



Council of the European Union

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Ms Veronika VRECIONOVÁ
Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60
B-1047 BRUSSELS

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

Dear Ms VRECIONOVÁ

Following the informal negotiations on this proposal between the representatives of the three institutions, today the Special Committee on Agriculture agreed with the final compromise text.

I am therefore now in a position to inform you that, should the European Parliament adopt its position at first reading, in accordance with Article 294(3) TFEU, in the exact form of the text set out in the Annex to this letter (subject to revision by the lawyer-linguists of the two institutions), the Council, in accordance with Article 294(4) TFEU, will approve the European Parliament's position and the act shall be adopted in the wording which corresponds to the position of the European Parliament.

On behalf of the Council, I also wish to thank you for your close cooperation which should enable us to reach agreement on this proposal at first reading.

Yours sincerely


Sonja CANGER
Chair of the
Special Committee on Agriculture

Copy:

- Mr Christophe HANSEN, Commissioner for Agriculture and Food
- Ms Esther HERRANZ GARCÍA, European Parliament rapporteur

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, and Regulation (EU) No 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 subparagraph, and Article 43(2) thereof, **and Article 118(1)**,

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 procedure,

Whereas:

¹ OJ C , , p. .

² OJ C , , p. .

(1) While the Union remains the global leader in wine production, consumption, and exported value, societal and demographic changes are impacting the amount, quality, and types of wine consumed. Wine consumption in the Union is at its lowest level of the past three decades while traditional export markets for Union wines are impacted by a combination of decreasing consumption trends and geopolitical factors, leading to more uncertain export patterns. In addition, production is becoming unpredictable, given the wine sector's vulnerability to climate change. With the resulting oversupply that leads to a decrease in prices, winegrowers have less income to invest in their business and low financial reserves they can 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 these challenges and to identify possible opportunities for the Union wine sector. It reflected on how to better support the sector in facing current structural challenges by managing the production potential, enhancing competitiveness and exploring new market opportunities. After four meetings, the HLG endorsed a document with policy recommendations³.

(3) In order to provide the best possible support to wine producers facing the above challenges, it is appropriate to reflect the most urgent recommendations of the HLG in the legal framework applicable to wines and aromatised wine products.

³ https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/document/download/f9ee9420-2b95-4788-8dc2-faa3cfb8171a_en?filename=policy-recommendations-wine-sector-hlg_en.pdf

(3a) *The balance between production supply, consumer demand and exports on the world market is currently unstable and the wine sector is faced with 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, 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 vineyards, given that production only takes place several years after planting, but then continues for several decades, and given the potential for considerable fluctuations in production from one harvest to the next. The Union wine sector is also characterised by a very high number of small, family-run farms, which results in a diverse range of wines. In order to guarantee the economic viability of their projects and to improve the competitiveness of the Union wine sector on the global market, operators in the sector and producers therefore need long-term predictability, given the significant investment required to plant a vineyard. In order to secure the achievements of the Union wine sector up to now and to achieve a long-lasting quantitative and qualitative balance in the sector through the continued orderly growth of vine planting, the scheme of authorisations for vine plantings should be extended, but with reviews to be carried out every 10 years, in order to evaluate the scheme and, if appropriate, to present proposals on the basis of the results of those mid-term reviews to improve the competitiveness of the wine sector.*

(4) 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 [] , with a view to *remove* the incentive for planting authorisation holders to plant vineyards where there might be no demand for the wine they will produce. For the new planting authorisations granted after that date, the administrative *penalties* should continue to apply in case of non-use of these authorisations in order to discourage speculative applications from winegrowers who do not have the intention to plant a vineyard.

(4a) *With natural disasters, severe meteorological events and plant disease outbreaks becoming more frequent, Member States should be given the possibility to extend the validity of planting authorisations granted in the region concerned which are due to expire by the end of the wine marketing year during which such types of events occur by up to twelve months. Holders of such planting authorisations should have the possibility to renounce their authorisations without incurring administrative penalties if 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 wine growers, 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 wine grower concerned.*

(5) 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 to plant varieties which are better adapted to the market demand or to the changing climatic conditions or to use 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.

