

EN

E-000741/2023

Answer given by Ms Kyriakides
on behalf of the European Commission
(24.5.2023)

Europe's Beating Cancer Plan¹ includes actions outlined by the Commission to move towards a tobacco-free generation where less than 5% of people use tobacco by 2040. These include rigorous enforcement of the EU Tobacco control framework² as well its adaptation to new developments and market trends. Furthermore, the Healthier together - EU non-communicable diseases initiative³ provides a prospective platform for further actions.

The evaluation of the legislative framework for tobacco control is also ongoing⁴, as indicated in the implementation roadmap of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan⁵ and may among others identify policies making smoking less attractive to younger generations. The next steps regarding the Tobacco Products Directive will be decided based on the results of this evaluation.

The Commission is currently working on the revision of the tobacco taxation rules and preparing a revision of the 2009 Council Recommendation on smoke-free environments⁶ with the objective of protecting EU citizens from exposure to second-hand smoke and aerosols and reduce consumption of tobacco and related products in public spaces.

E-cigarettes and other emerging products are carefully considered in all aforementioned actions in the light of the scientific evidence on their potential risks and their role in smoking cessation and initiation.

¹ https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/europes-beating-cancer-plan_en

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014L0040>

³ https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/healthier-together-eu-non-communicable-diseases-initiative_en

⁴ On 21 February 2023, the Commission launched a public consultation at https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13481-Evaluation-of-the-legislative-framework-for-tobacco-control/public-consultation_en

⁵ Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: Implementation Roadmap - Updated version January 2022; https://ec.europa.eu/health/system/files/2022-01/2021-2025_cancer-roadmap1_en_0.pdf

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32009H1205%2801%29>