



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
Directorate F – Outreach, Research & Geographical Indications  
The Director

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**Subject: Amendment of Article 37(5) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143**

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 11 September 2025 concerning the MEP Cowen’s amendment of Article 37(5) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 (GI Regulation) approved by the AGRI Committee of the European Parliament in the context of the revision of Regulation (EU) No 1308/213 (CMO).

As mentioned in the letter of Commissioner Hansen of 7 March 2025 to the Director General of Spirits Europe, the Commission understands the difficulties linked to the implementation of that provision and it is supportive and open to find solutions to meet the spirit drinks sector needs. However, the Commissioner had also made it clear that reopening the GI Regulation was not an option. Opening the GI Regulation would risk jeopardising the global compromise reached between the EU co-legislators.

In contrast, MEP Cowen’s amendment is precisely drafted as an amendment of the GI Regulation. In addition, it would result in a full exemption of spirits drinks from any obligation concerning the indication of the producer/operator or bottler on labels, entailing an inequality of treatment between the sectors. While the obligation would disappear for spirit drinks the obligation to indicate the name of the producer, or operator, would be maintained for food (Article 37(5) first subparagraph of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143) and

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wine would maintain the obligation to indicate the name of the bottler or producer or vendor (Article 119(1)(e) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013).

We are still of the opinion that alternative options are to be explored, and that opening a legislative procedure for the GI Regulation must be avoided. We understand that the amendment approved at AGRI Committee level will follow the course of the legislative procedure. It will be, therefore, for the two EU co-legislators to decide. The Commission will play, as usual, its role of honest broker among the European Parliament and the Council.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Diego CANGA FANO.

Diego CANGA FANO

Contact:

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