

How Monsanto Plans to Get Europeans to Eat GMOs

A close-up photograph of a silver tray filled with several red velvet cupcakes. Each cupcake is topped with a swirl of light blue frosting and decorated with small American flag toppers on thin sticks. The cupcakes are arranged in a circular pattern on the tray, and the background is dark and out of focus.

Alexis Baden-Mayer, Political Director
Organic Consumers Association
Civil Society Symposium on the Trans-
Atlantic Free Trade Agreement

MONSANTO LOSES IN EUROPE

PARTAY!



MONSANTO LOSES IN EUROPE

Monsanto's been telling Europe:

“We'll only sell biotech seeds where they enjoy broad farmer support, broad political support and a functioning regulatory system.”

PARTAY!



MONSANTO LOSES IN EUROPE

“We’ve come to the conclusion that this has no broad acceptance at the moment.”

PARTAY!

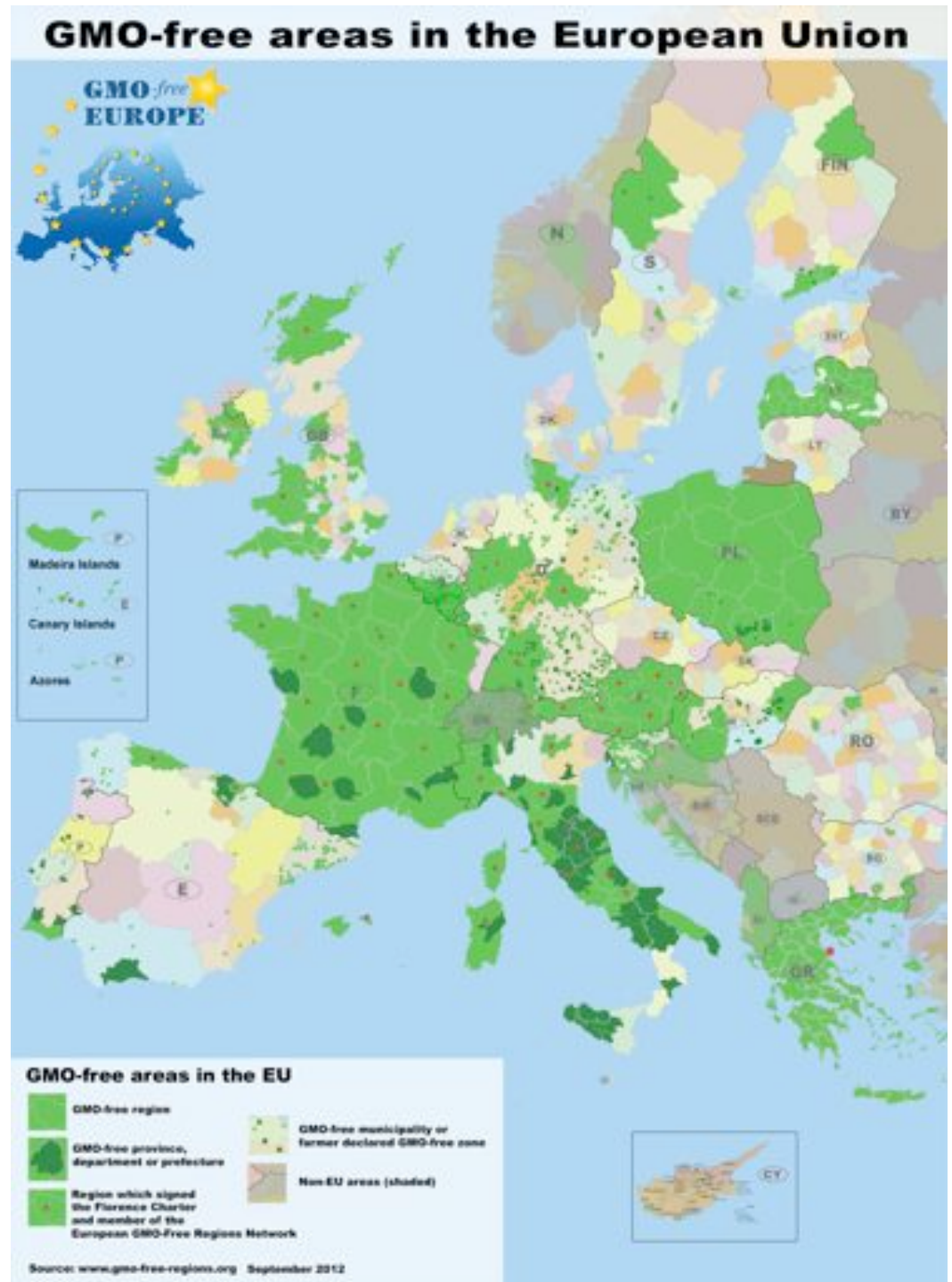


“Right now the media is flooded with reports that Monsanto has stopped the marketing of GMO seeds in Germany and the E.U. That is not correct...”



