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"A Critical Assessment of Public Consultations on GMOs in the European Union"

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Ahteensuu, Marko, and Helena Siipi. "A Critical Assessment of Public Consultations on GMOs in the European Union." *Environmental Values* 18, no. 2 (2009): 129–52. doi: 10.3197/096327109X438035 . Republished by the Environment & Society Portal, Multimedia Library. http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/7497.

The paper highlights shortcomings in the public consultation practices on the deliberate release and placing on the market of GMOs in the European Union and in one of its member countries, Finland. It is argued that current GMO consultation practices do not meet the aims and objectives on which their introduction is typically justified. Specifically, they do not serve democracy, increase consensus, enable better decisions to be made, or establish trust. We conclude that there is a clear need for the active development of the GMO consultation practices and for a further critical discussion on the ethical and socio-political foundation of public engagement.

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Print date: 08 November 2026 05:53:02

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