

Revision of EU legislation on Food Information to Consumers

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

Target Group

All EU and non-EU citizens and stakeholders are welcome to contribute to this consultation.

Objective of the consultation

The public consultation aims to collect the views of citizens, professional and non-professional stakeholders about proposals for the revision of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers (FIC Regulation) in the following areas: Front of pack nutrition labelling/ Nutrient profiling, Origin labelling, Date marking and Alcoholic beverage labelling.

The proposed revision to the FIC regulation

The European Commission adopted the “Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system” on 20 May 2020, as part of the European Green Deal. This strategy aims to reduce the environmental and climate footprint of the EU food system and facilitate the shift to healthy and sustainable diets. The strategy targets the entire food chain and describes, amongst others, the need to stimulate sustainable food processing and reformulation, to further empower consumers through labelling information and to reduce food waste. The proposed revision of the FIC Regulation will address this need by considering:

- Front of pack nutrition labelling and nutrient profiling criteria to restrict claims: a proposal for EU harmonized and mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling and for the setting of ‘nutrient profiling’ criteria, which are thresholds of nutrients above or below which nutrition and health claims on foods are restricted.
- Origin labelling: An extension of mandatory origin indications to certain products.
- Date marking: A revision of the EU rules on date marking (‘use by’ and ‘best before’).

The European Commission adopted the Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan on 3 February 2021. One of its areas of action concerns sustainable cancer prevention, including by reducing harmful alcohol consumption. The proposed revision of the FIC Regulation will address this concern by considering:

- Alcoholic beverage labelling: The introduction of mandatory indications of the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration for all alcoholic beverages.

Where are we in the process of revising the FIC Regulation

Inception Impact Assessments for the above-stated FIC Regulation revisions were published for public consultation between 23 December 2020 - 04 February 2021 (for nutrient profiles and front-of-pack nutritional labelling, origin labelling and date marking), and 24 June 2021 - 22 July 2021 (for alcoholic beverage ingredient and nutrition declaration labelling). Feedback from these consultations has been used to further refine understanding of the problems and potential policy options and their impacts.

The European Commission will base its revision of the FIC Regulation on a full impact assessment of the different options. The impact assessment will also consider the setting of nutrient profiles as provided in Regulation (EC) No. 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods.

This Public Consultation will contribute to the evidence that will inform the impact assessment for the revision of the FIC Regulation. It is part of a broader consultation strategy. Additional consultation activities will include targeted surveys and interviews with stakeholder organisations and Member State Authorities, to gather more detailed and technical information.

A FIC Regulation proposal is expected to be made by the end of 2022.

How to contribute

Your views are important. Please tell us what you think and fill in the online questionnaire. The questionnaire includes questions on:

- Front-of-pack nutrition labelling and the setting of nutrient profiles to restrict the use of claims on foods – Questions 1 to 5
- Alcoholic beverage labelling (list of ingredients and nutrition declaration) – Questions 6 to 9
- Date marking – Questions 10 to 14
- Origin labelling – Questions 15 to 20

The questionnaire for citizens is accessible in all official EU languages. As there may be delays in translating replies submitted in some languages, contributions in English are welcome, as they will help to process the survey more swiftly.

You can pause at any time and continue later. Once you have submitted your answers, you will be able to download a copy of your completed questionnaire. Questions marked with an asterisk (*) are compulsory. Those who are interested have the option to develop their responses in a more detailed manner.

Please note that in this questionnaire, we do not intend to obtain data relating to identifiable persons. Therefore, in case you will describe a particular experience or situation, please do it in a way that will not allow linking to a particular individual, whether it is you or somebody else.

Received contributions will be published on the Internet. It is important that you read the specific privacy statement attached to this consultation for information on how your personal data and contribution will be dealt with.

Related links

Further information on the prospective revision and impact assessment can be found at https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling-and-nutrition/food-information-consumers-legislation_en.

About you

* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
- Business association
- Company/business organisation
- Consumer organisation
- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
-

Non-governmental organisation (NGO)

- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

* First name

Isabelle

* Surname

McLaren

* Email (this won't be published)

imclaren@bma.org.uk

* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

British Medical Association

* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

255 character(s) maximum

Check if your organisation is on the [transparency register](#). It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

59537502076-56

* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

- Afghanistan
- Djibouti
- Libya
- Saint Martin
- Åland Islands
- Dominica
- Liechtenstein
- Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- Albania
-
- Lithuania
-