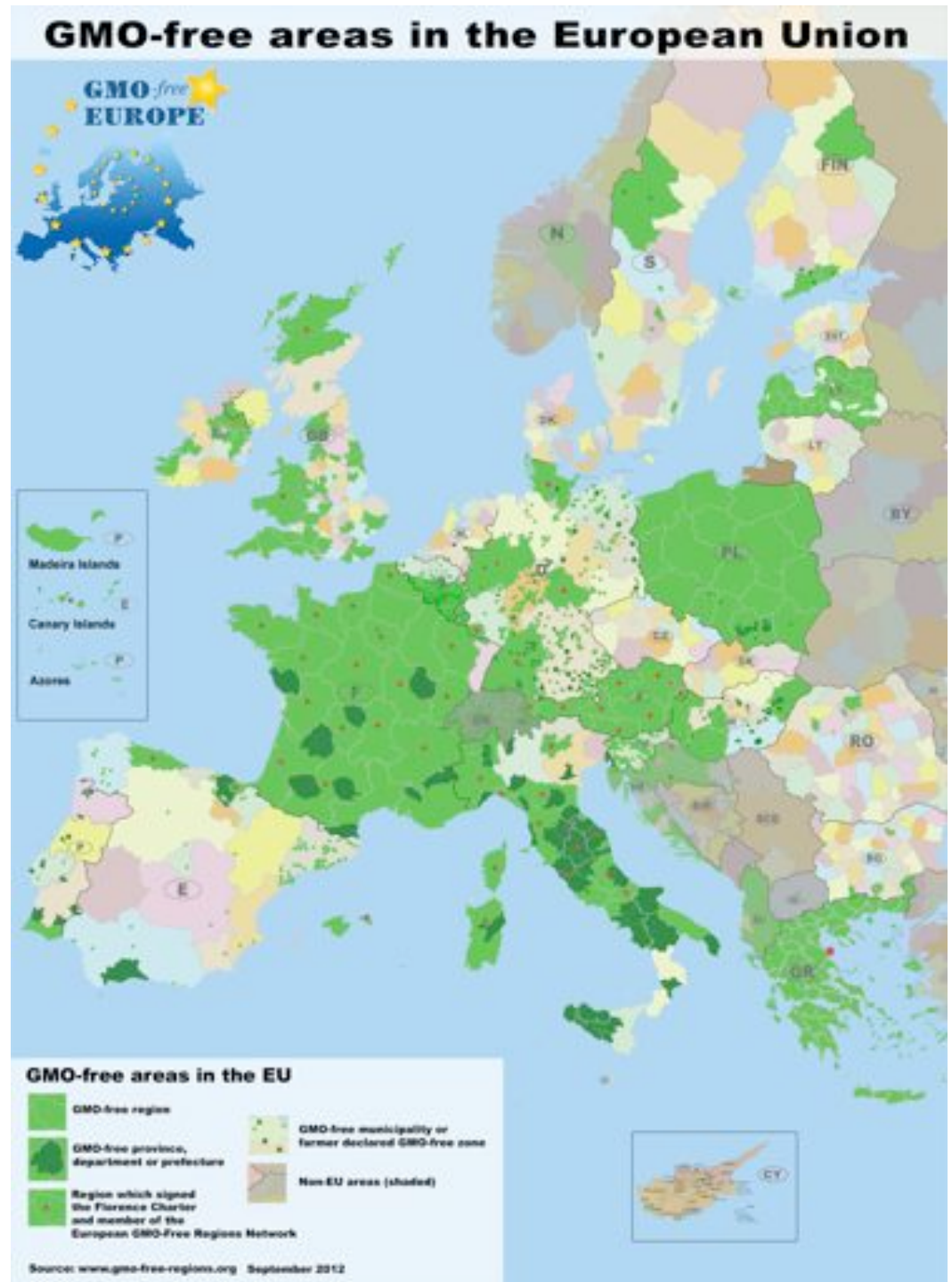
Monsanto's Plan A:

