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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2021/2115 and (EU) No 251/2014 as regards certain market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products

- Outcome of the European Parliament's first reading
(Strasbourg, 9 to 12 February 2026)

I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the provisions of Article 294 of the TFEU and the Joint declaration on practical arrangements for the codecision procedure¹, a number of informal contacts have taken place between the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission with a view to reaching an agreement on this proposal at first reading.

¹ OJ C 145, 30.6.2007, p. 5.

In this context, the Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI), Veronika VRECIKOVÁ (ECR, CZ) presented on behalf of AGRI a compromise amendment (amendment number 92) to the abovementioned proposal for a Regulation, for which the rapporteur Esther HERRANZ GARCÍA (EPP, ES) had prepared a draft report and an amendment (amendment number 93) to the legislative resolution containing a statement. These amendments had been agreed during the informal contacts referred to above. No other amendments were tabled.

II. VOTE

When it voted on 10 February 2026, the plenary adopted the compromise amendment (amendment number 92) to the abovementioned proposal for a Regulation, as well as amendment number 93 to the legislative resolution. The Commission's proposal as thus amended constitutes the Parliament's first-reading position which is contained in its legislative resolution as set out in the Annex hereto².

The Parliament's position reflects what had been previously agreed between the institutions. The Council should therefore be in a position to approve the Parliament's position.

The act would then be adopted in the wording which corresponds to the Parliament's position.

² The version of the Parliament's position in the legislative resolution has been marked up to indicate the changes made by the amendments to the Commission's proposal. Additions to the Commission's text are highlighted in *bold and italics*. The symbol "■" indicates deleted text.

P10_TA(2026)0028

Amending Regulations on agricultural products as regards market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products

European Parliament legislative resolution of 10 February 2026 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2021/2115 and (EU) No 251/2014 as regards certain market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products (COM(2025)0137 – C10-0058/2025 – 2025/0071(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2025)0137),
- having regard to Article 294(2), Article 42, first paragraph, and Article 43(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C10-0058/2025),
- having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 17 July 2025¹,
- having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of 2 July 2025²,
- having regard to the provisional agreement approved by the committee responsible under Rule 75(4) of its Rules of Procedure and the undertaking given by the Council representative by letter of 16 December 2025 to approve Parliament's position, in accordance with Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Rule 60 of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (A10-0220/2025),

¹ OJ C, C/2025/5161, 28.10.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/5161/oj>.

² OJ C, C/2025/4418, 29.8.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/4418/oj>.

1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
2. Takes note of the statement by the Commission annexed to this resolution, which will be published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*;
3. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;
4. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

P10_TC1-COD(2025)0071

Position of the European Parliament adopted at first reading on 10 February 2026 with a view to the adoption of Regulation (EU) 2026/... of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) No 251/2014 and (EU) 2021/2115 as regards certain market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products *and Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 as regards certain labelling rules for spirit drinks*

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 42, first paragraph, Article 43(2) *and Article 118, first paragraph*, thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee¹,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions²,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure³,

¹ OJ C, C/2025/5161, 28.10.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/5161/oj>.

² OJ C, C/2025/4418, 29.8.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/4418/oj>.

³ Position of the European Parliament of 10 February 2026.

Whereas:

- (1) While the Union remains the global leader in wine production, consumption and exported value, societal and demographic changes are having an impact on the amount, quality, and types of wine consumed. Wine consumption in the Union is at its lowest level in three decades while traditional export markets for Union wines are adversely affected by a combination of decreasing consumption trends and geopolitical factors, leading to more uncertain export patterns. In addition, given the wine sector's vulnerability to climate change, wine production is becoming unpredictable. The resulting oversupply leads to a decrease in prices, meaning that winegrowers have less income to invest in their businesses and lower financial reserves for them to fall back on if one of the more frequent and often localised severe weather events hits their region.
- (2) The High-Level Group on Wine Policy ('HLG') was established to discuss those challenges and to identify possible opportunities for the Union wine sector. It reflected on how to better support a sector that is currently facing structural challenges, for example by managing the production potential, enhancing competitiveness and exploring new market opportunities. After four meetings, the HLG endorsed 'policy recommendations for the future of the EU wine sector'.
- (3) In order to provide the best possible support to wine producers facing such challenges, it is appropriate to reflect the most urgent recommendations of the HLG in the legal framework applicable to wines and aromatised wine products.

(4) *In the wine sector, the relationship between production supply, consumer demand and exports on the world market is currently unstable, resulting in serious market disturbances. In addition, there is a trend towards a continued decrease in wine consumption in the Union due to changes in consumer habits and lifestyle. The existing scheme of authorisations for vine plantings is considered essential to maintain the balance between the supply capacity of the sector, a fair standard of living for producers and reasonable prices for consumers, whilst ensuring diversity of wines and responding to the specificities of the Union wine sector. The Union wine sector has specific characteristics, including the long lifecycle of its vineyards, resulting from the fact that production is only possible several years after planting but then continues for several decades and that it has the potential for considerable fluctuations from one harvest to the next. The Union wine sector is also characterised by a very high percentage of small, family-run farms, which results in a diverse range of wines. Such producers need long-term predictability to justify the significant investment required to plant a vineyard and to guarantee the economic viability of their projects over time, in the process improving the competitiveness of the Union wine sector on the global market. In order to consolidate the Union wine sector's achievements to date and to achieve sustainable balance between quantity and quality in the sector, through the continued orderly growth of vine planting, the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings should be extended, subject to reviews every 10 years to evaluate the scheme. If appropriate, proposals should be presented on the basis of the results of those reviews with a view to improving the competitiveness of the wine sector.*

- (5) In view of the current decline in demand for wine, winegrowers who hold valid unused authorisations for new plantings and authorisations resulting from the conversion of planting rights granted to them before 1 January 2025 should ***not be penalised for not using*** these authorisations ■ . That should have the effect of removing the incentive for planting authorisation holders to plant vineyards where there might be no demand for the wine produced. Administrative ***penalties*** should continue to apply in respect of the non-use of planting authorisations granted after 1 January 2025 in order to discourage speculative applications for such authorisations from winegrowers who have no intention of planting a vineyard.
- (6) ***With natural disasters, severe meteorological events and plant disease outbreaks becoming more frequent, Member States should be given the possibility to extend by up to twelve months the validity of planting authorisations granted for the region affected and due to expire by the end of the marketing year concerned. Holders of such planting authorisations should have the possibility to renounce their authorisations without incurring administrative penalties where they inform the competent authorities of the Member State that they do not wish to make use of their authorisations within the extended deadline. While administrative penalties aim to prevent speculative applications for planting authorisations, exceptional circumstances can lead to unforeseen practical difficulties for winegrowers, preventing them from planting new vineyards. In order to avoid additional hardship in such cases, the competent authorities of the Member States should be allowed to waive the administrative penalties for the non-use of a planting authorisation upon a justified request from the winegrower concerned.***

- (7) Concerning the management of the production potential, a longer validity period of replanting authorisations should be **established** to give producers more time to explore the possibility of planting varieties which are better adapted to the market demand or to the changing climatic conditions or of using new vineyard management techniques. Furthermore, to alleviate pressure on winegrowers, they should not face administrative penalties if they decide not to use a replanting authorisation.
- (8) ***The last day of the validity of authorisations granted under Articles 64, 66 and 68 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴ before the entry into force of this amending Regulation is dependent on their date of issuance. As an administrative simplification, all those authorisations should remain valid until the last day of the relevant marketing year.***
- (9) ***Abandoned vineyards can harbour pests and diseases and can therefore pose a risk to the surrounding vineyard area. Member States should therefore be permitted to require the grubbing up of such abandoned vineyards. The Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts laying down conditions for such grubbing up.***

⁴ Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/1308/oj>).