(5a) *The last day of the validity of authorisations granted under Articles 64, 66 and 68 is currently dependent on their date of issuance. As an administrative simplification, all those authorisations should remain valid until the last day of the corresponding wine marketing year.*

(5b) *Abandoned vineyards can harbour pests and diseases and therefore pose a risk to the surrounding vineyard area. Member States should therefore be authorised to require the grubbing up of such abandoned vineyards. The Commission should be empowered to clarify and detail conditions for the implementation of such grubbing up.*

(6) Member States should be given the possibility to limit the issuing of new planting authorisations at regional level for specific areas with excess supply where national or Union measures aimed to reduce the supply (*concerning* distillation, green harvesting or grubbing up of vineyards), are or have been implemented *in justified cases of crisis*, in order to avoid further increasing the production potential.

(7) *In order to better take into account recent trends in the wine sector, Member States should have the flexibility to set regional limits for specific areas as low as 0%, in view to managing the production potential.* Where a Member State decides to set regional limits for specific areas to avoid an excessive growth of the production potential, it is appropriate to allow that Member States require that the authorisations granted for the area concerned by the regional limit are used in that area. ■

(7a) *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 seeking to profit from the reputation of a particular protected designation of origin or a protected geographical indication, it is appropriate to allow Member States to set limitations in granting new planting authorisations, adopt measures to prevent the circumvention of rules concerning the safeguard mechanism for new plantings, and define the eligibility and priority criteria for the granting of authorisations for new plantings in the areas concerned.*

(7b) *In order to avoid aggravating the risk of oversupply in regions where a Member State has determined 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 to be planted in the regions concerned.*

(7c) *It should be clarified that Member States, for the purpose of granting vine planting authorisations, may apply objective and non-discriminatory eligibility and priority criteria in order to be able to give preference to vineyards that contribute to improving products with geographical indications or their quality.*

(7d) *When Member States decide to make use of the possibility to limit 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 as well as that these recommendations must be preceded by an agreement entered into by the relevant representative parties in the reference geographical area.*

(7e) *Replanting authorisations are granted to producers who have grubbed up an area planted with vines as from 1 January 2016 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 this Regulation or Article 58(1), point (o), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115, is not entitled to a replanting authorisation for the area in question.*

(7f) *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 may be used. It is appropriate that Member States take such a decision on the basis of a recommendation from a professional organisation that is representative in the area concerned.*

(8) 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 on *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.

(9) In order to ensure a proportionate approach to the application of the planting authorisations scheme 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 under which Member States are exempted from the obligation to apply the scheme of planting authorisations.

(10) In recent years, there has been an ever-evolving consumer demand for grapevine products with a reduced alcohol content, which are at present produced by de-alcoholisation by using certain techniques allowed in the Union. *The production of partially de-alcoholised wines by blending or coupage of de-alcoholised wine or partially de-alcoholised wine with wine or partially de-alcoholised wine should be allowed, as it can enhance the sensory characteristics of the final product and provides a method to produce partially de-alcoholised wines more sustainably.*

(11) High consumer demand for sparkling wine products with a lower 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 for *their* production []. According to the rules currently in force, wine products must have reached the characteristics and the minimum 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 removes entirely *the carbon dioxide* from the initial sparkling wine. Consequently, [] to produce a sparkling wine product with lower or no alcoholic content, it is necessary to reintroduce *this gas* in the partially or totally de-alcoholised wine [] through a new, separate process. Therefore, it should be allowed to produce de-alcoholised *or partially dealcoholised* 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 second fermentation or the addition of *carbon dioxide*, respectively *and as appropriate, allowing the Union wine sector to benefit from new developments in consumer demand while maintaining high quality production standards.*

