PRESS RELEASE

FoodDrinkEurope appoints Kate Wilson as Director of Public Affairs, Communications & Partnerships

Brussels, 22 October 2026

FoodDrinkEurope is pleased to announce the appointment of Kate Wilson as its new Director of Public Affairs, Communications & Partnerships. Kate will lead the organisation's engagement with policymakers and stakeholders, helping to advance the competitiveness, resilience and sustainability of Europe's largest manufacturing industry – the food and drink industry.

Kate brings to FoodDrinkEurope extensive experience across the Brussels policy landscape. Throughout her career, she has worked at the heart of EU policymaking, including in the European Parliament and Council, and in a range of industry organisations and companies, spanning the bioeconomy, agriculture, and manufacturing sectors. Most recently, she held a senior public affairs role in European agri-food business Bayer.

Dirk Jacobs, Director General of FoodDrinkEurope, said: *"We are delighted to welcome Kate to FoodDrinkEurope. Her deep understanding of the European policy environment, combined with her experience building partnerships and shaping policy outcomes across complex value chains will be a tremendous asset as we continue to champion a competitive, resilient, and sustainable food and drink sector in Europe."*

Kate Wilson said: *"I'm excited to join the brilliant team at FoodDrinkEurope and for the opportunity to represent Europe's largest manufacturing sector. This industry is central to the EU's economic prosperity and food is a core part of our cultural heritage. I look forward to working with colleagues, members and partners to strengthen its voice and to shape the conditions for its long-term success."*

Note to the editors

FoodDrinkEurope is the organisation of Europe's food and drink industry, the largest manufacturing sector in Europe, a leading employer and a key contributor to the economy (310,000+ companies, 99% SMEs, 4.8 million employees).

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