

**Question for written answer E-000005/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Ulrike Müller (Renew)

Subject: Food safety and food waste in the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation

Food packaging plays an important role in the European food system by facilitating food availability and affordability, reducing food waste and protecting consumer safety. Its role has become increasingly evident during the COVID-19 pandemic and the current global food crisis. Approximately 20 % of all food produced in the EU goes to waste¹, which amounts to an annual 153.5 million tonnes of food waste².

1. Using a science-based impact-assessment methodology, did the Commission assess the impact of its proposal for a revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation on the European food system, in particular did it assess the consumer safety, food waste and economic impacts (particularly the impacts of banning certain types of food packaging (Article 22, Appendix V)) on food producers and the hotels, restaurants and catering sector and the impact of limiting single-use packaging for food and cold/hot drinks (Articles 22, 26), and if so, where can this assessment be reviewed?
2. Regarding the ban on single-use packaging for less than 1.5 kg of fresh fruit/vegetables, did the Commission assess the availability of viable alternatives to protect delicate products, e.g. berries?
3. How did the Commission assess the impact of the proposed recycled content thresholds on the availability of food packaging, particularly on the availability of food contact-grade recyclates in the EU?

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¹ <https://eeb.org/eu-wastes-more-food-than-it-imports-says-new-report/>.

² https://feedbackglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Feedback-EU-2022-No-Time-To-Waste-report.pdf?utm_source=T%26E+EEB+super+list&utm_campaign=b9938e27f1-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_09_14_12_33&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_7a91882d26-b9938e27f1-237403001.