**Overturn Europe's
local and national
bans on GMOs via
the European
Commission.**



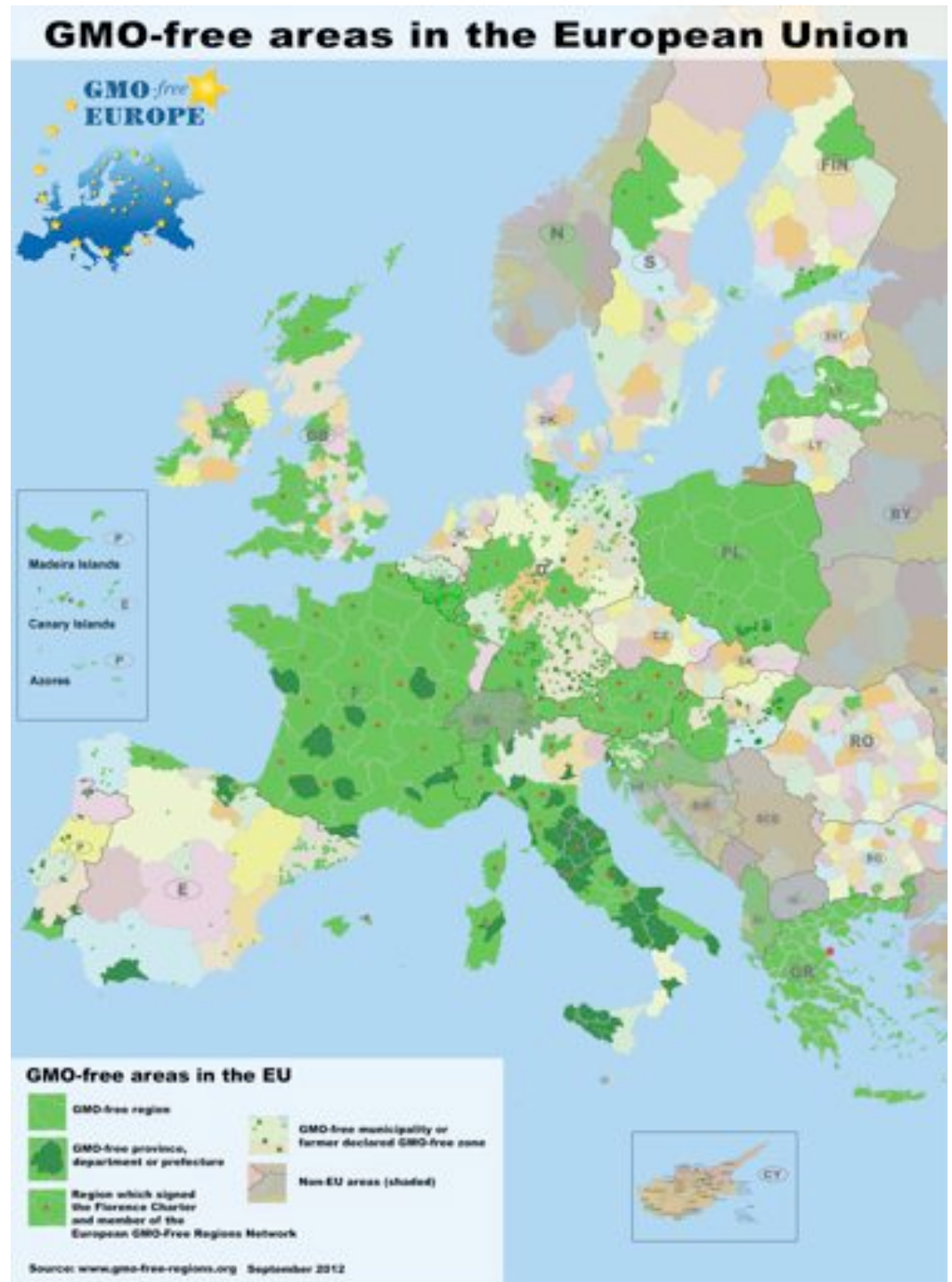
Monsanto's Plan B:

**Overturn Europe's
local and national
bans on GMOs via
the WTO.**



Monsanto's Plan C:

Overturn Europe's local and national bans on GMOs via a transatlantic trade deal.



