



**TRIPTOLEMOS FOUNDATION STATEMENT on fake news and
recommendations in food**



The undersigned, scientists and institutions of the overall food system, in production as well as the types of food consumption and its relation to health have found that some media, both on and off line frequently present false and non corroborated information based on pseudoscience or, in other words, lacking scientific facts, related to the global food system.

This triggers confusion and feeds fake news as well as certain new ways of thinking that condition food behaviour in an environment where science is often questioned, especially in nutritional or food safety issues (environment, sustainability...), all in contradiction to the rules and recommendations issued by those institutions and international organizations devoted to food and health sciences.

Such reference institutions, based on scientific research with constant validation of their results, set up limits and contrasted methods for the use of food ingredients & additives as well as phytosanitary products aimed to preserve food safety and consumer health throughout his lifetime. Science is not static but updates its knowledge constantly and **once the hypotheses are confirmed these are integrated into the regulations, national and international.**

Such institutions also look out for the security of those consumers who due to their convictions like to eat food products with different ingredients and technologies. Therefore they also set up specific regulations, always on a scientific base, for such specific products (bio, vegan, organic, etc.).

For all the aforementioned reasons, **we condemn fake news as well as all those commercial strategies that, one way or another put the rigour of the existing regulations and legislation in general under question**, either by creating unfounded alarmism on specific issues or suggesting dropping some of the established permitted levels of usage for certain products, with a clear attack on the balance of the necessary ingredients to ensure food safety. With unfair practices, sometimes with economic benefits, underestimating both scientific reliability and the competence of international organizations, producing confusion in the consumer.

Such a practice also favours waste & loss of food which goes against food safety as well as the sustainability of the global food system and undermines trust.

Science is based on demonstrating facts, explaining mechanisms and checking that they are repeatable. Its disclosure is carried out through journals and the media which are evaluated by experts prior to publishing. Pseudoscience is based on opinions or emotions spread without previous evaluation.



Competent authorities take great care of the consumer's health along throughout the whole food chain, regardless of their preferences, to ensure the same safety level for all possible choices.

Science as an ethical duty is at the service of humanity and all its actions are related to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals issued by the United Nations, that include 5 fundamental areas such as: Food, Water, Health, Education and responsible Consumption which are at the same time structural axes of the System.

Therefore the lack of confidence in science and its discredit around the multiple aspects of the global food system is totally unfounded. Moreover, to disseminate fake news on contents and properties of food or to promote alternative solutions without any rigour is negatively affecting the whole of society.

Triptolemos Foundation

ADHESION

If you wish to adhere to this statement, you can do it through this link:

[Statement Adhesion](#)