(11a) *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 keeping the obligation to provide information on the production method consisting of a de-alcoholisation. Consumers are familiar with terms such as '0,0 %' and 'alcohol-free', which are however regulated differently in various Member States, while the use of terms referring to a reduced content of substances should be consistent with other Union labelling rules. It is therefore necessary to harmonise the use of these terms across the Union, allowing the wine sector to benefit from new consumer demands while securing the functioning of the single market.*

(11b) *The indication of the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration on the label of wine exported can be burdensome for Union exporters in cases where the legislation of importing countries differs from the EU provisions. Therefore, to facilitate exports, it is appropriate to exempt wine to be exported from the obligation to indicate on its label the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration otherwise required by Union law.*

(12) The possibility to provide the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration of wine products by electronic means has proven effective for operators for presenting important information to consumers, while facilitating the functioning of the internal market and wine exports, especially for small producers. However, the absence of harmonised rules on the identification, on the package or the label attached thereto, of the electronic means providing the list of ingredients and/or the nutrition declaration, is causing diverging practices by operators and different rules by national authorities, 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 develop, in cooperation with Member States, rules on the identification on the package or 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.

(12a) *To reduce burden and uncertainty for operators, it is convenient to clarify that any given packaging should not be required to display compulsory particulars more than once.*

(13) *In order to keep the form and layout of the electronic means in line with new needs arising from the fast and constant progress of digitalisation and allow its use, in view to reduce burden for operators, to accommodate other [] relevant information to consumers required by Union or national law that may be presented electronically, the Commission should be empowered to adapt the rules on electronic labelling.*

(13a) *Experience has shown that certain trademarks or commercial names that contain or consist of a term referring to a holding in the wine sector can be misleading for the consumer when the use of such terms has been reserved at Union level and is subject to certain conditions. Therefore, it is pertinent to empower the Commission to set rules on the relationship of terms referring to a holding with trademarks and commercial names.*

(14) 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 structural consumption decrease 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 winegrowers' position 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.

(14a) *The special commercial value of wines covered by a protected designation of origin or protected geographical indication derives from their reputation for the value that consumers attribute to their characteristics. To prevent their quality credentials from being undercut by detrimental price action, interbranch organisations and producer groups managing protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications, where they are representative in the related geographical area for the different professional categories operating in the wine sector, should 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 additional safeguards, the relevant national competition authority should be allowed to decide in individual cases that price guidance indicators are to be modified or discontinued if necessary to prevent competition being excluded or jeopardising the objectives set out in Article 39 of the TFEU.*

(15) Member States may 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 to also provide for the possibility to authorise Member States, in justified cases of crisis, to make national payments for voluntary green harvesting and voluntary grubbing up of productive vineyards *subject to certain conditions. The main elements to determine the maximum unitary payment must be set to avoid distortion of competition. For the same purpose*, 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 [REDACTED]. 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 case by case on the basis of their specific market circumstances and those of the wine regions in which the measure would be implemented.

(15a) *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 establish rules on the general conditions of eligibility and priority criteria to be set by Member States, for determining the market situations under which such measures are justified, on the calculation of national payments and on its coherence with other support measures for the wine sector within the Common Agricultural Policy.*

(16) Aromatised wine products are a natural outlet for grapevine products. However, Regulation (EU) No 251/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴ does not allow to use the sales denominations reserved for aromatised wine products for beverages which do not reach the minimum 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 allowed to place on the market beverages obtained from de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised wines produced in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵ bearing in their presentation and labelling sales denominations reserved for aromatised wine products.

⁴ Regulation (EU) No 251/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications 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>).

⁵ 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>).

(17) In order to ensure that consumers are correctly informed of the nature of aromatised wine products with a lower alcoholic 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 alcoholic strength. *It is also appropriate to align the language regime applicable to aromatised wine products with that already applicable to grapevine products.*

(18) The issues highlighted above 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 develop, in cooperation with Member States, rules on the identification on the package or the label attached thereto of the electronic means for aromatised wine products. To ensure simplicity and clarity, these rules should be the same as those applied to grapevine products.

