

## ***Interactive comment on “Assessing and analysing the impact of land take pressures on agricultural land” by Ece Aksoy et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #1**

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Theme of the manuscript is in the scope of the journal and is of interest to the scientific community. Methodological approach of the study is adequate and - with a few exception - is clearly presented. The presentation of land cover flows (Table 1) should be clarified by explaining the departure land cover class (arable) as well.

Results are mostly new findings, discussed in comparison to previous studies on the field. In certain sections the comparative text is a bit wordy; simpler and clearer discussion is preferred. (eg. "The impacts of land take on regions in southern France are also already described and explained in the EEA report on urban sprawl (EEA, 2006)").

Some of the findings are not supported by facts. For example land take in Central and Eastern European countries is attributed to the EU accession of these countries. To my knowledge, land take was already a very significant process in these countries before

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joining the EU. Please check and verify.

Citations in the text and the reference list should be revised as well. (eg. 2006 EC Communication "Towards a Thematic Strategy on Soil Protection" vs. Soil Thematic Strategy; CSI 014/LSI 001; Green Week 2011).

Figures are informative and mostly OK, but there are also errors. Country abbreviations on figure 3 are switched one space to the right. Please correct. Maps on Figure 4 and 6 are too small. Consider presenting these in large maps. (As the journal is primarily uses on-line distribution, this should not be a problem. Please check it with the editors.)

With these minor revision needs I suggest the paper to be accepted for publication.

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Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., doi:10.5194/se-2016-154, 2016.

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