

Procedure file

Basic information	
<p>COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation</p> <p>2022/0089(COD)</p>	Awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading
<p>Geographical Indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products</p> <p>Repealing Regulation 2012/1151 2010/0353(COD) Amending Regulation 2013/1308 2011/0281(COD) Amending Regulation 2017/1001 2016/0345(COD) Amending Regulation 2019/787 2016/0392(COD)</p> <p>Subject</p> <p>2.10.03 Standardisation, EC/EU standards and trade mark, certification, compliance 3.10.03 Marketing and trade of agricultural products and livestock 3.10.06.08 Wine, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages 3.10.10 Foodstuffs, foodstuffs legislation 4.60.02 Consumer information, advertising, labelling</p> <p>Legislative priorities Joint Declaration 2023-24</p>	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Agriculture and Rural Development	 DE CASTRO Paolo	04/04/2022
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 AMARO Álvaro	
		 TOLLERET Irène	
		 GRUFFAT Claude	
		 LIZZI Elena	
		 AGUILAR Mazaly	
		 RODRÍGUEZ PALOP Eugenia	
		Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion
 Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
 Internal Market and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
 International Trade			09/06/2022
		 LANCINI Danilo Oscar	



Council of the European Union
European Commission

Commission DG

Commissioner

[Agriculture and Rural Development](#)

WOJCIECHOWSKI Janusz

European Economic and
Social Committee

Key events

31/03/2022	Legislative proposal published	COM(2022)0134	Summary
07/04/2022	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
20/10/2022	Referral to associated committees announced in Parliament		
20/04/2023	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
03/05/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A9-0173/2023	
31/05/2023	Debate in Parliament		
01/06/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
01/06/2023	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T9-0210/2023	Summary
01/06/2023	Matter referred back to the committee responsible		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2022/0089(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Repealing Regulation 2012/1151 2010/0353(COD) Amending Regulation 2013/1308 2011/0281(COD) Amending Regulation 2017/1001 2016/0345(COD) Amending Regulation 2019/787 2016/0392(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 57; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 118-p1; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 043-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading
Committee dossier	AGRI/9/08747

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(2022)0134	31/03/2022	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		SEC(2022)0197	03/05/2022	EC	
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2022)0135	03/05/2022	EC	
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2022)0136	03/05/2022	EC	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES6620/2021	13/07/2022	ESC	
Document attached to the procedure		N9-0089/2022 OJ C 454 30.11.2022, p. 0112	18/07/2022	EDPS	
Committee draft report		PE736.493	18/10/2022	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE737.394	28/11/2022	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE738.756	28/11/2022	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE739.502	28/11/2022	EP	
Committee of the Regions: opinion		CDR3736/2022	30/11/2022	CofR	
Committee opinion	INTA	PE731.609	30/01/2023	EP	
Committee opinion	JURI	PE736.693	31/01/2023	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0173/2023	03/05/2023	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading		T9-0210/2023	01/06/2023	EP	Summary

Geographical Indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products

PURPOSE: to revise the system of geographical indications (GIs) for wines, spirit drinks and agricultural products with a view to facilitating the adoption of GIs throughout the Union as intellectual property instruments accessible to all farmers and producers of products, linked by characteristics or reputation, and to their place of production.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: Geographical indications (GIs) identify products that have qualities, characteristics or a reputation due to natural and human factors linked to their place of origin. They constitute an intellectual property right (IPR) designed to promote fair competition between producers by preventing bad faith uses of a name and fraudulent and deceptive practices. Today, the EU register of geographical indications contains almost 3 500 names of wines, spirit drinks, agricultural products and foodstuffs.

An evaluation published in December 2021 showed that the existing framework is effective and provides clear EU added value. However, it highlighted certain limitations, such as the low level of consumer awareness and understanding of GIs in some Member States, as well as the low level of enforcement of the legislation. It also pointed out that environmental sustainability and animal welfare could be taken into account more. Furthermore, the length and complexity of the registration and amendment procedures, both at national and EU level, are seen as the main nuisance for producers and source of administrative burden.

