



Update on the revision of the Food Information to Consumers Regulation

Front-of-pack nutrition labelling, nutrient profiles, origin labelling,
date marking, labelling of alcoholic beverages

SANTE.E1
Food information and composition

*Plenary meeting of the Advisory Group on the
Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health*

26 November 2021

Content

- Update
 - Labelling of alcoholic beverages: context and IIA
 - Study supporting the impact assessment, including consultation activities
 - Additional input to IA
- Next steps

Labelling of alcoholic beverages

Context

- The European Commission adopted the [Europe's Beating Cancer Plan](#) on 3 February 2021
- Announcement of COM proposal to introduce the “***mandatory indication of the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration on alcoholic beverage labels***”

Problems

- Alcohol-related harm is a major public health concern in the EU
- Excessive alcohol intake increases the risk of obesity and related non-communicable diseases
- Currently the FIC Regulation exempts alcoholic beverages containing more than 1.2% by volume of alcohol from the obligation to bear a list of ingredients and a nutrition declaration on labels:
 - reduced level of consumers' awareness
 - fragmented landscape: uneven playing field for operators and consumers' concerns only partly addressed

Inception Impact Assessment

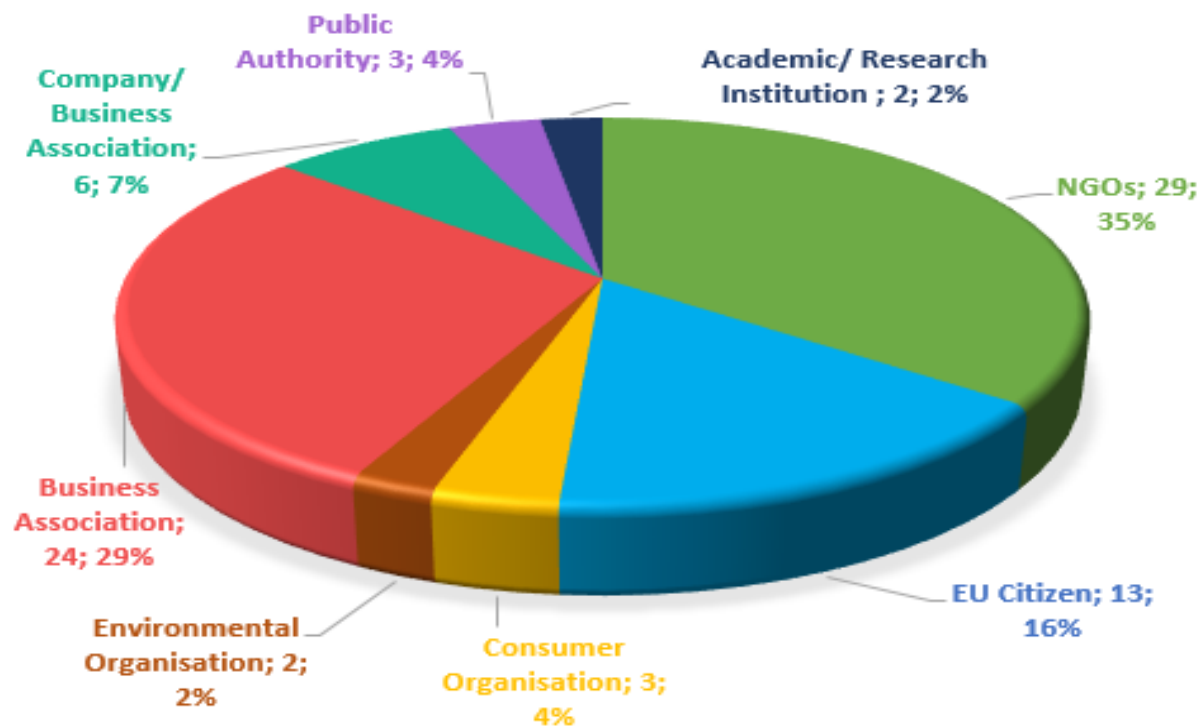
Policy options

- Option 0 - Baseline ('business as usual') to maintain the current exemption that alcoholic beverages above 1.2 % of volume of alcohol do not have to bear the list of ingredients and nutrition declaration
- Option 1 - Revise the rules for all alcoholic beverages to revoke the exemption and allow certain indications off-label
- Option 2 - Revise the rules for all alcoholic beverages to revoke the exemption and require all indications on-label

Inception Impact Assessment

Public feedback (24 June until 22 July 2021)

82 feedbacks



Study supporting the IA

Study to support the Impact Assessment

- **Purpose and scope of the study**

- Identify and collect evidence and carry-out a detailed and data-driven analysis
- Gather evidence, views, opinions from all relevant stakeholders and consult them on the various policy options
- Analyse and compare the economic, social and environmental impacts of the proposed policy options

- **Tasks**

- Develop the methodology for the IA
- Stakeholder consultations
- Case studies
- Analysis and comparison of the policy options

Stakeholder consultations

- **Public consultation**

- Collect views of citizens and stakeholders
- Planned mid December
- In all EU languages, open for 12 weeks on ‘Have your Say’ portal
- Separate questions for the different topics, with possibility to select topic(s) of interest
- Closed questions and option to raise other issues

Stakeholders consultations

- **Targeted consultations**
 - **Targeted surveys** (*pre-registration webpage*)
 - MS competent authorities
 - Food business operators
 - Consumer and public health associations
 - SMEs (in collaboration with Enterprise Europe Network)
 - **Interviews** (for each topic; focus on stakeholders not covered by case studies)
 - **Workshops** (FOPNL & nutrient profiles; origin labelling; alcoholic beverages)
- **Case studies** (for each topic)

Additional input to IA

Additional input to Impact Assessment

- EFSA Scientific advice for development of harmonised mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling and setting of nutrient profiles for restricting nutrition and health claims on foods
 - EFSA public consultation open until 9 January
<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/news/science-behind-nutrient-profiling-have-your-say>
 - Scientific opinion by March 2022
- JRC FOP literature review
 - Update with scientific publications since March 2018
 - In addition, focus on specific aspects
 - e.g. combined presence FOP & claims, single ingredient & traditional products, impact on different socio-economic groups...

Additional input to Impact Assessment

- **Date marking**
 - EFSA Guidance on date marking (October 2020 and March 2021)
 - Consumer research study
- JRC literature review on the indication of **origin** on food labels
- JRC Exploratory study on information through **other means than on labels, including digital means**
- JRC market analysis of **alcoholic beverages labelling** (ingredients and nutrition declaration)

Next steps

Overview next steps

- **Study** to support the Impact Assessment
- JRC studies & EFSA advice
- Finalisation **impact assessment**
- Drafting **legislative proposal**
- Adoption of the proposal by the Commission
- Adoption by co-legislators

Thank you

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https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling-and-nutrition_en



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