

**PROTECTION OF CONSUMERS BY MICROBIAL RISK
MITIGATION THROUGH COMBATING SEGREGATION
OF EXPERTISE – PROMISE PROJECT**

S. Saner^{1*}, M. Erşin², M. Wagner³, B. Appel⁴, G. Barker⁵, P. Skandamis⁶, K. Jordan⁷, D. Rodriguez-Lazaro⁸, I. Rychlik⁹, S. Smole¹⁰, B. Nagy¹¹, T. Kucha¹², A. Nicolau¹³, A. Moser¹⁴, E. Prukner-Radovic¹⁵, C. Unger¹⁶, M. Campbell¹⁷, A. Vakalopoulos¹⁸, C. Biltiu¹⁹, Z. Sirotna²⁰

¹⁾ Kalite Sistem Laboratory Group, Istanbul Turkey; ²⁾ Turkish Food Safety Association, Istanbul Turkey; ³⁾ University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna, Austria; ⁴⁾ Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, Germany; ⁵⁾ Institute of Food Research, Norwich, UK; ⁶⁾ Agricultural University of Athens, Greece; ⁷⁾ Teagasc Moorepark Food Research Centre, Fermoy, Co. Cork, Ireland; ⁸⁾ University of Burgos, Spain; ⁹⁾ Veterinary Research Institute Brno, Czech Republic; ¹⁰⁾ University of Ljubljana, Slovenia; ¹¹⁾ Veterinary Medical Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary; ¹²⁾ Výskumný ústav potravinársky, Slovak Republic; ¹³⁾ University Dunarea de Jos Galati, Romania; ¹⁴⁾ RTD Services, Austria; ¹⁵⁾ University of Zagreb, Croatia; ¹⁶⁾ Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety, Austria; ¹⁷⁾ Food Safety Authority, Ireland; ¹⁸⁾ Hellenic Food Authority, Greece; ¹⁹⁾ National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority, Romania; ²⁰⁾ Public Health Authority, Slovak Republic

In Europe, concerns about food are moving away from issues of ensuring an adequate supply and choice of products towards issues of food safety, animal and plant welfare, labeling and traceability. These changes in emphasis have been shaped by scientific and technological advances within the food chain on the one hand, and health or environmental concerns on the other hand. PROMISE is an EU funded research project with the objective of tackling common food safety threats and hence protecting the European consumers. The PROMISE scientific approach focuses on microbiological risks and its mitigation. Much is known in the EU-27 and candidate countries on classical routes of transmission of pathogens within food chains. Nevertheless, border controls (at airports, border checkpoints etc.) seem to be ineffective barriers at preventing import of food items (potentially containing pathogens) within the food chains. Risk profiling, as implemented by the PROMISE consortium, associated with antimicrobial resistance and prevalence of pathogens of concern, in various foods from different Member States, identify emerging risks or potential sources of increased risk compared to what is already established in the literature and addressed by the national food safety authorities. Within PROMISE project occurrence of certain targeted pathogens in foods were determined, technical training workshops were organised and researchers mobility programme was implemented. Additionally all e-learning materials of the training workshops are presented in PROMISE Academy website.

Keywords: Food safety, food chain, microbiological risks, transmission of pathogens

* Corresponding author: saners@kalitesistem.com