- (10) Where, *in justified crisis situations*, national or Union measures aimed at reducing the supply (*concerning* distillation, green harvesting or grubbing up of vineyards) are or have been implemented, Member States should be given the possibility to limit the issuing of new planting authorisations at regional level in respect of specific areas with excess supply, in order to avoid increasing the production potential.
- (11) *In order to better take into account recent trends in the wine sector, Member States should have the flexibility to set regional limits on the issuing of new planting authorisations for specific areas that are as low as 0 %, with a view to managing the production potential.* Where a Member State decides to set such regional limits for specific areas to avoid an excessive increase in production potential, it is appropriate to allow that Member State to require that the authorisations granted for the area concerned by the regional limit be used in that area. ■
- (12) *Products with a protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication have unique characteristics, linked to their geographical origin as well as traditional know-how. In order to protect the reputation of such products and to avoid the risk of significant devaluation or improper use by third parties, it is appropriate to allow Member States to set limitations in granting new planting authorisations, to adopt measures to prevent the circumvention of rules concerning the safeguard mechanism for new plantings, and to lay down the eligibility and priority criteria for the granting of authorisations for new plantings in the areas concerned.*

- (13) *In order to avoid aggravating the risk of oversupply in regions where a Member State has opted to limit the granting of new planting authorisations, the Member State should be able to set eligibility conditions for the granting of new planting authorisations to avoid excessive yields in the new vineyards planted in the regions concerned.*
- (14) *It should be clarified that, when granting vine planting authorisations, Member States should be able to use objective, non-discriminatory eligibility and priority criteria that result in preference being given to vineyards that contribute to improving products with geographical indications or their quality.*
- (15) *When Member States decide to make use of the possibility of limiting the issuing of authorisations at regional level, taking into consideration recommendations presented by recognised professional organisations operating in the wine sector, it is appropriate to further clarify which kinds of organisations can issue such recommendations.*
- (16) *Replanting authorisations are granted to producers who have grubbed up an area planted with vines and submitted an application. It should be clarified that a winegrower who receives support for the grubbing up of vines in accordance with Article 216(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 or Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (o), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵ is not entitled to a replanting authorisation for the area in question.*
- (17) *Replanting authorisations must be used on the same holding on which the grubbing up was undertaken, but it is possible to use them on a different plot of land within the same holding. Given that holdings can consist of plots of land in different production regions, it is important to give Member States the possibility to ensure that, in areas eligible for the production of wine with protected designation of origin or protected geographical indications, no replanting authorisations resulting from the grubbing-up of vineyards outside that area are used. It is appropriate that Member States take*

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021 establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1305/2013 and (EU) No 1307/2013 (OJ L 435, 6.12.2021, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2115/oj>).

such a decision on the basis of a recommendation from a professional organisation that is representative in the area concerned.

- (18) While the replanting of a grubbed-up vineyard does not increase the vineyard area, Member States should be given the possibility to set rules for replanting in order to better manage the territorial distribution of vineyards, for instance to avoid the relocation of vineyards to regions with a market imbalance or away from slopes and terraces, where they play an important role in the preservation of the landscape and avoid soil erosion. Member States should also be given the possibility to set conditions in respect of ***vines producing specific types of wine*** and production methods ***identified by the Member State as significantly increasing the average yield of the production region, or conditions*** to ensure preservation of traditional ■ production methods.
- (19) In order to ensure a proportionate approach to the application of the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings while taking into consideration the serious risks that oversupply represents to the market, it is appropriate to establish a maximum threshold of hectares of planted vineyards below which Member States are exempted from the obligation to apply the scheme of planting authorisations.
- (20) Recent years have seen an ever-increasing demand on the part of consumers for grapevine products with a reduced alcohol content produced by de-alcoholisation by using certain techniques allowed in the Union. ***The production of partially de-alcoholised wines by the blending, or ‘coupage’, of de-alcoholised wine or partially de-alcoholised wine with wine or partially de-alcoholised wine should be allowed, since it can enhance the sensory characteristics of the final product and offers a way of producing partially de-alcoholised wines more sustainably.***
- (21) High consumer demand for sparkling wine products with a reduced alcohol content or without alcohol represents an opportunity for the sector. However, the ■ rules for the production of de-alcoholised wines impose certain technological limitations on ***the*** production of sparkling wine products■. According to the rules currently in force, wine products must have attained the characteristics and the minimum actual alcoholic strength of the corresponding ***product*** category before undergoing the de-alcoholisation process. ***This*** implies that ***de-alcoholised and partially*** de-alcoholised sparkling wine products can ***only*** be produced ■ from sparkling wines of the same category. However, the de-

alcoholisation process entirely removes *the carbon dioxide* from the initial sparkling wine. Consequently, ■ to produce a sparkling wine product with reduced or no alcohol content, it is necessary to reintroduce the carbon dioxide in the partially or totally de-alcoholised wine ■ using a new, separate process. Therefore, producers should be allowed to produce de-alcoholised *or partially de-alcoholised sparkling wine, semi-sparkling wine*, aerated sparkling *wine and aerated semi-sparkling wine* directly from *a* de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised still *wine by means of* second fermentation or the addition of *carbon dioxide, as appropriate. This would enable the Union wine sector to benefit from new developments in consumer demand while maintaining its high quality production standards.*

- (22) *The rules on the labelling of wine products should be amended in order to better inform the consumer of the characteristics of grapevine products with a reduced alcohol content, while retaining the obligation to provide information on the use of de-alcoholisation. Consumers are familiar with terms such as ‘0,0 %’ and ‘alcohol-free’. However, such terms are regulated differently in different Member States. The terms referring to a reduced alcohol content should comply with the Union rules for labelling the reduced content of certain substances. It is therefore necessary to harmonise the use of these terms across the Union, thereby enabling the wine sector to benefit from new consumer demands while ensuring the functioning of the internal market.*
- (23) *Complying with the Union requirement to include the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration on the labels of exported wine can be burdensome for exporters, especially where the labelling requirements of the importing third countries differ from those of the Union. To facilitate exports in such cases, it is appropriate to exempt the wine to be exported from those Union labelling requirements.*

- (24) Providing the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration of wine products by electronic means is an effective way for operators to present important information to consumers, while facilitating the functioning of the internal market and wine exports. This is particularly the case for small producers. However, the absence of harmonised rules on the identification, on the package or on a label attached to it, of the electronic means providing the list of ingredients and/or the nutrition declaration, has resulted in the emergence of diverging practices by operators and of different rules by national authorities, adversely affecting the proper marketing of wines. In order to minimise costs and the administrative burden for operators, and to ensure a common approach across the Union market, while taking into account the need to make such information accessible to consumers, the Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts, in cooperation with Member States, to supplement Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 by laying down rules on the identification on the package or on the label attached thereto of the electronic means providing consumers with the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration in a harmonised way, including through a language-free system.
- (25) *To reduce the burden on operators, and the uncertainty that they face, it is appropriate to clarify that compulsory particulars should be required to be displayed on any given packaging only once.*

- (26) *In order to ensure that the form and layout of the electronic means is able to meet new needs arising from the fast and constant progress of digitalisation and to enable those electronic means to include other relevant information for consumers required by Union or national law and allowed to be presented electronically, thereby reducing the administrative burden on operators, the Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts to supplement Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 by laying down rules on the presentation of information on electronic labels.*
- (27) *Experience has shown that when a term referring to a holding in the wine sector has been reserved at Union level, and is subject to certain conditions, its use in trademarks or commercial names can be misleading for consumers. Therefore, the Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts to supplement Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 by laying down rules on the relationship between terms referring to a holding and trademarks and commercial names.*

(28) Member States have the possibility to adopt marketing rules to regulate the supply in the wine sector to improve and stabilise the operation of the common wine market. In the current context of the structural decrease in consumption and recurrent situations of oversupply in certain regions and market segments, it is appropriate to clarify that such rules can include the setting of maximum grape yields and the management of wine stocks. Moreover, producer *groups managing protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications, as well as recognised producer* organisations, can play an important role *in adapting supply to market trends and* in strengthening the position of winegrowers in the supply *chain*. Therefore, Member States should also be able to adopt marketing rules in the wine sector, taking into account proposals adopted by recognised interbranch organisations, *by producer groups managing protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications or by recognised producer organisations* when they are representative in the concerned *production* area or areas.