(19) In order to meet new consumer demands and the need for product innovation, rules on the production and labelling of the aromatised wine product category 'Glühwein', '*Viiniglögi/Vinglögg/Karštas vynasand*' and '*Pelin*' should be amended to allow for the use of rosé wine. 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 lay down a derogation allowing alcoholic beverages produced with the same requirements as those laid down for Glühwein but by using as main ingredient fruit wine instead of grapevine products to use the sales denomination Glühwein in its presentation and labelling.

(19a) *For the purposes of implementing the restructuring and conversion of vineyards type of intervention, it is pertinent to clarify in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (a)(i), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽¹⁾ that varietal conversion may pursue also the increase of climate resilience of vines.*

⁽¹⁾ *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>).*

(20) *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 [redacted], it is pertinent to clarify that investments in marketing structures and tools may also be oriented to the wine tourism⁽²⁾.*

⁽²⁾ *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>).*

(20a) *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, Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (f), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 laying down rules on the scope of the advisory services types of intervention should be amended to cover important additional aspects, such as marketing through direct sales, environmental sustainability and diversification from wine production.*

(20b) *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 interventions referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (i), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 producer and interbranch organisations within the meaning of Articles 152, 156 and 157 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 active in the wine sector, producer groups managing protected designations of origin and geographical indications in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council² and other professional organisations operating in the wine sector established as beneficiaries by Member States in their CAP Strategic Plans.*

(21) 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 may lead to oversupply, Member States should be allowed to set up conditions for the implementation of 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 at avoiding an increase in yield and thus an increase in production for the vineyards subject to this type of interventions.

(22) 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 extendable twice for a period of three years for each extension allowing for a total maximum duration of nine consecutive years. Additionally, Member States should facilitate the access of small producers as defined in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU)2018/273 to support under the promotion and communication types of interventions by providing for simplified procedure for those operators 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 common definition of a third country market for the purposes of the promotion and communication type of interventions, it is pertinent to provide for some elements in relation to which Member States may define a third country market for the implementation of those interventions.*

(22a) *Highly contagious pests, such as flavescence dorée, are a major threat to wine production, that weaken grapevines by reducing productivity or entirely destroying vine stocks. As cure is often difficult or impossible once vine stocks are infected, only prevention and management interventions may respond efficiently to that threat. Considering the high phytosanitary risks posed by these pests and the importance of a systematic and collective actions to prevent their spreading, it is appropriate to provide a specific support to such actions. Therefore, a new type of intervention in the wine sector should be added to the list of types of interventions set out in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115.*

(22b) *Taking into account the severe structural production and commercial imbalance that exists in certain wine producing regions, it is pertinent 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 in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115. Similarly to the permanent grubbing-up measure funded by national payments as referred to in Article 216 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, the permanent grubbing up type of intervention should be subject to specific conditions such as a prohibition to hold or obtain a valid planting autorisation during a certain period or restrictions that Member States may impose in relation to areas, which should be excluded from the scope of the intervention.*

(22c) *To ensure adequate support for wine growers in relation to climate change adaptation, it is important to provide for the possibility for Member States 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.*

(23) 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 it is already the case for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the meaning of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC⁶.

(24) To further support producers in respect of climate change mitigation and adaptation, *improvement of the sustainability of production systems and reduction of the environmental impact*, it is pertinent 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.

(25) 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 the Commission Communication ‘Guidelines on State aid for rescuing and restructuring non-financial undertakings in difficulty’ as it is the case for Union financial assistance for investments referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, point (b), of that Regulation.

(25a) *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 framed by appropriate set of financial rules, it is necessary to lay down the maximum Union financial assistance to that type of intervention.*

⁶ 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>).

