

**Question for written answer E-003543/2023  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Tomáš Zdechovský (PPE)**

**Subject:** Uniform system for the redemption of empty beer bottles

I would like to make an enquiry about a uniform system for the redemption of empty beer bottles in the EU.

Currently, various types of beer bottles are used in different Member States. They differ mainly in terms of weight and label. This means that empty bottles cannot be redeemed everywhere, which has a negative impact on the environment.

Studies have shown that less than two thirds of empty beer bottles are recycled in the EU, and this has declined between 2020 and 2021.

One of the reasons for this decline is the fact that empty bottles cannot be redeemed everywhere. This means that empty bottles are often transported across EU borders, increasing their carbon footprint.

In light of the above:

1. Is the Commission considering legislation to introduce a uniform system for the redemption of empty beer bottles in the European Union?
2. If so, what concrete steps is the Commission taking to achieve this objective?
3. What are the estimated environmental impacts of adopting a uniform system for the redemption of empty beer bottles?

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