(29) *The special commercial value of wines covered by a protected designation of origin or protected geographical indication derives from their reputation based on the quality value that consumers attribute to their characteristics. To prevent their quality credentials from being undermined by detrimental price action, interbranch organisations and producer groups managing protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications should, where they are representative in the related geographical area for the different professional categories operating in the wine sector, be able to issue price guidance concerning the sales of the relevant grapes, musts or wines. However, such guidance should be non-mandatory, in order to prevent excessive restriction of price competition within the same geographical indication. Moreover, as an additional safeguard, the relevant national competition authority should be allowed to decide in individual cases to modify or discontinue price guidance indicators if necessary to prevent competition being excluded or the jeopardising of the objectives set out in Article 39 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).*

(30) Member States can currently be authorised to make national payments to wine producers for the voluntary or mandatory distillation of wine. Given the cost-effectiveness of removing surplus production from the market before wine is produced, it is appropriate, in justified cases of crisis, to allow Member States to be authorised to make national payments for voluntary green harvesting and voluntary grubbing up of productive vineyards, ***subject to certain conditions. In order to avoid distortion of competition, it is necessary to lay down the main criteria to be used for determining the maximum national payment per unit of product or per hectare. To that same end,*** this Regulation should ***also*** set limits for the overall amount of national payments authorised in a Member State in any given year for distillation and green harvesting. For grubbing up, given the structural nature of the measure and its higher costs, it is not appropriate to set an overall maximum amount of national payments. However, Member States should justify in their notification ***to the Commission*** the limit for national payments on a case-by-case basis based on their specific market circumstances and those of the wine regions in which the measure would be implemented.

- (31) *In order to avoid distortion of competition and to assure the efficacy and proportionality of the crisis measures for which national payments are to be authorised, the Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts to supplement Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 by laying down rules on the general conditions of eligibility and the priority criteria to be set by Member States in respect to the allocation of such national payments, for determining the market situations under which such measures are justified, on the calculation of national payments and on their coherence with other support measures for the wine sector within the common agricultural policy (CAP).*
- (32) Aromatised wine products are a natural outlet for grapevine products. However, Regulation (EU) No 251/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶ does not allow the use of the sales denominations reserved for aromatised wine products for beverages which do not reach the minimum actual alcohol content laid down in that Regulation for each product category. In view of the increasing consumer demand for innovative alcoholic beverages with a lower actual alcoholic strength by volume, it should be possible to place on the market beverages obtained from de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised wines produced in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 that have sales denominations that are reserved for aromatised wine products.

⁶ Regulation (EU) No 251/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the definition, description, presentation and labelling of aromatised wine products and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 1601/91 (OJ L 84, 20.3.2014, p. 14, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2014/251/oj>).

- (33) In order to ensure that consumers are correctly informed of the nature of aromatised wine products with a reduced alcohol content, it is appropriate to lay down rules in line with those laid down in Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 for the labelling of de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised wines, so that aromatised wine products obtained from de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised wines are described in their presentation and labelling by the same terms as grapevine products with the corresponding alcohol content. ***It is also appropriate to align the language requirements applicable to aromatised wine products with those already applicable to grapevine products.***
- (34) The issues highlighted for grapevine products in relation to the identification of the electronic means containing the nutrition declaration and the list of ingredients are valid also for aromatised wine products. Therefore, the Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts ***to supplement Regulation (EU) No 251/2014 by laying down*** rules on the identification on the package or on the label attached thereto of the electronic means for aromatised wine products.

- (35) In order to meet new consumer demands and the need for product innovation, rules on the production and labelling of the aromatised wine product categories ‘*Glühwein*’, ‘*Viiniglögi/Vinglögg/Karštas vynas*’ and ‘*Pelin*’ should be amended to allow for them to be produced using rosé wine and for this to be indicated in the labelling. At the same time, the use of the term ‘rosé’ in the presentation and labelling of **■** *Glühwein* and *Pelin* produced by combining red and white wine or any of those with rosé wine should be prohibited. For the same reasons, it is also appropriate to allow alcoholic beverages produced with the same requirements as those laid down for *Glühwein*, but having as their main ingredient fruit wine rather than grapevine products, to use the sales denomination ‘*Glühwein*’ in their presentation and labelling.
- (36) *For the purposes of implementing the restructuring and conversion of vineyards type of intervention, it is appropriate to clarify in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (a)(i), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 that it is also possible for varietal conversion to pursue the objective of increasing the climate resilience of vines.*
- (37) **■** *Wine tourism is an increasingly important commercial activity for many wine operators. In order to support the development of direct sales to tourists in producing regions **■**, it is appropriate to clarify that it is also possible for wine tourism to be the object of investments in marketing structures and tools.*
- (38) *In the current difficult and quickly evolving market situation and with a view to improving the sustainability of vineyards and the knowledge exchange, the availability of advisory services to winegrowers and other operators in the wine sector becomes paramount. Therefore, the types of advisory services listed in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (f), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 should be amended to include important additional advisory services, such as marketing through direct sales, environmental sustainability and diversification from wine production.*

- (39) *Moreover, with a view to increasing the effectiveness of support for the development of wine tourism in different wine regions, it is appropriate to explicitly allow as beneficiaries of the type of intervention referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (i), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 organisations referred to in Articles 152, 156 and 157 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 that are active in the wine sector, producer groups managing protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁷, as well as other professional organisations operating in the wine sector established as beneficiaries by Member States in their CAP Strategic Plans.*
- (40) In order to strike a balance between the need for Member States to ensure efficient restructuring of vineyards and the need to avoid an increase in production that could lead to oversupply, Member States should be allowed to set up conditions for implementing the restructuring and conversion of vineyards, as referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (a), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115. These conditions should aim to avoid increasing yield, and therefore production, for the vineyards subject to this type of intervention.
- (41) To adapt to market trends and harness efficient market opportunities, *including by opening up new export markets and diversifying market outlets*, the ■ duration of the support for promotion and communication operations carried out in third countries *should be three years. Member States should be able to decide to extend the duration of an operation twice for a maximum of three years for each extension, resulting in a maximum period of nine consecutive years. Additionally, Member States should facilitate the access of small producers, as defined in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/273⁸, to*

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 on geographical indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products, as well as traditional specialities guaranteed and optional quality terms for agricultural products, amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2019/787 and (EU) 2019/1753 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 (OJ L, 2024/1143, 23.4.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1143/oj>).

⁸ *Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/273 of 11 December 2017 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings, the vineyard register, accompanying documents and certification, the inward and outward register, compulsory declarations, notifications and publication of notified information, and supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the relevant*

support that is available under the promotion and communication type of intervention, by providing them with a simplified application procedure or by applying objective and non-discriminatory priority criteria concerning new beneficiaries, new markets and new products. Considering the diversity of wine market structures in third countries and the lack of a common definition of “third country market” for the purposes of the promotion and communication types of intervention, it is appropriate to set out some key elements to assist Member States in arriving at their own definition of a third country market for the implementation of those interventions.

checks and penalties, amending Commission Regulations (EC) No 555/2008, (EC) No 606/2009 and (EC) No 607/2009 and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 436/2009 and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/560 (OJ L 58, 28.2.2018, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2018/273/oj).

