EU) No. 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 (142 pages).
- Official European Commission website on official controls:
https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/official_controls/legislation_en
- BTSF website on official controls:
<http://www.cvent.com/events/btsf-on-the-new-official-controls-regulation/event-summary-4ed08b2de7fa4955afe8d2875dc03427.aspx>
- EU Commission (March 2017) - Statement by Commissioner Andriukaitis on the Adoption of the Regulation on Official Controls.
- EU Commission (April 2017) - Questions & Answers on Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2017/625 (Official Controls Regulation).
- Jukes David (2019). Foodlaw-Reading. The University of Reading, UK
<http://www.foodlaw.rdg.ac.uk/control-eu.htm>
- Van der Meulen Bernd M.J. (2018). Enforcement of EU agri-food law Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health, and plant protection products. ERA Forum (2019) 19:623–641.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12027-018-0532-5>

4. Assessment

Knowledge assessment will be carried out through a written test (graded on a scale of 0 to 20). The final written test will include three types of questions: true/false statements, multiple choice, and short answers, covering all the modules taught.