(25b) *To further support the information, promotion and communication types of interventions 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 interventions. Considering that micro, small and medium-sized enterprises within the meaning of Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC face more often financial constraints when carrying out communication and promotion campaigns than it is the case for large enterprises, Member States should be given the possibility to provide a higher financial support to the former.*

(25c) *To provide sufficient support for the fight against highly infectious pests, it is appropriate to allow for the Union financial assistance to the type of intervention referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, points (n), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115, to cover up to 100% of the eligible expenditure.*

(25d) *Moreover, it is necessary to lay down the maximum Union financial assistance to permanent grubbing up under the type of intervention referred to in Article 58(1), first subparagraph, points (n), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115. Such assistance should be calculated as a percentage of the sum of the actual costs of grubbing up and the estimated loss of revenue of one year for the area grubbed up. In addition, it should be also possible for Member States to provide a national contribution to the eligible costs of this type of interventions.*

(26) Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) No 251/2014, (EU) 2021/2115 **and (EU) 2024/1143** should therefore be amended accordingly.

(27) In order to allow time to producers to adapt to the new requirements concerning the designation of grapevine products with a low alcoholic content, those new requirements should start to apply 18 months from the date of entry into force of this 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.

(27a) *The application date of the provisions on a maximum threshold of hectares of planted vineyards under which Member States are exempted from the obligation to apply the scheme of planting authorisations should be postponed by 48 months in order to allow sufficient time to implement the planting authorisations scheme for those Member States whose vineyards area is above the maximum threshold of hectares at the entry into force of the Regulation.*

(27b) *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 drink 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 demonstrated to badly fit the structure of most of the spirit drinks' supply chain. To avoid disruption of established practices and placing disproportionate burdens, especially on small and medium-sized producers, it is appropriate to remove this obligation.*

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 reviews 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(3) is amended as follows

(a) paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

'3. The authorisations [] granted in accordance with *Article 64*, shall be valid for three years from the *end of the wine marketing year*. 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 administrative penalties *referred to* in Article 90a(4).

By way of derogation from the *second* subparagraph, producers who hold valid authorisations *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 the authorisation and at the latest by 31 December 2026 that they do not intend to make use of their authorisation.

Where a case of force majeure or exceptional circumstances as referred to in Article 3(1), points (a) and (c), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2116 gravely affects a well-determined area, the Member State concerned may extend the validity of the authorisations granted in accordance with Article 64 for the area concerned which are due to expire by the end of the wine marketing year during which the event occurs by up to twelve months. The Member State concerned shall inform the holders of the authorisations concerned by the extension of the validity. The validity of any planting authorisation shall be extended under this provision only once. Notwithstanding the second subparagraph, if the holder of a planting authorisation informs the competent authorities of the Member State at the latest by 31 December of the marketing year following the one in which the event occurred that the holder renounces its authorization, the administrative penalties provided for in the second subparagraph shall not apply.

By way of derogation from the second subparagraph, the competent authorities of the Member State may waive the administrative penalties provided for in Article 90a(4) upon a justified request from the holder of a planting authorisation 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 █ shall be valid for eight years from the *end of the wine 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 granted in accordance with Articles 64, 66 and 68 shall expire at the end of the last wine marketing year of their validity.'

(b) the following paragraph is added:

'(6) Member States may require the grubbing up of abandoned vineyards 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, **down to 0 %**, 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, **down to 0 %**, 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, points (b) or (c), may require such authorisations to be used in *the regions concerned*.

(c) 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 shall contribute to **management of** the production potential **■** and 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, not exceeding what is necessary to satisfy this 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), second subparagraph, the following point is added:

‘(e) in regions where the Member State has determined to limit the granting of new planting authorizations pursuant to Article 63(2), point (c), the applicant shall comply with eligibility criteria set in order to avoid 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:

‘1. 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 recognised producer groups referred to in Article 32 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 or by other types of professional organisation 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), point (o), of Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 shall not be entitled to apply for and receive a replanting authorisation for that area.'

(b) paragraph 3 is amended as follows:

(i) first subparagraph is replaced by the following:

'3. The authorisation referred to in paragraph 1 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 wine with protected designation of origin or protected geographical indications the use of replanting authorisations resulting from the grubbing-up of vineyards outside that area.'

