



THE US FARM BILL

Corporate Power and
Structural Racialization
in the United States
Food System

The **US Farm Bill** has been the cornerstone of food and agricultural legislation since its inception in 1933. Its legislative outcomes are implemented by numerous institutions that shape and influence all stages of the US food system.

This report provides an **in-depth analysis** of the US Farm Bill with a particular focus on how Farm Bill policies are shaped by corporate power and how such policies affect the lives of marginalized communities.

In order to support coalition-building efforts for the growth of an inclusive, broad-based movement in the United States, this report provides a thorough analysis, a set of comprehensive policy interventions, and **a vision for a food sovereignty movement** that puts belonging at its center.

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The Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society brings together researchers, community stakeholders, policymakers, and communicators to identify and challenge the barriers to an inclusive, just, and sustainable society and create transformative change. The Institute serves as a national hub of a vibrant network of researchers and community partners and takes a leadership role in translating, communicating, and facilitating research, policy and strategic engagement. The Haas Institute advances research and policy related to marginalized people while essentially touching all who benefit from a truly diverse, fair, and inclusive society.

This report was produced by researchers in the Haas Institute's Global Justice Program, whose focus is on cross-sectoral themes that connect the local to the global. Global Justice researchers frame their work with the question of how to successfully build inclusive, democratic, and culturally diverse societies within a global context, promoting mechanisms and tools that can build the power of marginalized groups to influence action at local, national, and international levels.

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PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

Provide a comprehensive critique of the Farm Bill and its role in the production and maintenance of structural barriers to socio-economic well-being for communities of color and low-income communities.

Locate the Farm Bill—and its role in the relations of food production, processing, distribution, service, and consumption—within the larger context of corporate influence in the US and globally, and identify how exactly the Farm Bill is beholden to, and constituted by, such interests.

Impart historical background on the relationship between the Farm Bill and corporate influence, and on the relationship both have to structural racialization, poverty, labor, immigration, and environmental degradation.

Contribute a comprehensive analysis of the expected outcomes of the Farm Bill and its limitations with regard to what is required for a fair and equitable food system.

Put forth a set of short term policy interventions that promote racial/ethnic, gender, and economic equity, and uplift all peoples against structural racialization and corporate control of the food system.

Assess the utility of the Farm Bill as a strategic, long term rallying point for addressing persistent racial/ethnic, gender, and economic injustice within and outside the food system; investigate the contradictions built into Farm Bill legislation that complicate such efforts.

Help identify points of convergence for building a broad-based food sovereignty movement by offering tools and resources to communities, advocates, practitioners, and researchers from across anti-austerity, feminist, environmental, climate, food justice, labor and immigration, food system workers, and human rights movements that collectively work toward racial/ethnic, gender and economic justice.