Therefore, the proposal meets the following general objectives: (i) to ensure effective IPR protection in the Union, including efficient registration processes, in order to reward producers fairly for their efforts; (ii) to increase the use of GIs throughout the Union for the benefit of the rural economy.

CONTENT: the proposal for the revision of the GI system consists of a set of rules designed to put in place a coherent system for GIs aimed at assisting producers to better communicate the qualities, characteristics and attributes of their GI products, and at ensuring appropriate consumer information. Moreover, the proposal clarifies and improves the traditional speciality guarantee (TSG) scheme while it makes no changes to the scheme for optional quality terms.

The proposal has the following specific objectives:

(1) improve the enforcement of GI rules to better protect IPR and better protect GIs on the internet, including against bad faith registrations and fraudulent and deceptive practices, and uses in the domain name system, and combat counterfeiting;

(2) streamline and clarify the legal framework to simplify and harmonise the procedures for application for registration of new names and amendments to product specifications. The different technical and procedural rules for geographical indications would be merged, resulting in a single simplified GI registration procedure for EU and third country applicants;

(3) contribute to making the Union food system more sustainable by integrating specific sustainability criteria. As a direct follow-up to the Farm to Table strategy, producers could highlight their actions in the field of social, environmental or economic sustainability in their specifications by setting the corresponding requirements;

(4) empower producers and producer groups to better manage their GI assets and encourage the development of structures and partnerships within the food supply chain. Member States should recognise GI producer groups at their request. Recognised groups would be empowered to manage, enforce and develop their GI, including access to anti-counterfeiting authorities and customs services in all Member States;

(5) increase correct market perception and consumer awareness of the GI policy and Union symbols to enable consumers to make informed purchasing choices. It is foreseen to make the use of EU symbols or indications on the packaging of products with a geographical indication obligatory in order to increase consumer awareness of this category of products and the related guarantees, and to facilitate the identification of these products on the market, thus facilitating controls;

(6) safeguard the protection of traditional food names to better valorise and preserve traditional products and production methods.

As regards the reduction of administrative burden, the proposal provides for technical assistance in the registration procedure by an existing EU agency and full exploitation of digital tools. The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) will provide technical support in the monitoring process to help speed up procedures.

The new domain name information and alert system to be established by EUIPO will provide GI applicants with an additional digital tool as part of the application process to better protect and enforce their GI rights.

Geographical Indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products

The European Parliament adopted, by 603 votes to 18 with 8 abstentions, amendments to the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Union geographical indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products, and quality schemes for agricultural products, amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2017/1001 and (EU) 2019/787 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012.

The matter has been referred to the committee responsible for interinstitutional negotiations.

The regulation would lay down rules governing the following quality schemes: (a) protected designations of origin (PDOs) and protected geographical indications (PGIs) for wines, agricultural products and foodstuffs and geographical indications for spirit drinks; (b) traditional specialities guaranteed (TSGs).

Members stressed that high-quality products represent one of the biggest assets the Union has, both for its economy and cultural identity. Those products are the strongest representation of the made in the EU brand, recognisable throughout the whole world, which generate growth and preserve our heritage. Wines, spirit drinks and agricultural products are European assets that need to be further strengthened and protected.

Citizens and consumers have the right to expect any geographical indication and quality system to be backed up by a solid verification and control system, whether the product comes from the EU or a third country.

Geographical indications

The unitary and exclusive system of geographical indications, protecting the names of wines, spirit drinks and agricultural products which have characteristics, attributes or a reputation linked to their place of production, should: (a) help producers to obtain a fair return for the quality of their products; (b) contribute to the achievement of the objectives of rural development policy by supporting farming and processing activities and farming systems associated with high-quality products.

The system should:

- ensure that consumers receive reliable information and a guarantee of authenticity and traceability of the quality, reputation and other characteristics linked to the place of production of these products and can easily identify them on the market, including in the domain name system and in e-commerce;
- guarantee the simple, efficient and user-friendly registration of geographical indications, taking into account the uniform, appropriate and effective protection of intellectual property rights in the internal market, including the Union's digital markets;
- ensuring effective controls, enforcement, use and marketing throughout the EU, as well as in the domain name system and in e-commerce;
- preserving know-how and promoting and supporting local and regional products;
- ensure effective protection of the intellectual property rights of producers of these products on third-country markets.

