

**Question for written answer E-000219/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Ralf Seekatz (PPE)

Subject: Marketing of non-alcoholic organic wine

In December 2021, Regulation (EU) 2021/2117 amended the legal framework for non-alcoholic wine in the EU. Until now, the production of non-alcoholic wine and sparkling wine was subject to EU food law. Following the adaptation of the legal framework, it is now subject to wine legislation. However, this transfer of competence did not take into account the necessary adaptation of the EU Organic Farming Regulation. EU rules on organic production allow the de-alcoholisation vacuum distillation process to be used in food processing, but not winemaking.

The necessary adaptation of the EU rules on organic production is expected to be implemented only towards the end of 2024. Therefore, since 1 January 2023, the sale of non-alcoholic organic wine with the EU organic label has been prohibited throughout the EU. Instead, these wines may only be marketed as conventional non-alcoholic wines. Until now, there was a transitional arrangement in Germany that allowed non-alcoholic wine to be sold as a 'non-alcoholic drink made from organic wine'.

1. On what grounds does the Commission view this transitional arrangement as market distortion that does not comply with the law?
2. How can the Commission ensure that consumers continue to have access to non-alcoholic wines of the highest organic quality until the necessary adaptation of the EU rules on organic production takes place?

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