- (42) *Highly contagious pests, such as flavescence dorée, are a major threat to wine production, since they weaken grapevines by reducing productivity or entirely destroying vine stocks. As a cure is often difficult or impossible once vine stocks are infected, the only way of responding efficiently to the threat is through prevention and management interventions. In view of the high phytosanitary risks posed by such pests, and the importance of systematic and collective action to prevent their spread, it is appropriate to provide specific support for such actions. Consequently, a new type of intervention in the wine sector should be added to the list of types of intervention set out in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115.*
- (43) *Taking into account the severe structural imbalance that exists in certain wine producing regions, it is appropriate to allow Member States to finance permanent grubbing up of productive vineyards through their CAP Strategic Plans. Therefore, a new type of intervention in the wine sector should be added to Article 58(1), first subparagraph, of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115. Like the permanent grubbing-up measure funded by national payments, referred to in Article 216 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, that new type of intervention, namely ‘permanent grubbing up’ should be subject to specific conditions, such as a prohibition on holding or obtaining a valid planting authorisation during a certain period or restrictions imposed by Member States in relation to areas excluded from the scope of the intervention where vineyards play an important environmental, landscape preservation or socio-economic role.*

- (44) *To ensure adequate support for winegrowers in relation to the adaptation to climate change, it is important to provide Member States with the possibility to increase the maximum Union financial assistance to up to 80 % of the actual costs of restructuring and conversion of vineyards if the intervention pursues that objective.*
- (45) To strengthen cooperation in the wine sector, investments referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (b), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 carried out by producer organisations recognised under Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, **such as cooperatives**, should benefit from the maximum rate of Union financial assistance set out in Article 59(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115, as is already the case for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the meaning of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC⁹.
- (46) To further support producers in respect of climate change mitigation and adaptation, **as well as to facilitate improvements in the sustainability of production systems and the reduction of the environmental impact**, it is appropriate to provide for the possibility for Member States to increase the maximum Union financial assistance for investments pursuing that objective to up to **80 %** of the eligible investment costs.

⁹ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p. 36, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2003/361/oj>).

- (47) Moreover, it is necessary to clarify that the Union financial assistance for innovation referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (e), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 should not be granted to enterprises in difficulty within the meaning of Commission Communication ‘Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial undertakings in difficulty’ as is the case for Union financial assistance for investments referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (b), of that Regulation.
- (48) *In addition, to ensure that the enlarged scope of the advisory services type of intervention referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (f), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 is accompanied by an appropriate set of financial rules, it is necessary to lay down the maximum percentage of Union financial assistance that can be granted to that type of intervention.*

- (49) *To further support the information, promotion and communication types of intervention referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, points (h) and (k), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115, it should be possible for Member States to increase the maximum Union financial assistance for such interventions to up to 60 % of the eligible expenditure. Furthermore, it should also be possible for Member States to provide a national contribution to the eligible costs of these types of intervention. Considering that micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the meaning of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC face financial constraints more often when carrying out communication and promotion campaigns than is the case for large enterprises, Member States should be given the possibility to provide a higher financial support to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.*
- (50) *To provide sufficient support for the fight against highly infectious pests, it is appropriate to allow the type of intervention referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (n), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 to benefit from Union financial assistance covering up to 100 % of the eligible expenditure.*

- (51) *Moreover, it is necessary to lay down the maximum Union financial assistance for permanent grubbing up under the type of intervention referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (o), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115. Such assistance should amount to a percentage of the sum of the direct costs of grubbing up and the estimated loss of revenue for one year in respect of the area grubbed up. In addition, it should also be possible for Member States to provide an additional national contribution.*
- (52) *Spirit drinks with a geographical indication are often reliant on complex supply chains involving several operators performing different production stages. Arrangements that rely on flexible sourcing are very common. The specific labelling obligation for spirit drinks laid down in Article 37(5) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, requiring the indication of the producer's name in the same field of vision as the geographical indication, has been shown not to fit the structure of most of the spirit drinks' supply chain well. To avoid disruption of established practices and imposing disproportionate burdens on operators in this sector, especially on small and medium-sized producers, it is appropriate to remove that obligation.*

(53) *In order to* supplement the relevant rules and to take into account the specific characteristics of the wine sector, *the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 TFEU should be delegated to the Commission in respect of the conditions for the application of the exemption* from the application of the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings, *the conditions for the grubbing up of abandoned vineyards, the rules relating to the criteria for granting authorisations for new plantings, including the addition of criteria, the co-existence of vines that the producer has undertaken to grub up with newly planted vines, the grounds for Member State decisions regarding replantings, the general conditions of eligibility and the priority criteria to be set by Member States in respect to the allocation of the national payments, elements that determine* the existence of a crisis situation, the calculation *method for* the national payments and *the coherence with other Union support measures for the wine sector; as well as* the identification on the package or on the label attached thereto of the electronic means and the form and layout of the information provided by electronic means. *It is of particular importance that the Commission carry out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level, and that those consultations be conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making¹⁰. In particular, to ensure equal participation in the preparation of delegated acts, the European Parliament and the Council receive all documents at the same time as Member States' experts, and their experts systematically have access to meetings of Commission expert groups dealing with the preparation of delegated acts.*

¹⁰ OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2016/512/oj.

- (54) *Since the objectives of this Regulation, namely the improvement of certain market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products, as well as certain labelling rules for spirit drinks, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, but can rather, by reason of the scale and effects of this Regulation, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives.*
- (55) Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) No 251/2014, (EU) 2021/2115 *and (EU) 2024/1143* should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (56) In order to allow time for producers to adapt to the new requirements concerning the designation of grapevine products with a reduced alcohol content , those new requirements should start to apply 18 months from the date of entry into force of this amending Regulation. It is also appropriate to provide transitional rules to allow grapevine products labelled prior to the application of the new requirements to continue to be placed on the market until stocks are exhausted.
- (57) *The application date of the provisions on a maximum threshold of hectares of planted vineyards which exempt Member States from the obligation to apply the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings should be postponed by 48 months in order to allow sufficient time to implement it for those Member States whose vineyard area is above the maximum threshold of hectares at the date of entry into force of this amending Regulation,*

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1
Amendments to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 is amended as follows:

(1) *in Article 3(5), the following point is added:*

‘(c) ‘Green harvesting’ means the total destruction or removal of grape bunches while still in their immature stage, thereby reducing the yield of the relevant area to zero, and excluding non-harvesting comprising of leaving commercial grapes on the plants at the end of the normal production cycle.’;

(2) *Article 61 is replaced by the following:*

‘Article 61

Duration

The scheme of authorisations for vine plantings established in this Chapter shall apply from 1 January 2016, with a review to be undertaken by the Commission in 2028 and every ten years thereafter to evaluate the operation of the scheme. The Commission may, if appropriate, make proposals.’;

(3) Article 62 is amended as follows:

(a) paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

‘3. Authorisations ■ granted in accordance with *Article 64* shall be valid until the last day of the third *marketing year following the marketing year* in which they were granted. A producer who has not used an authorisation granted in accordance with Articles 64 and 68 during its period of validity shall be subject to the administrative penalties *referred to* in Article 90a(4).

By way of derogation from the *first* subparagraph of this paragraph, producers who hold a valid authorisation *granted* in accordance with Articles 64 and 68 ■ before 1 January 2025 shall not be subject to the administrative *penalties* referred to in Article 90a(4) provided that they inform the competent authorities before the date of expiry of their authorisation, and at the latest by 31 December 2026, that they do not intend to make use of it.

Where a well-determined area is gravely affected by one or both of the cases of force majeure or exceptional circumstances referred to in Article 3(1), points (a) and (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2116, the Member State concerned may extend the validity of the authorisations granted in accordance with Article 64 of this Regulation to be used in that area that are due to expire by the end of the marketing year in which one or both of those cases of force majeure or exceptional circumstances occur by up to twelve months. Planting authorisations may be extended under this subparagraph only once. The Member State concerned shall inform the holders of every authorisation concerned that its validity has been extended. Where, by 31 December of the marketing year following the one in which one or both of the cases of force majeure or exceptional circumstances occurred, the holder of a planting authorisation informs the competent authorities of the Member State that it renounces the authorisation, the administrative penalties provided for in the first subparagraph shall not apply.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, the competent authorities of the Member State concerned may waive the administrative penalties provided for in Article 90a(4) of this Regulation upon a justified request from the holder of a planting authorisation granted in accordance with Articles 64 and 68 of this Regulation affected by a case of force majeure or exceptional circumstances referred to in Article 3(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/2116.

