

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: European Commission Launches Public Consultation on the Revision of EU Food Labeling Requirements

Country: European Union

Post: Brussels USEU

Report Category: Policy and Program Announcements, Beverages, FAIRS Subject Report, Potatoes and Potato Products, Poultry and Products, Tomatoes and Products, Wine, Dairy and Products

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Report Highlights:

On December 13, 2021, the European Commission launched a public consultation period for the upcoming revision to the Food Information to Consumers Regulation. The Commission is seeking views on different proposed changes to front-of-pack nutrition labeling, nutrient profiling criteria to restrict claims, origin labeling, date marking, and alcoholic beverages labeling. Stakeholders have until March 7, 2022, to comment.

General Information:

In May 2020, the European Union published its [Farm to Fork Strategy](#), which aims to make the EU food system fairer, healthier, and more environmentally friendly. As part of this Strategy, the Commission announced that it would revise the [Food Information to Consumers \(FIC\) Regulation](#) to “facilitate a shift to healthier and more sustainable diets.” Additionally, in February 2021, the European Commission published its [Europe's Beating Cancer Plan](#). Part of the plan includes actions to be taken by the EU and EU Member States to increase cancer prevention across the Union. This includes reducing harmful alcohol consumption through additional labeling.

On December 13, 2021, the European Commission launched a public consultation period for the upcoming revision to the Food Information to Consumers Regulation. The public consultation covers different initiatives for revising EU legislation on food information to consumers. This revision concerns:

- **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 labeling:** An extension of mandatory origin indications to certain products such as meat used as an ingredient, milk, milk used as an ingredient, durum wheat for pasta, potatoes, tomato products, and rice.
- **Date marking:** A revision of the EU rules on date marking (‘use by’ and ‘best before’).
- **Alcoholic beverage labeling:** The introduction of mandatory indications of the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration for all alcoholic beverages.

The public consultation on the FIC Regulation calls on European citizens and stakeholders to share their views and experiences on these food labeling areas. U.S. stakeholders who would like to comment can do so at the following page:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12749-Food-labelling-revision-of-rules-on-information-provided-to-consumers/public-consultation_en

The deadline for input is midnight or 12:00 a.m. Brussels (Universal Time Coordinated + 01:00) on March 7, 2022. All comments provided through this consultation process may be released as public information. The questionnaire consists of several sections and should only be completed once.

The revision of the FIC is expected to be published at the end of 2022.

Attachments:

No Attachments.