(ii) the following [] subparagraphs are added:

'A Member State may [] subject the granting of the replanting authorisations referred to in paragraph 1 to one or more of the following conditions:

- (a) the authorisation shall be used in the same geographical area, *defined by the Member State*, where the corresponding 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 corresponding 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 production region that is different from the one where 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 planting authorisations in order to avoid increasing vineyard areas and wine production in regions prone to oversupply and that have applied crisis measures 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 letters (b), (c) and (d) of the fourth subparagraph shall not apply to replanting authorisations in areas characterised by the exceptional difficulty of cultivation due to structural and morphological factors referred in Part D of Annex II of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/273.'

- (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) *In Article 69, the following point is added*

‘(aa) the conditions for the grubbing up of abandoned vineyards referred to in Article 62(6);’

(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 Annex VII, Part II. For grapevine product categories defined under Annex VII, Part II, point (1) and points (4) to (9), where a de-alcoholisation treatment in accordance with Annex VIII, Part I, section E, has been applied to the totality or to part of the product, the designation of the category shall be *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 category before de-alcoholisation. ’

(ii) the following point █ is added:

‘(k) For grapevine products referred to in point (a), second sentence, the term ‘produced by de-alcoholisation.’

(iii) *the following subparagraph is added:*

‘*The obligation to indicate the compulsory particulars on any given packaging shall apply once.*’

(b) *The following paragraph is added:*

‘6. *By way of derogation from paragraph 1, 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) 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 and the conditions for their use and their relationship with trade marks and commercial names.’

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

- ‘(v) the identification on the package or 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, adapt it to future technological progress **and** to new requirements on **compulsory** information relevant to consumers as provided for by Union 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 **decisions** adopted by, **in order of priority**, interbranch organisations recognised under Articles 157 and 158 of **this Regulation**, **producer groups managing protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications in accordance with Article 32 [33] of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, or producer organisations recognised under Articles 152 and 154 of this Regulation**, **where** such organisations **and groups** are considered to be representative for the wine sector

- in accordance **respectively** with Article 164(3) **and Article 166a(2)(b)**, 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 bulk wines 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 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 respectively 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 bulk wines 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, for the future, one or more of the price guidance indicators referred to in paragraph (1) are to be modified, discontinued or not take place at all if it considers that this is necessary in order to prevent competition from being excluded 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 *aggregate sum of* costs of the product, where relevant, ■ of the operation concerned, **and** an incentive to engage in such operation ■ to allow for 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 aggregated sum of the direct cost of operating the grubbing up and a financial compensation that may cover up to 100% of the estimated loss of revenue of one year for the are grubbed up.

Those payments shall be proportionate and shall allow 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 their notifications, Member States shall justify the appropriateness of the measure, its duration and the amounts of support and other modalities 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 procedure referred to in Article 229(2) or (3), whether the amount, duration and other modalities of the measure are approved and whether the payments to wine producers may 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 Articles 63 and 64 during the 10 marketing years following the one where the grubbing up took place. Any valid authorisation for new plantings held by such beneficiaries shall be invalidated 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 role for environmental, landscape preservation or socioeconomic reasons.

In the production areas and for the types of wines for which one of the measures referred to in paragraph (1) has been implemented for three consecutive years, the concerned Member State shall suspend the granting of new planting authorisations in accordance with Articles 63 and 64 until the second marketing year following the last year in which the measure was applied.

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

(14) In Part II of Annex VII, the following [] subparagraph *is added* to the introductory wording:

‘Grapevine products of the categories set out in:

1) points (4) and (8) may be obtained [], by second fermentation of de-alcoholised or partially de-alcoholised wines referred to in point (1).
2) 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), and in Annex II of 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 Section E of Part I 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 Section E *of* Part I 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 34(2) to supplement this Regulation by adopting rules on:

- (a) the identification on the package or the label attached thereto of the electronic means referred to in paragraph 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, adapt it to future technological progress *and* to new requirements on *compulsory* information relevant to consumers as provided for by Union or national legislation, or to improve consumer accessibility.