Authorisations granted in accordance with Article 66 on or after [date of entry into force of this amending Regulation] and authorisations granted in accordance with that Article which are valid on that day shall be valid until the last day of the eighth marketing year *following the marketing year in* which they were granted. Producers who have not used an authorisation granted in accordance with Article 66 during its period of validity shall not be subject to the administrative *penalties* referred to in Article 90a(4).

Authorisations covered by the transitional provisions of Article 68 shall expire on the last day of the last marketing year of their validity.’;

(b) *the following paragraph is added:*

‘6. *Member States may require abandoned vineyards to be grubbed up for health and phytosanitary reasons.’;*

(4) Article 63 is amended as follows:

(a) paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

‘2. Member States may:

(a) apply at national level a lower percentage than the percentage set out in paragraph 1;

- (b) limit the issuing of authorisations, *or not issue authorisations, for new plantings* at regional level, for specific areas eligible for the production of wines with a protected designation of origin, for areas eligible for the production of wines with a protected geographical indication, or for areas without a geographical indication;
- (c) limit the issuing of authorisations, *or not issue authorisations*, for new plantings at regional level, for specific areas *or for vines producing specific types of wine*, where national or Union measures concerning distillation of wine, green harvesting or grubbing up have been implemented in justified cases of crisis.

■ Member States that limit the issuing of authorisations for new plantings at regional level in accordance with the first subparagraph, point (b) or (c), may require such authorisations to be used in *the* regions *concerned*.’;

(b) paragraph 3 *is amended as follows:*

(i) *the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:*

‘3. Any of the limitations referred to in paragraph 2 that are applied shall contribute to the *management of* the production potential ■ . They shall be justified on one or more of the following specific grounds:’;

(ii) *points (a) and (b) are replaced by the following:*

‘(a) *the need to avoid a demonstrated risk of oversupply of wine products in relation to market prospects for those products, where the limitations do not exceed what is necessary to satisfy that need;*

(b) *the need to avoid a demonstrated risk of significant devaluation or improper use by third parties seeking to profit from the reputation of a particular protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication;*’;

(5) *Article 64 is amended as follows:*

(a) *in paragraph 1, the following point is added:*

‘(e) in regions where the Member State has decided to limit the granting of new planting authorisations pursuant to Article 63(2), point (c), the applicant shall comply with the eligibility criteria established for the purpose of avoiding excessive yields in the new vineyards to be planted.’;

(b) *in paragraph 2, point (g) is replaced by the following:*

‘(g) projects with the potential to improve products with geographical indications or their quality;’;

(6) *in Article 65, the first paragraph is replaced by the following:*

‘When applying Article 63(2), a Member State may take into account recommendations presented by recognised professional organisations operating in the wine sector referred to in Articles 152, 156 and 157 of this Regulation, by producer groups referred to in Articles 32 and 33 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 or by other types of professional organisations recognised on the basis of that Member State's legislation, provided that those recommendations are preceded by an agreement entered into by the relevant representative parties in the reference geographical area.’;

(7) *Article 66 is amended as follows:*

(a) *in paragraph 1, the following subparagraph is added:*

‘By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, producers who have grubbed up an area planted with vines in accordance with Article 216(1) of this Regulation or Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (o), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 shall not be entitled to apply for and to receive a replanting authorisation for that area.’;

(b) *paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:*

‘3. The authorisation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be used on the same holding on which the grubbing up was undertaken. Member States may, on the basis of a recommendation from a recognised professional organisation referred to in Articles 152, 156 and 157 of this Regulation or a producer group referred to in Articles 32 and 33 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, restrict in areas eligible for the production of wines with protected designation of origin or protected geographical indications the use of replanting authorisations resulting from the grubbing-up of vineyards outside that area.’;

(c) the following paragraph is inserted:

‘ 3a. A Member State may ■ make its granting of the replanting authorisations referred to in paragraph 1 subject to one or more of the following conditions:

- (a) the authorisation shall be used in the same geographical area, ***defined by the Member State***, in which the relevant grubbed up vines were located, where maintaining viticulture in that geographical area is justified by socio-economic or environmental reasons;
- (b) only ***vines producing specific types of wine*** and production methods ***not identified by the Member State as significantly increasing*** the average yield ***of the production region***, or only ■ production methods ***traditional to that*** region shall be used where the relevant grubbed up area ***is*** located in a production region that the Member State has qualified as affected by a structural market imbalance;

- (c) the authorisation shall not be used in a different production region from the one in which the grubbed up area is located where the Member State has qualified that different production region as affected by a structural market imbalance;
- (d) *Member States may set criteria for the allocation and management of replanting authorisations in order to avoid increasing vineyard areas and wine production in regions prone to oversupply in which crisis measures have been applied, as well as in order to take account of market developments, in accordance with their national or regional sectorial strategies.*

The conditions referred to in points (b), (c) and (d) of the second subparagraph shall not apply to replanting authorisations in areas characterised by the exceptional difficulty of cultivation due to structural and morphological factors referred to in Part D of Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/273.*

* *Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/273 of 11 December 2017 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings, the vineyard register, accompanying documents and certification, the inward and outward register, compulsory declarations, notifications and publication of notified information, and supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the relevant checks and penalties, amending Commission Regulations (EC) No 555/2008, (EC) No 606/2009 and (EC) No 607/2009 and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 436/2009 and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/560 (OJ L 58, 28.2.2018, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2018/273/oj);*

(8) Article 67 is replaced by the following:

‘Article 67

De minimis

The scheme of authorisations for vine plantings established in this Chapter shall not apply in Member States where the vineyard area has not exceeded 10 000 ha in at least three of the previous five marketing years ***unless the Member State decides to implement the scheme of authorisations.*** Where ***the condition of the area not exceeding 10 000 ha*** is no longer fulfilled ■ , the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings shall apply ■ as from the beginning of the marketing year following that in which the condition ceased to be fulfilled.’;

(9) *Article 69 is replaced by the following:*

‘Article 69

Delegated powers

The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 227 to supplement this Regulation by laying down additional rules concerning:

- (a) the conditions for the application of the exemption, referred to in Article 62(4);*
- (b) the conditions for the grubbing up of abandoned vineyards, referred to in Article 62(6);*
- (c) the rules relating to the criteria, referred to in Article 64(1) and (2);*
- (d) the co-existence of vines that the producer has undertaken to grub up with newly planted vines pursuant to Article 66(2);*
- (e) the grounds for Member State decisions under Article 66(3) and (3a).*

The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 227 to amend this Regulation by adding additional criteria to those listed in Article 64(1) and (2).’;

(10) Article 119 is amended as follows:

(a) *paragraph 1 is amended as follows:*

(i) point (a) is replaced by the following:

‘(a) the designation for the category of the grapevine product in accordance with Part II of Annex VII. For grapevine product categories defined under Part II, point (1) and points (4) to (9) of Annex VII, where a de-alcoholisation treatment in accordance with Part I, Section E of Annex VIII, has been applied to the totality or to part of the product, that designation *supplemented* by:

- (i) the term ‘alcohol-free’ if the actual alcoholic strength of the product does not exceed 0,5 % by volume; accompanied by the expression ‘**0,0 %**’, if the actual alcoholic strength of the product does not exceed **0,05 %** by volume;
- (ii) the term ‘*reduced alcohol*’ if the actual alcoholic strength of the product is above 0,5 % by volume and is at least 30 % below the minimum actual alcoholic strength of the products in the category before de-alcoholisation;’■