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| | Dominican Republic | | Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
| <input type="radio"/> Algeria | <input type="radio"/> Ecuador | <input type="radio"/> Luxembourg | <input type="radio"/> Samoa |
| <input type="radio"/> American Samoa | <input type="radio"/> Egypt | <input type="radio"/> Macau | <input type="radio"/> San Marino |
| <input type="radio"/> Andorra | <input type="radio"/> El Salvador | <input type="radio"/> Madagascar | <input type="radio"/> São Tomé and Príncipe |
| <input type="radio"/> Angola | <input type="radio"/> Equatorial Guinea | <input type="radio"/> Malawi | <input type="radio"/> Saudi Arabia |
| <input type="radio"/> Anguilla | <input type="radio"/> Eritrea | <input type="radio"/> Malaysia | <input type="radio"/> Senegal |
| <input type="radio"/> Antarctica | <input type="radio"/> Estonia | <input type="radio"/> Maldives | <input type="radio"/> Serbia |
| <input type="radio"/> Antigua and Barbuda | <input type="radio"/> Eswatini | <input type="radio"/> Mali | <input type="radio"/> Seychelles |
| <input type="radio"/> Argentina | <input type="radio"/> Ethiopia | <input type="radio"/> Malta | <input type="radio"/> Sierra Leone |
| <input type="radio"/> Armenia | <input type="radio"/> Falkland Islands | <input type="radio"/> Marshall Islands | <input type="radio"/> Singapore |
| <input type="radio"/> Aruba | <input type="radio"/> Faroe Islands | <input type="radio"/> Martinique | <input type="radio"/> Sint Maarten |
| <input type="radio"/> Australia | <input type="radio"/> Fiji | <input type="radio"/> Mauritania | <input type="radio"/> Slovakia |
| <input type="radio"/> Austria | <input type="radio"/> Finland | <input type="radio"/> Mauritius | <input type="radio"/> Slovenia |
| <input type="radio"/> Azerbaijan | <input type="radio"/> France | <input type="radio"/> Mayotte | <input type="radio"/> Solomon Islands |
| <input type="radio"/> Bahamas | <input type="radio"/> French Guiana | <input type="radio"/> Mexico | <input type="radio"/> Somalia |
| <input type="radio"/> Bahrain | <input type="radio"/> French Polynesia | <input type="radio"/> Micronesia | <input type="radio"/> South Africa |
| <input type="radio"/> Bangladesh | <input type="radio"/> French Southern and Antarctic Lands | <input type="radio"/> Moldova | <input type="radio"/> South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands |
| <input type="radio"/> Barbados | <input type="radio"/> Gabon | <input type="radio"/> Monaco | <input type="radio"/> South Korea |
| <input type="radio"/> Belarus | <input type="radio"/> Georgia | <input type="radio"/> Mongolia | <input type="radio"/> South Sudan |
| <input type="radio"/> Belgium | <input type="radio"/> Germany | <input type="radio"/> Montenegro | <input type="radio"/> Spain |
| <input type="radio"/> Belize | <input type="radio"/> Ghana | <input type="radio"/> Montserrat | <input type="radio"/> Sri Lanka |
| <input type="radio"/> Benin | <input type="radio"/> Gibraltar | <input type="radio"/> Morocco | <input type="radio"/> Sudan |
| <input type="radio"/> Bermuda | <input type="radio"/> Greece | <input type="radio"/> Mozambique | <input type="radio"/> Suriname |
| <input type="radio"/> Bhutan | <input type="radio"/> Greenland | <input type="radio"/> Myanmar/Burma | <input type="radio"/> Svalbard and Jan Mayen |
| <input type="radio"/> Bolivia | <input type="radio"/> Grenada | <input type="radio"/> Namibia | <input type="radio"/> Sweden |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Guadeloupe | <input type="radio"/> Nauru | <input type="radio"/> Switzerland |

Bonaire Saint
Eustatius and
Saba

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bouvet Island
- Brazil
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Brunei
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Christmas Island
- Clipperton
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Guam
- Guatemala
- Guernsey
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Niue
- Norfolk Island
- Northern Mariana Islands
- North Korea
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Palestine
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- The Gambia
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States

- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Curaçao
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Pitcairn Islands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Réunion
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saint Barthélemy
- Saint Helena
- Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- United States
- Minor Outlying Islands
- Uruguay
- US Virgin Islands
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Wallis and Futuna
- Western Sahara
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association', 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not

be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

Public

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

Information on your organization

If you are a food business or representative of food businesses, please indicate the following (if this does not apply to you, please select 'not applicable'):

- * What is the geographic scope of your business / members' markets? (If this does not apply to you, please select 'not applicable')
- Single EU Member State/ EEA country
 - Multiple Member States (including EEA countries) / Pan-EU
 - International
 - Not applicable
- * Which stage(s) of the value chain is your business / are you members' businesses active in? Please select all that apply (if this does not apply to you, please select 'not applicable').
- Primary producer (e.g. farming, fishing)
 - Manufacturers/processing
 - Distribution
 - Retail
 - Not applicable
- * Which food/beverage product groups is your business active in / does your organization represent? Please select all that apply (if this does not apply to you, please select 'not applicable').
- Meat and meat products
 - Fish and seafood products
 -

- Fruit and their products
- Vegetables and their products
- Vegetable and animal oils/fats and spreadable fats
- Milk
- Dairy products
- Bakery products
- Cereal and cereal products including biscuits and breakfast cereals
- Confectionary products, ice cream
- Ready meals, soups, sandwiches
- Soy based and similar vegetable protein-based products
- Beverages - wine or aromatized wine products
- Beverages - beers
- Beverages - spirit drinks
- Beverages - other alcoholic beverage's
- Beverages - non-alcoholic beverages
- Other food products
- Not applicable

Interest in the FIC Regulation revision

* Which FIC Regulation topics are you interested in? Please select all that apply.