The obligation to indicate the compulsory particulars on any given packaging shall apply once.’

(4) *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) of this Regulation shall, where expressed in words, appear in one or more official languages of the Union.’

(5) 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 word 'white'.

Where it has been prepared exclusively from rosé wine, the sales denomination shall be supplemented *with* the word 'rosé'. The word '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 wine used in the production.

By way of derogation from Article 5(1) and (3) of this Regulation *and second indent 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 point (a) of fifth subparagraph in point 1 of Part II 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 such fermented beverage may use the term 'Glühwein' that shall be supplemented with the word 'fruit' or the name of the fruit used for the production of such fruit wine.* '

(6) 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 and/or cloves, 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 words ‘white’, ‘red’ or ‘rosé’, respectively.‘

(7) 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 colours of the wine 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 as well as diversification from wine production;’

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

‘(i) actions *aiming at enhancing the reputation of Union vineyards by promoting wine tourism in production regions* undertaken by *organizations 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 *Article 32 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143**, *or any other professional organisations, wine producer organisations, 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 of 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 Article 32 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143.*

(o) permanent grubbing up of productive vineyards, meaning the complete elimination of vine stocks on a relevant area. Producers who have grubbed up productive vineyards under this Article shall not be entitled to apply for new planting authorisations under Articles 63 and 64 of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 during the 10 marketing years following the one in which the grubbing up took place. In case such producers hold any valid authorisation for new plantings, such authorisations shall be annulled by the Member State when the application for support of grubbing up is approved. Member States may exclude from the scope of this intervention areas where vineyards play an important role for environmental, landscape preservation or socio-economic reasons.'

(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 interventions does not generate an increase in yield in the vineyard be replanted.'

(c) the second subparagraph becomes the third subparagraph and 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 sub-paragraph, point (k), shall be limited to a 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 marker under the types of intervention referred to in the first subparagraph, point (k), for a maximum non-extendable duration of nine consecutive years.'

For the purpose of the first subparagraph, point (k), Member States may consider the promotion and communication 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 Member States, 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. ■

(3) Article 59 is amended as follows:

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

‘By way of derogation from the first and second subparagraph, 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 shall be halved.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, 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 ‘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, ELI: [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014XC0731\(01\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014XC0731(01)).

(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 operating the grubbing up and the estimated loss of revenue incurred during the calendar of one year for the grubbed up area following the grubbing up. In addition, Member States may provide a national contribution to the intervention of up to 30 % of the sum of the direct costs of operating the grubbing up and the estimated loss of revenue incurred during the calendar of one year for the area grubbed up following the grubbing up. ’

(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 shall be halved.

By way of derogation from the first subparagraph, 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 ‘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 expenditures;’

(g) paragraph 7 is replaced by the following:

‘7. Union financial assistance for information, promotion and communication operations under 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 interventions 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. 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 of Commission Implementing Regulation 2019/2072, may cover up to 100% of the eligible costs.’

Article 3a

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2024/1143

Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 is amended as follows:

(1) *In Article 37, paragraph 5 is amended by the following:*

(a) the second subparagraph is deleted

(b) 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 4

Transitional provision

Grapevine products which have been labelled in accordance with Article 119(1), point (a), second sentence, of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 prior to [specific date - 18 months from the date of entry into force] may continue to be placed on the market until stocks are exhausted.

2. *The rules provided for in Article 62(3) third sentence, of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, concerning authorisations for replanting granted in accordance with Article 66 shall also apply to replanting authorisations which were valid at the time of entry into force of Regulation XXX (this Regulation).*

Article 5

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(4) shall apply from [specific date – 48 months from the date of entry into force] and Article 1(5) shall apply from [specific date – 18 months from the date of entry into force].*

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament

The President

For the Council

The President
