

**Question for oral answer O-000008/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 128

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on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Subject: Alcohol strategy

The harmful use of alcohol is still the third-biggest cause of preventable death and disease in Europe, and is a risk factor for more than 60 chronic diseases, including cancer, heart disease and liver disease. Alcohol misuse is also linked to obesity, which is a major public health concern and the fourth-biggest cause of preventable illness in Europe. In addition, alcohol misuse and addiction are linked to other social problems, including workplace absenteeism, family breakdown and violence. Europe has the highest rate of alcohol consumption in the world.

Given the above, and the fact that the Commission's previous EU strategy to support Member States in reducing alcohol-related harm ended in 2012, the Commission is asked to answer the following:

1. Will it be coming forward with proposals for a new alcohol strategy? Can it explain whether any other actions are being taken in addition to this plan?
2. Will the new document differentiate appropriately between behaviours and attitudes towards alcohol consumption, and between alcoholic products?
3. Can it explain why a new, separate report has not yet been published on the application of the requirements to provide ingredients lists and nutrition information for alcoholic beverages, bearing in mind that Regulation 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers stipulated that such a report was to be produced by December 2014? Does the Commission still intend to produce this report?
4. In the light of the experience of the European Alcohol and Health Forum, does the Commission envisage any kind of initiative to encourage the coordination and involvement of stakeholders?

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Forwarded: 3.2.2015

Deadline for reply: 10.2.2015