(ii) the following point ■ is added:

‘(k) for grapevine products where a de-alcoholisation treatment has been applied to the totality or to part of the product, the *term* ‘produced by de-alcoholisation’.’;

(iii) *the following subparagraph is added:*

‘The obligation to indicate the compulsory particulars on any given packaging applies only once in respect of that packaging.’;

(b) *the following paragraph is added:*

‘6. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, first subparagraph, the requirement to indicate the particulars referred to in points (h) and (i) shall not apply in the case of wine products solely intended for export.’;

(11) *in Article 122, paragraph 1 is amended as follows:*

(a) *in point (c), point (iii) is replaced by the following:*

‘(iii) terms referring to a holding, the conditions for their use and their relationship with trademarks and commercial names.’;

(b) in point (d), the following points are added:

‘(v) the identification on the package or on the label attached thereto of the electronic means referred to in Article 119(4) and (5), including by means of a **common** pictogram or symbol instead of words;

(vi) the form and layout of the information provided by electronic means, to simplify its presentation, to adapt it to future technological progress **and** to new requirements concerning **compulsory** information relevant to consumers as provided for by Union law or national legislation, or to improve consumer accessibility.’; ■

(12) in Article 167(1), the first subparagraph is replaced by the following:

- ‘1. In order to improve and stabilise the operation of the common market in wines, including the grapes, musts and wines from which they derive, **producing** Member States may lay down marketing rules to regulate supply, including the setting of maximum yields and setting rules for the management of stocks. Member States **may** take into account, **in decreasing order of priority, decisions** adopted by interbranch organisations recognised under Articles 157 and 158 of **this Regulation, producer groups referred to in Articles 32 and 33 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, and producer organisations recognised under Articles 152 and 154 of this Regulation, where** such organisations **and groups** are considered to be representative of the wine sector ■ in accordance with Article 164(3) **and Article 166a(2) of this Regulation**, in the economic area or areas where the rules are intended to be applied.’;

(13) Article 172b is replaced by the following:

‘Article 172b

Guidance by interbranch organisations and producer groups for the sale of grapes, musts and wines in bulk with a protected designation of origin or protected geographical indication

- 1. By way of derogation from Article 101(1) TFEU, interbranch organisations recognised under Article 157 of this Regulation and recognised producer groups referred to in Article 33 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 operating in the wine sector, where such organisations and groups are considered to be representative in accordance with Article 164(3) and Article 166a(2) of this Regulation in the relevant geographical area, may provide non-mandatory price guidance indicators concerning the sale of grapes, musts and wines in bulk for the production of wines with a protected designation of origin or protected geographical indication, provided that such guidance does not eliminate competition in respect of a substantial proportion of the products in question.***

2. *The national competition authority referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 may decide in individual cases that, in future, one or more of the price guidance indicators referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article are to be modified, discontinued or not provided at all if it considers that this is necessary in order to prevent competition being eliminated in respect of a substantial proportion of the products in question or if it considers that the objectives set out in Article 39 TFEU are jeopardised.*

When acting under the first subparagraph of this paragraph, the national competition authority shall inform the Commission in writing before or without delay after initiating the first formal measure of the investigation and shall notify the Commission of the decisions without delay after their adoption.

The decisions referred to in this paragraph shall not apply earlier than the date of their notification to the undertakings concerned.’;

(14) Article 216 is amended as follows:

(a) the title is replaced by the following:

‘National payments for distillation of wine, green harvesting **and** grubbing up in justified cases of crisis’;

(b) paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

‘1. Member States may make national payments to wine producers for the voluntary or mandatory distillation of wine, voluntary green harvesting and voluntary grubbing up of productive vineyards in justified cases of crisis.

■

The payments referred to in the first subparagraph ***in respect of crisis distillation and green harvesting*** shall not exceed the ***sum of*** the cost ■ of the operation concerned, ***of*** an incentive to engage in such operation and, where relevant, of the cost of the product, ■ and shall be sufficient to enable the crisis to be addressed.

The payments referred to in the first subparagraph in respect of grubbing up of productive vineyards shall not exceed the sum of the direct cost of carrying out the grubbing up and financial compensation, which may cover up to 100 % of the estimated loss of revenue for one year in respect of the grubbed-up area.

Those payments shall be proportionate and shall be sufficient to enable the crisis to be addressed.

The overall amount of payments available in a Member State in any given year for national payments for distillation and green harvesting shall not exceed **25 % of** the globally available funds per Member State for that year as laid down in Annex VII to Regulation (EU) 2021/2115. ';

(c) paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

- '2. Member States wishing to make use of the national payments referred to in paragraph 1 shall submit a duly substantiated notification to the Commission. In those notifications, Member States shall justify the appropriateness of the measure, its duration and the amounts of support and other detailed arrangements on the basis of their specific market circumstances and those of the wine regions in which the measure would be implemented.

The Commission shall decide, without applying the committee procedure referred to in Article 229(2) or (3), whether the amount, duration and other detailed arrangements of the measure are approved and whether the payments to wine producers can be made.

Beneficiaries of national payments for grubbing up under this Article shall not be eligible to apply for new planting authorisations in accordance with Article 64 during the 10 marketing years following the one in which the grubbing up took place. Any valid authorisation for new plantings held by such beneficiaries shall be revoked by the Member State when the application for grubbing up is approved.

Member States may exclude from the payments for grubbing up areas where vineyards play an important environmental, landscape preservation or socioeconomic role.

In the production areas and for the types of wines for which one of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article has been implemented for three consecutive years, the Member State concerned shall suspend the granting of new planting authorisations in accordance with Article 64 until the end of the second marketing year following the last marketing year in which the measure was applied.

Member States may establish eligibility conditions and priority criteria in order to guarantee the effectiveness and targeting of the measure.’;

(d) paragraph 4 is replaced by the following:

‘4. The Commission ***is empowered to*** adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 227 to supplement this Article by laying down rules concerning:

- (a) ***the general conditions of eligibility and the priority criteria to be set by Member States in respect to the allocation of the national payments referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article;***
- (b) ***elements that determine*** the existence of a crisis situation;
- (c) the calculation ***method for*** the national payments; ***and***
- (d) ***the coherence of such national payments with other Union support measures for the wine sector within the CAP, including the eligibility of beneficiaries or of the production regions covered by these national payments to other Union support measures.***’;

(15) in Part II of Annex VII, the following ■ subparagraphs *are added* to the introductory wording:

‘Grapevine products of the categories set out in points (4) *and (8) may* be obtained ■ by second fermentation of *de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised wines referred to in point (1)*.

Grapevine products of the categories set out in points (7) and (9) may be obtained by the addition of carbon dioxide to ■ de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised wines referred to in point (1).’.

Article 2

Amendments to Regulation (EU) No 251/2014

Regulation (EU) No 251/2014 is amended as follows:

(1) in Article 3, the following paragraph is added:

‘5. By way of derogation from the minimum *actual alcoholic strength and total* alcoholic strength thresholds laid down in paragraph 2, point (g), paragraph 3, point (g), and paragraph 4, point (f), of this Article, and in Annex II to, this Regulation for each product category, aromatised wine products may have a lower actual *and lower total* alcoholic strength by volume where they are obtained from grapevine products that have undergone in their totality or in part a de-alcoholisation treatment in accordance with Part I, Section E of Annex VIII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013.’;

(2) in Article 5, the following paragraph is inserted:

‘1a. Where aromatised wine products have been obtained from grapevine products that have undergone in their totality or in part a de-alcoholisation treatment in accordance with Part I, Section E of Annex VIII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, their sales denominations shall be supplemented by the ■ terms ■ laid down ■ in Article 119(1), point **(a)(i) and (ii)**, and in Article 119(1), point (k), of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 under the ■ conditions ***laid down therein***.’;

(3) in Article 6a, the following paragraph is added:

‘5. In order to take into account the specific characteristics of the aromatised wine sector, the Commission *is* empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 33 to supplement this Regulation by laying down rules on:

(a) the identification on the package, or on the label attached thereto, of the electronic means referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 ***of this Article***, including by means of a ***common*** pictogram or symbol instead of words;

- (b) the form and layout of the information provided by electronic means, to simplify its presentation, to adapt it to future technological progress **and** to new requirements concerning **mandatory** information relevant to consumers as provided for by Union law or national legislation, or to improve consumer accessibility.’;

(4) the following article is inserted:

‘Article 6b

Repetition of mandatory particulars

The obligation to indicate the mandatory particulars on any given packaging applies only once in respect of that packaging.’;

(5) *in Article 8, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:*

‘1. The sales denominations set out in italics in Annex II shall not be translated on the label or in the presentation of aromatised wine products.

