



Brussels, 26 November 2025
(OR. en)

15965/25

**Interinstitutional File:
2025/0071 (COD)**

LIMITE

**AGRI 646
AGRIORG 146
AGRIFIN 153
AGRILEG 186
CODEC 1923**

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Special Committee on Agriculture

Subject: Amending Regulation as regards certain market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products
- Preparation for the trilogue

1. Two **interinstitutional technical meetings** took place on 18 and 21 November and a final one will take place on 27 November. These resulted in agreement on many of the rows at the technical level, at least in principle. The **trilogue**, scheduled on 4 December, should be able to endorse the outcome of the technical level discussions and to find an agreement on the more political points between the Council and the European Parliament before the end of 2025.
2. Among the **outstanding political issues**, there is the term to be used to label partially de-alcoholised wine and the **carry-over** of unused funds in wine sectorial intervention. This note gives information on those issues, with a view to the SCA providing guidance about flexibility to the Presidency at its meeting on 1 December.

3. As regards the first point on labelling concerning the terms “low” or “reduced” **alcohol content** (row 69), the European Parliament is insisting on the term “reduced alcohol”, while the Council’s mandate provides for labelling as “low alcohol”. The Commission originally proposed the term “alcohol light” but seems to prefer the term “reduced alcohol” to “low alcohol”, considering it more in line with the nutrition and health claims legislation. The issue of the carry-over of **unused funds** (rows 148e-j) was raised within the SCA but not included in the Council’s mandate. The Commission does not support the European Parliament’s amendment. A possible solution could be for the institutions to find ways to make use of unused funds within the wine sector under the current framework.
4. The **other issues** that might need to be brought forward and discussed at the trilogue, unless resolved before at the technical level, are:
- a) the amendments that would extend the existing carve-out from **competition rules for price guidance** from grapes to include musts and bulk wines (row 76a-c);
 - b) the number of years during which a beneficiary who receives EU funding for **grubbing up** would not be eligible for new planting authorisations (this would be an element of compromise text to replace the amendment in rows 55d, 83 and 87a);
 - c) amendments widening the scope of interventions under Article 58(1)(b) (investments related to production and marketing) of the strategic plans regulation, by including investments in infrastructure (e.g. buildings) used for **wine tourism** (row 114f), where the Commission argues that funding is already available under rural development programmes:
 - d) on the duration and support rate of communication and **promotion programmes**, where the Council accepted the Commission’s proposal of a five-year limit while the European Parliament amendment would suggest the extension every five years, with no limit, if considered necessary (row 122);
 - e) with regards to labelling, the European Parliament has added amendments including **ISO codes** (rows 71f and 97b).

5. The references to rows above are to those of the four-column document annexed to document 15536/25. The Presidency invites the SCA to **provide guidance and indicate flexibility especially regarding labelling, carry-over of unused funds and promotion** at its meeting on 1 December 2025. This will be important to reach an agreement before the end of 2025.
-