

The « Ceramics » initiative

- Will cover ceramics but also vitreous FCMs – this includes enamels and crystal
- Metals included are Pb, Cd but also Al, As, Ba, Co, Cr and Ni.
- Proportionate IA conducted to support the legislation

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Proportionate Impact Assessment

1. Assess socio-economic impact to industry and MS.
2. Develop measures to reduce impact on industry and artisanal/handicraft and traditional producers.
 - Can they reduce the burden caused by lower limits?
 - Do they add any new burden (e.g. administrative) on industry/artisans/SMEs but also MS authorities?
 - Are they acceptable and implementable by producers and MS authorities?

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Feedback from FCM IIA on ceramics

- Half of replies from ceramic and other handicraft producers
- Majority from France
- Main concerns are:
 - Compliance testing on final article is infeasible and costly
 - Fear of additional burden compared to industrial production
 - Need to adapt to artisanal and handicraft specificities – materials, uniqueness, small scale and resources

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Mitigation provisions – who and how?

QC in the supply chain

- Communicate composition and use instructions. MS control compliance of businesses.

Specific transition plans

- Businesses apply for transition plans to MS who approve and monitor plans until compliance is met

Derogations for artisans and traditional production

- Traditional producers apply to MS authorities who assess, approve and manage derogations
- Artisans do not need applying. MS must control that artisans comply.

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State of play

- Contract signed to collect data, assess and find way to monitor impacts and mitigating provisions – 1st Jan to 31st August 2021.
- Public consultation Q2 to complement study.
- Communication to stakeholders – Webinar, factsheet

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https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/chemical_safety/food_contact_materials/specific-eu-policy-initiatives/initiative-ceramic

Initiative on ceramic and vitreous FCMs

Specific EU policy initiative

New initiative and impact assessment on: Migration limits for lead, cadmium and possibly other metals from ceramic and vitreous food contact materials

**Website has been revamped.
« Specific initiatives now grouped »**

CHEMICAL SAFETY

- Contaminants
- Residues of Veterinary Medicines
- Hormones in Meat
- Pesticide Residues
- Food Contact Materials
 - Legislation
 - Authorisations
 - Consultation process
 - Specific EU policy initiatives**
 - Evaluation and Revision of EU Rules
 - Ceramic and Vitreous FCMs
 - FCM Document Library

ALL TOPICS

Evaluation and revision of EU rules on FCMs

A revision of the overall EU legislation on FCMs was announced in May 2020 as part of the European Commission's Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system. The revision will be based on the findings of the ongoing FCM Evaluation, which started in 2018 and is also linked to other key strategies, including the Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP) and the Chemicals Strategy for sustainability towards a toxic-free environment. For more information, please click here.

Ceramic and vitreous FCMs

Separately from the main revision of the EU FCM legislation, the Commission is specifically revising rules concerning heavy metals present in ceramic and vitreous FCMs, which include tableware and kitchenware such as plates, cups, mugs, glasses, jugs, bowls and oven trays. Vitreous materials include glass, crystal and materials with a glazed coating such as enamelled metals. However, recent scientific evidence and enforcement data indicate that the current exposure to lead, cadmium, and several other metals: aluminium, arsenic, barium, cobalt, chromium and nickel, released from FCMs is of concern. In addition, there is information showing that such metals also transfer from vitreous FCMs. Therefore, based on current health data including opinions published by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the Commission is considering lowering the limits of lead, cadmium and introducing limits for aluminium, arsenic, barium, cobalt, chromium and nickel, allowed to transfer from ceramic and vitreous FCMs. Further information on this initiative can be found here.

A couple of questions

- How do you see managing such transition and derogation systems?
- Do you see other solutions/ideas?
- The study will seek to assess the impact on you – we need your support!

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