According to Members, geographical indications should be better protected online.

Top level domain name registries and other domain name registries operating in the EU should revoke or transfer a domain name registered under that domain to the recognised producer group designated by the geographical indication concerned or to the competent authority of the Member State from which the geographical indication in question originates, if that domain name has been registered by its holder without any rights or legitimate interest in the geographical indication.

In particular, a producer group should be able to pursue legal action, including civil and criminal action, to ensure the offline and online protection of the geographical indication and the intellectual property rights directly related to it, including websites, domain names and e-commerce, and to claim damages.

The EUIPO should be empowered, under the delegated acts, to establish and manage an alert system monitoring registration of domain

names in the Union which could conflict with the names included in the Union register of geographical indications.

Processed products

Parliament is calling for better protection of GIs in processed products. Processed products containing a GI ingredient should not be allowed to be named after the GI unless authorised to do so by the GI producers.

Commission scrutiny of registration applications

The examination period should not last more than five months from the date of submission of the application for registration. In duly justified cases, the scrutiny procedure could be extended by a maximum of three months. National authorities should handle most requests for changes to existing GI registrations without the Commission having to check them again.

The Commission should remain responsible for registration, amendment and cancellation procedures, due to a strong relationship with the Common Agricultural Policy and the expertise needed to ensure that the specificities of wines, spirit drinks and agricultural products are adequately assessed.

Producer groups

Producer groups should be given the means to better identify and market the specific characteristics of their products, as well as adequate resources to exercise their powers and responsibilities. Member States should be able to ensure that the contribution to the costs of exercising the powers and responsibilities of the recognised producer group is compulsory for all producers of products covered by the geographical indication concerned. A producer group could be set up on the initiative of interested producer groups.

Sustainability undertaking

To enable the adoption of sustainability commitments, producers should receive financial support, through pre-determined, specific and easily accessible funding, and should be properly informed of the opportunities arising from the adoption of sustainability commitments.

These commitments should contribute to one or more social, environmental or economic objectives, including:

- climate change mitigation and adaptation, including energy efficiency and decrease water consumption;
- preservation and sustainable use of soil, landscapes and natural resources;
- preservation of biodiversity and plants varieties, and transition to a circular economy;
- reduction of the use of pesticides, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the use of antimicrobials;
- improving animal health and welfare;
- attracting and sustaining young producers of products benefiting from a protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication;
- contributing to the valorisation of rural areas as well as cultural and gastronomic heritage.

Recognition of the European system

All EU geographical indications should be protected under bilateral and multilateral trade and other international agreements through the recognition of the European system as such. In this respect, the EU should make major commercial and diplomatic efforts to ensure the protection of traditional practices that bring together historical, cultural and gastronomic heritage while ensuring sustainable production.

Transparency				
TOLLERET Irène	Shadow rapporteur	AGRI	04/07/2023	Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
TOLLERET Irène	Shadow rapporteur	AGRI	30/03/2023	Associazione Giovani Imprenditori Vinicoli Italiani
AMARO Álvaro	Shadow rapporteur	AGRI	20/02/2023	spiritsEUROPE
LIZZI Elena	Shadow rapporteur	AGRI	15/02/2023	Confédération Européenne des Vignerons Indépendants
LIZZI Elena	Shadow rapporteur	AGRI	15/02/2023	European Federation of Origin Wines
DE CASTRO Paolo	Rapporteur	AGRI	14/02/2023	UK MISSION
TOLLERET Irène	Shadow rapporteur	AGRI	08/02/2023	European Federation of Origin Wines
AMARO Álvaro	Shadow rapporteur	AGRI	08/02/2023	Comité Européen des Entreprises Vins
AMARO Álvaro	Shadow rapporteur	AGRI	08/02/2023	European Federation of Origin Wines

DE CASTRO Paolo	Rapporteur	AGRI	07/02/2023	oriGIn EU
AGUILERA Clara	Member	07/02/2023	ASPROCAN	
DECERLE Jérémy	Member	17/12/2021	Fédération des viandes AOP	