

**Question for written answer E-001070/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Maria Noichl (S&D)

Subject: EU Directive 92/83/EEC on excise duties on alcohol

Council Directive (EU) 2020/1151 of 29 July 2020 amended EU Directive 92/83/EEC on excise duties on alcohol Pursuant to this, small breweries and producers of sparkling wine and fruit wine have the possibility to cooperate with a view to applying reduced excise duty rates (see also Article 4(2) of Directive 92/83/EEC). Under Directive 92/83/EEC, this possibility does not exist for distilleries.

1. Why did the Commission not include this possibility for distilleries in its proposals?
2. Is the Commission planning to put forward any proposals in the foreseeable future to place distilleries on an equal footing with small breweries or producers of sparkling wine and fruit wine?

Submitted: 29.3.2023