Additional and mandatory particulars referred to in Article 6 and Article 6a as well as the terms referred to in Article 5(1a) shall, where expressed in words, appear in one or more official languages of the Union.’;

(6) in Part B of Annex II, point (8) is replaced by the following:

‘(8) *Glühwein*

Aromatised wine-based drink

- which is obtained exclusively from red, white or rosé wine or a combination thereof,
- which is flavoured mainly with cinnamon or cloves, or both, and
- which has an actual alcoholic strength by volume of not less than 7 % vol.

Without prejudice to the quantities of water resulting from the application of Annex I, point 2, the addition of water is forbidden.

Where it has been prepared ***exclusively*** from white wine, the sales denomination ‘*Glühwein*’ shall be supplemented ***with*** the term ‘white’.

Where it has been prepared exclusively from rosé wine, the sales denomination shall be supplemented ***with*** the term ‘rosé’. The term ‘rosé’ shall however not be used where the *Glühwein* is obtained by combining red wine with white wine or any of those wines with rosé wine.

Where it has been prepared from a combination of red, white or rosé wine, the sales denomination shall be supplemented with the words ‘made from ...’ followed by terms indicating the colour of the wines used in the production.

By way of derogation from Article 5(1) and (3) of this Regulation *and the first and third indents of the first subparagraph of this point*, the sales denomination ‘*Glühwein*’ may be used in the presentation and labelling of *fermented* beverages produced in accordance with the above requirements ■ which have been obtained from *fruit wine, as defined by Member States in accordance with Part II, point 1, fifth subparagraph, point (a), of Annex VII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, and which have an actual alcoholic strength by volume of not less than 5 % vol.* In that case, the sales denomination *of that fermented beverage may use the term ‘Glühwein’ supplemented by the word ‘fruit’ or the name of the fruit used for the production of such fruit wine.’;*

(7) *in Part B of Annex II, point (9) is replaced by the following:*

‘(9) Viiniglögi/Vinglögg/Karštas vynas

Aromatised wine-based drink

- *which is obtained exclusively from red, white or rosé wine,*
- *which is flavoured mainly with cinnamon or cloves, or both, and*
- *which has an actual alcoholic strength by volume of not less than 7 % vol.*

Where it has been prepared exclusively from white, red or rosé wine, the sales denomination shall be supplemented with the terms ‘white’, ‘red’ or ‘rosé’, respectively.’;

(8) *in Part B of Annex II, point (12) is replaced by the following:*

'(12) Pelin

Aromatised wine-based drink

- *which is obtained from red, white or rosé wine or from a combination thereof and a specific mixture of herbs,*
- *which has an actual alcoholic strength by volume of not less than 8,5 % vol.,*
- *which has a maximum sugar content expressed as invert sugar of at most 50 grams per litre, and a total acidity of not less than 3 grams per litre expressed as tartaric acid, and*
- *to which carbon dioxide may have been added.*

Where the product is obtained by combining red wine with white wine or any of these wines with rosé wine, the term 'rosé' may not supplement the sales denomination.

Where it has been prepared from a combination of red, white or rosé wine, the sales denomination shall be supplemented with the words 'made from ...' followed by terms indicating the colour of the wines used in the production.'

Article 3

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2021/2115

Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 is amended as follows:

(1) in Article 45, point (d) is replaced by the following:

‘(d) the maximum level of Union financial assistance for the types of intervention referred to in Article 47(2), points (a), (c), (f), (g), (h) and (i), and for the types of intervention referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, points (c), (d), (l), (n) and (o), including packaging and transport rates for products withdrawn for free distribution and processing costs prior to delivery for that purpose;’

(2) Article 58(1) is amended as follows:

(a) the first subparagraph is amended as follows:

(i) in point (a), point (i) is replaced by the following:

‘(i) varietal conversions, also by means of grafting-on, including for improving quality or environmental sustainability, for reasons of adaptation to climate change, increasing the climate resilience of vines, or for the enhancement of genetic diversity;’

(ii) point (b) is replaced by the following:

‘(b) investments in tangible assets and intangible assets in winegrowing farming systems, excluding operations relevant to the type of intervention provided for in point (a), in processing facilities and winery infrastructure, as well as in marketing structures and tools, including marketing through wine tourism;’;

(iii) point (f) is replaced by the following:

‘(f) advisory services, in particular concerning the conditions of employment, employer obligations and occupational health and safety, direct sales, environmental sustainability and diversification from wine production;’;

(iv) point (i) is replaced by the following:

‘(i) actions ***aimed at enhancing the reputation of Union vineyards by promoting wine tourism in production regions*** undertaken by ***organisations operating*** in the wine sector ***referred to in Articles 152, 156 and 157 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013***, by producer groups managing protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications in accordance with ***Articles 32 and 33 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council****, ***or any other professional organisations, wine producer organisations or associations of wine producer organisations established by Member States in their CAP Strategic Plans***;

* Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 on geographical indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products, as well as traditional specialities guaranteed and optional quality terms for agricultural products, amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2019/787 and (EU) 2019/1753 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 (OJ L, 2024/1143, 23.4.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1143/oj>).’;

(v) *the following points are added:*

- ‘(n) monitoring, diagnostic, training, communication and research to prevent the spread of relevant pests referred to in Part B of Annex II and Part C of Annex IV to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072* undertaken by producer organisations recognised under Articles 152 and 154 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, interbranch organisations recognised by Member States under Articles 157 and 158 of that Regulation, or producer groups managing protected designation of origin and protected geographical indicators in accordance with Articles 32 and 33 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143;*
- (o) permanent grubbing up of productive vineyards, meaning the complete elimination of vine stocks on a relevant area.*

* *Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072 of 28 November 2019 establishing uniform conditions for the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and the Council, as regards protective measures against pests of plants, and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 690/2008 and amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/2019 (OJ L 319, 10.12.2019, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2019/2072/oj).’;*

- (b) the following ■ subparagraph is inserted after the first subparagraph:

‘For the purposes of the first subparagraph, point (a), Member States may lay down in their CAP Strategic Plans specific agronomic, viticultural or any other kind of conditions which ensure that ■ varietal conversion, ■ relocation of the vineyard, ■ replanting of the vineyard or ■ improvement of the vineyard management techniques ***undertaken under this type of intervention does not generate an increase in yield in the vineyard to be replanted.***’;

- (c) the second subparagraph is replaced by the following:

‘The first subparagraph, point (k), shall apply only to wines with a protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication or wines with an indication of the wine grape variety. Promotion and communication operations ***under the first subparagraph, point (k)***, shall have a limited ***duration of three years***. ***Member States may decide to extend the duration of an operation twice for a maximum of three years for each extension. Each beneficiary may receive support for different operations carried out in the same market under the types of intervention referred to in the first subparagraph, point (k), for a maximum period of nine consecutive years.***

For the purposes of the first subparagraph, point (k), a Member State may consider the promotion and communication operations carried out in a third country to be those that cover the entire territory of the third country, an administrative part of that territory, or a type of market, as defined by that Member State, in the third country.

