Question for written answer E-000060/2024 to the Commission Rule 138 Isabella Tovaglieri (ID)

Subject: European Commission guidelines on wine labelling provisions

The new regulation ((EU) 2021/2117) on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of aromatised wine products entered into force in all EU countries on 8 December 2023. It governs an EU market worth an estimated EUR 250 billion

and provides for mandatory labelling of ingredients and nutritional values, including via QR codes.

In order to comply with these obligations, most companies have prepared labels in advance with the registered symbol ISO 2760, which directs the consumer to an area where the relevant information can be found.

However, the guidelines published by the European Commission on 24 November 2023 (C/2023/1190) stipulate that the QR code must necessarily use an non-abbreviated written heading, i.e. the word 'ingredients'.

Can the Commission therefore say:

- 1. Whether it is aware that these guidelines, issued two weeks before the entry into force of the new regulation, will lead to the destruction of millions of labels already prepared by companies that can no longer be used after 8 December?
- Whether it agrees that that this interpretation of Regulation 2021/2117, which runs counter to the political will expressed by the Member States and Parliament, risks giving rise to uncertainty and problems for operators in the sector?

Submitted:10.1.2024