

**Question for written answer E-006762/2013  
to the Commission  
Rule 117  
Alfredo Antoniozzi (PPE)**

Subject: European measures to combat excessive alcohol consumption in the EU

According to the 2012 World Health Organisation report 'Alcohol in the European Union. Consumption, harm and policy approaches', the average European adult consumes about 12.5 litres of pure alcohol each year.

Excessive consumption of alcoholic beverages is the third most common risk factor for health, causing 12 % of premature deaths in men. In addition to being harmful to health, excessive consumption of alcoholic beverages is also a burden on the healthcare system and law enforcement, and impairs productivity at work.

According to the report, this costs the European Union EUR 125 billion.

The EU strategy to reduce alcohol-related harm sets out guidelines but imposes no specific legislation on Member States.

In fact, some Member States still have no legislation prohibiting the consumption and sale of alcoholic beverages for those under 18 years of age or establishing strict limits on blood alcohol levels for motor vehicle drivers.

- Does the Commission think it should impose common legislation regulating the consumption and sale of alcoholic beverages in all Member States?
- Are any concrete measures along these lines currently under consideration?