- Front-of-pack nutrition labelling and the setting of nutrient profiles to restrict the use of claims on foods – Questions 1 to 5
- Alcoholic beverage labelling (list of ingredients and nutrition declaration) – Questions 6 to 9
- Date marking – Questions 10 to 14
- Origin labelling – Questions 15 to 20

Alcoholic beverage labelling

While the FIC Regulation provides that prepacked foods have to bear a list of ingredients and a nutrition declaration on labels, it currently exempts alcoholic beverages containing more than 1.2% by volume of alcohol from this.

The forthcoming revision of the Common Market Organisation (CMO) Regulation should lead to the introduction of rules governing the labelling of wine ingredients and nutrition declaration. These rules might be further amended through the proposed revision of the FIC Regulation. The same applies to aromatized wine products regulated by Regulation (EU) No 251/2014 which is also under review in the framework of

Under the FIC revision, the Commission is considering revoking the current exemption applicable to alcoholic beverages containing more than 1.2% by volume of alcohol and requiring them to include a list of ingredients and a nutrition declaration (i.e. table providing energy, protein, fat, saturated fat, carbohydrates, sugars and salt).

Question 6: To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

	1 - Strongly disagree	2 - Disagree	3 - Neutral	4 - Agree	5 - Strongly agree	Don't know
* A list of ingredients and nutritional information should be provided to consumers for alcoholic beverages as is the case for other foods and beverages.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The type of information provided to consumers should be the same for all categories of alcoholic beverages (e.g. beers, wines, spirit drinks,...).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Consumers should have access to the same information for alcoholic beverages across the whole EU.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food businesses should be subject to the same labelling rules for alcoholic beverages across the whole EU.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food business operators voluntarily provide sufficient information to consumers on the ingredients of alcoholic beverages.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food business operators voluntarily provide sufficient information to consumers on the nutritional content of alcoholic beverages.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food business operators voluntarily provide sufficient information to consumers on the energy value of alcoholic beverages.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Information on alcoholic beverage ingredients and nutritional content could be provided 'on label' or 'off label'. If provided 'off label' then a QR code would be included 'on label'. The QR code would take the consumer to a website where they can access the list of ingredients and information on nutritional content.

Question 7: How do you think the information on nutritional content and ingredients should be provided to consumers? Please select one option for each information type.

	On-label	Off label accessed via a QR code	No need for such information	No opinion
* Full nutrition declaration (energy value, fat, saturates, carbohydrate, sugars, protein and salt)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Nutrition declaration only on energy value (Kcal/KJ)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* List of ingredients	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Question 8: If the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration were provided to consumers off label, accessed using a QR code provided on the label, to what extent do you agree with the following statements:

	1 - Strongly disagree	2 - Disagree	3 - Neutral	4 - Agree	5 - Strongly agree	Don't know
* Consumers have the equipment (mobile phone and internet connection) to access the off-label information through the QR code when buying alcoholic beverages.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Consumers will make use of the off-label information	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

when buying alcoholic beverages.						
* Consumers pay the same attention to the nutritional declaration and the list of ingredients when they are provided on the label or when it is provided through a QR code.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The provision of information on the nutritional declaration and the list of ingredients via a QR code, redirecting to a website, is as reliable as the provision of the same information on labels.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Question 9: If you would like to raise other issues pertinent to the issues of alcoholic beverage labelling, please provide details below.

1000 character(s) maximum

The BMA fully supports and has previously called for the labelling of all alcoholic products to clearly state the alcoholic content in units, advice on recommended drinking levels and include a health warning. Additionally, calorie labelling is important so individuals can make informed choices when they buy food or drink. With regards to the requirement for the labelling alcohol products with all nutritional information, there must be consideration of the financial impacts of this on small businesses such as microbreweries gin distilleries. More information is needed about the extended to which full nutritional labelling would impact consumption levels and to consider the best ways to ensure that labelling requirements are proportionate and do not disproportionately impact smaller providers.

If you wish to provide additional information relevant to alcoholic beverage labelling (for example a position paper or evidence report) or raise specific points not covered by this questionnaire, you can upload your additional document here. The maximum file size is 1 MB. Provision of a document is optional and serves as additional background reading to help us understand your position better.

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

Additional contributions

If you would like to raise other issues pertinent to the topics covered in this consultation, please provide details below.

3000 character(s) maximum

If you wish to provide additional information (for example a position paper or evidence document) or raise specific points not covered by this questionnaire, you can upload your additional document here. The maximum file size is 1 MB. Provision of a document is optional and serves as additional background reading to help us understand your position better.

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

Contact

SANTE-FIC-REVISION@ec.europa.eu