Member States that choose in their CAP Strategic Plans the types of intervention referred to in the first subparagraph, point (k), shall ensure that small producers have access to funding under those types of intervention by applying relevant measures such as establishing simplified procedures or setting objective and non-discriminatory priority criteria on new beneficiaries, new markets, and new products.’; ■

(d) the following subparagraph is added:

‘For the purposes of the first subparagraph, point (o), producers who have grubbed up productive vineyards under this Article shall not be entitled to apply for new planting authorisations under Article 64 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 during the 10 marketing years following the one in which the grubbing up took place. Where such producers hold valid authorisations for new plantings, such authorisations shall be revoked by the Member State when the application for support of grubbing up is approved. Member States may exclude from the scope of this type of intervention areas where vineyards play an important environmental, landscape preservation or socio-economic role.’;

(3) Article 59 is amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph 1, the following subparagraph is added:

‘By way of derogation from the first and second subparagraphs of this paragraph, the Union financial assistance may cover up to 80 % of the actual costs of restructuring and conversion of vineyards if the intervention is linked to the objective of contributing to climate change adaptation set out in Article 57, point (b).’;

(b) paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

‘2. The Union financial assistance for investments referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (b), shall not exceed:

- (a) 50 % of eligible investment costs in less developed regions;**
- (b) 40 % of eligible investments costs in regions other than less developed regions;**
- (c) 75 % of eligible investment costs in the outermost regions;**
- (d) 65 % of eligible investment costs in the smaller Aegean islands.**

The Union financial assistance at the maximum rate set out in the first subparagraph shall only be granted to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the meaning of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC** and to producer organisations recognised under Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013. However, it may be granted to all enterprises in the outermost regions and in the smaller Aegean islands.

For enterprises, other than producer organisations recognised under Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, which are not covered by Article 2(1) of the Annex to Recommendation 2003/361/EC, with fewer than 750 employees or with an annual turnover of less than EUR 200 million, the maximum levels of Union financial assistance set out in the first subparagraph of this paragraph shall be halved.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph of this paragraph, the Union financial assistance for investments referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (b), may be increased to up to **80 %** of eligible investment costs for investments linked to the objective of contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation *and to the improvement of the sustainability of production systems and the reduction of the environmental impact of the Union wine sector* set out in Article 57, point (b).

No Union financial assistance shall be granted to enterprises in difficulty within the meaning of the Commission Communication entitled ‘Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial undertakings in difficulty’***.

** Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p. 36, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2003/361/oj>).

*** OJ C 249, 31.7.2014, p. 1.’;

(c) *in paragraph 3, the following subparagraph is added:*

‘The Union financial assistance for permanent grubbing up referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (o), shall not exceed 70 % of the sum of the direct costs of carrying out the grubbing up and of the estimated loss of revenue for one year in respect of the grubbed up area. In addition, Member States may provide a national contribution to the intervention of up to 30 % of the sum of the direct costs of carrying out the grubbing up and the estimated loss of revenue for one year in respect of the grubbed up area.’;

(d) *in paragraph 4, the following subparagraph is added:*

*‘However, the Union financial assistance for investments referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (m), may be increased to up to 80 % of eligible investment costs for investments linked to the objective of contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation **and to the improvement of the sustainability of production systems and the reduction of the environmental impact of the Union wine sector** set out in Article 57, point (b).’;*

(e) paragraph 6 is replaced by the following:

‘6. The Union financial assistance for innovation referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (e), shall not exceed:

- (a) 50 % of eligible investment costs in less developed regions;
- (b) 40 % of eligible investment costs in regions other than less developed regions;
- (c) 80 % of eligible investment costs in the outermost regions;
- (d) 65 % of eligible investment costs in the smaller Aegean islands.

The Union financial assistance at the maximum rate set out in the first subparagraph shall only be granted to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the meaning of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC and to producer organisations recognised under Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013. However, it may be granted to all enterprises in the outermost regions and in the smaller Aegean islands.

For enterprises, other than producer organisations recognised under Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, which are not covered by Article 2(1) of the Annex to Recommendation 2003/361/EC, with fewer than 750 employees or with an annual turnover of less than EUR 200 million, the maximum levels of Union financial assistance set out in the first subparagraph of this paragraph shall be halved.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph of this paragraph, the Union financial assistance for investments referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (e), may be increased to up to 80 % of eligible investment costs for investments linked to the objective of contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation *and to the improvement of the sustainability of production systems and the reduction of the environmental impact of the Union wine sector* set out in Article 57, point (b).

No Union financial assistance shall be granted to enterprises in difficulty within the meaning of the Commission Communication entitled ‘Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial undertakings in difficulty’.’;

(f) the following paragraph is inserted:

‘6a. The Union financial assistance for advisory services referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (f), may cover up to 50 % of the eligible expenditure.’;

(g) paragraph 7 is replaced by the following:

‘7. The Union financial assistance for information actions and promotion and communication operations referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, points (h) and (k), shall not exceed 60 % of the eligible expenditure.

In addition, the Member States referred to in Article 88(1) may provide a national contribution to the types of intervention referred to in the first subparagraph of up to 20 % of the eligible expenditure. For micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the meaning of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC active in the wine sector, Member States may provide a national contribution of up to 30 % of the eligible expenditure.’;

(h) the following paragraph is inserted:

‘7a. The Union financial assistance for actions referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (n), against pests referred to in Part B of Annex II and Part C of Annex IV to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072, may cover up to 100 % of the eligible costs.’.

Article 4
Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2024/1143

In Article 37 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, paragraph 5 is amended as follows:

- (1) the second subparagraph is deleted;*
- (2) the fourth subparagraph is replaced by the following:*

‘Agricultural products that are marketed under a geographical indication, which were labelled before 14 May 2026, may continue to be placed on the market without complying with the obligation to indicate the name of the producer or operator in the same field of vision as the geographical indication, until existing stocks are exhausted.’.

Article 5

Transitional provision

Grapevine products in categories defined under Part II, point (1) and points (4) to (9) of Annex VII to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, which have undergone a de-alcoholisation treatment in accordance with Part I, Section E of Annex VIII to that Regulation, and which have been labelled in accordance with Article 119(1), point (a)(i) **and (ii)**, of that Regulation prior to ... [18 months from the date of entry into force of this amending Regulation] may continue to be placed on the market until stocks are exhausted.

Article 6

Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

However, **Article 1, point (8), shall apply from ... [48 months from the date of entry into force of this amending Regulation] and Article 1, point (10), shall apply from ... [18 months from the date of entry into force of this amending Regulation].**

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at ...,

For the European Parliament

For the Council

The President

The President

Statement by the Commission on the occasion of the adoption of Regulation (EU) 2026/... of the European Parliament and of the Council of ... 2026* amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) No 251/2014 and (EU) 2021/2115 as regards certain market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products and Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 as regards certain labelling rules for spirit drinks

The Commission will use its best endeavours to present in the year 2026 to the relevant expert group or committee:

- 1) a draft implementing act amending Regulation (EU) 2018/274 related to the possibility to extend the application of the **simplified procedure for granting replanting authorisations** laid down in Article 9 of that Regulation.
- 2) a draft amendment to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/33, to define the Union system for identification on the package or the label of grapevine products **of the electronic means** referred to in Article 119(4) and (5) of Regulation (EU) 1308/2013.
- 3) a draft amendment to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/934 to include, in the **definition of “coupage”** (‘blending’) the possibility to blend de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised wines with still wines to produce partially de-alcoholised wines.
- 4) a draft delegated act laying down the conditions for the **grubbing up of abandoned vineyards** referred to in new Article 62(6) of Regulation (EU) 1308/2013.

* OJ: Please insert in the title and in the footnote the OJ reference of the Regulation contained in document PE-CONS 65/25 – 2025/0071(COD).