

**Question for written answer E-002660/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Georg Mayer (ID), Roman Haider (ID)

Subject: New legal framework concerning the watering down of wine

There were reports that the Commission had plans to permit the addition of water to quality wines as a way of reducing the alcohol content with the aim of 'improving the health of Europe's citizens' and that it rowed back on these after protests from the agriculture sector.

Many regions of the EU and Austria are known throughout the world for their quality wines.

Now there are once again plans to change the legal framework to enable wine to be watered down.¹

1. Does the Commission think that the seals of quality of the European Union's world-renowned regions are being jeopardised by the intention to change the legal framework concerning the definition of wine?
2. In the Commission's view, what criteria must be fulfilled in order for completely alcohol-free beverages to be classed as wine?

¹ <https://kurier.at/wirtschaft/wasser-in-den-wein-eu-kommission-rudert-zurueck/401379176>