THE  HILL

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Congress Blog

Where lawmakers come to blog

Transatlantic trade talks: Lobbying opportunities through the back door

By Andreas Geiger, managing partner, Alber and Geiger - 03/25/13 11:00 AM ET

“U.S. seed companies that for a decade have been struggling to break the deadlock over the authorization for the cultivation of their seeds now will be presented with **the ultimate opportunity to change the entire process to suit their needs.”**

Manufacturers react to announcement on US free trade negotiations

Press

Lisa M

Deputy

Date: 15/02/2013

For the EU food and drink industry, regulatory barriers remain the biggest obstacle to trade with the US. The negotiations should focus on delivering solutions to existing problems that hinder EU exports and should also help to avoid any new barriers, especially in the context of the US Food Safety Modernisation Act. Facilitating EU imports from US through recognising the need to adopt a technical solution for low level presence of genetically engineered crops that have been approved in US but not yet in EU could also significantly contribute to a mutually beneficial trade deal.



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Obama calls for start of 'comprehensive' trade talks with EU



Published 13 February 2013, updated 14 February 2013

Tags: bilateral trade, Obama, State of the Union, trade, US-EU trade

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President Barack Obama on Tuesday (12 February) called for talks on a far-reaching free trade agreement with the European Union, throwing his weight behind a deal that would encompass half the world's economic output.

ADVERTISING



The EU recently lifted bans on imports of US live swine and beef washed with lactic acid to help build confidence that it can address US agricultural concerns.

Lawmakers want EU to lift GMO ban

Leaders of the Senate Finance Committee, in a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk earlier on Tuesday, welcomed those steps but said any agreement must also reduce EU restrictions on genetically modified crops, poultry treated with chlorine washes to kill pathogens and meat from animals fed the growth stimulant ractopamine.



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Everything on the table in US-EU free trade deal: US

14 February 2013, 17:23 CET

Health issues linked to trade – like biotechnology, sanitation and genetically modified organisms – will be tied to accepted, science-based standards.

US Trade Representative Ron Kirk told reporters in Washington that even politically sensitive issues like agricultural and food products or data flows, would be covered in the talks.

"For us, everything is on the table, across all sectors, including across the agricultural sector, whether it is GMOs or other issues," Kirk said.

“The United States have repeatedly raised concerns and objections with the EU regarding the EU’s biotechnology regulations and legislation and their detrimental effect on U.S. exports.”

2013 REPORT ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE



UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

The U.S. State Department is actively engaged in pushing GMOs on countries that don't want them, and about 40% of this effort is targeted at countries in Europe.



BIOTECH AMBASSADORS

How the U.S. State Department Promotes the Seed Industry's Global Agenda

Now we can read
the State
Department in
its own words
complaining
about...

... widespread
“consumer
resistance” to
GMOs in
Germany.



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How the U.S. State Department Promotes the Seed Industry's Global Agenda

... “absolutely no demand from consumers or producers” for biotech crops in Austria.



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... how hard they worked trying to “eventually wear down Hungary’s resistance,” and how disappointed they were when the public showed “no sign of changing their minds about the ban on biotech corn.”



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... the effort they're making to “limit the influence of EU negative views on biotechnology.”



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Monsanto has helped embassy and USTR officials target their diplomatic efforts by providing information on which EU countries Monsanto feels are pro-biotech, anti-biotech and undecided.



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The embassy in **France** proposed hosting a conference highlighting how biotech can “help address food shortages in the developing world” as a tactic to counteract France’s negative public opinion of GE crops.



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Spain cultivated more biotech crops than any EU member state, making it “worth continuing to target” to encourage acceptance of GE crops and foods in Europe.



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The US pressed Romania to join the EU with its “biotech industry firmly secured” so that it could “play an active role in the EU to preserve biotech options for farmers.”



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The State Department urged **“Bulgaria to become a successful model and advocate of agbiotech within the EU.”** In 2008, Bulgaria supported a European Commission proposal to approve genetically engineered crop varieties.



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In 2007, the embassy reported that the **Czech Republic** supported the approval of two genetically engineered corn varieties and genetically engineered sugar beets in the EU.



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The State Department biotech strategy cables reiterated the effort to “continue to seek full EU compliance with the 2006 WTO ruling.”

In France, the U.S. embassy “support[ed] aggressive retaliation against WTO-illegal trade barriers maintained by the European Union.”



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Ambassador Islam Siddiqui, Chief Agriculture Negotiator, U.S. Trade Representative

- **Vice President of CropLife America**
- **In Clinton's USDA he proposed that GMOs, sewage sludge and irradiation should be allowed in organic.**
- **Obama fundraiser**

