

Question for written answer E-002784/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Marie-Luce Brasier-Clain (PfE)

Subject: Revision of the Tobacco Products Directive: protecting local industry, ensuring a level regulatory playing field and tackling unfair competition in the overseas regions

Economic actors in Réunion are greatly concerned about the revision of the EU's Tobacco Products Directive.

Between 2022 and 2025, local taxation increased by 20 %, while the dock dues rate reached 70 %, making Réunion the most taxed region of France in relation to its revenue.

Some of the measures mentioned in the report on the application of Directive 2014/40/EU¹ could further increase costs for local producers, who are already struggling, while also encouraging smuggling.

1. Can the Commission ensure that the revision of the Tobacco Products Directive will take into account the economic realities of the outermost regions, in accordance with the EU's strategy², by introducing appropriate exemptions?
2. Does the Commission intend to publish the evaluation study that is currently being carried out³?
3. Will the Commission undertake to include a territorial impact assessment⁴ and to strengthen controls on imported products in order to both ensure the directive is applied fairly, and tackle unfair competition?

Submitted: 9.7.2025

¹ COM(2021) 249 final.

² COM(2022) 198 final.

³ Study commissioned by the Commission as part of the revision of the Tobacco Products Directive.

⁴ Tool #34 – the 'better regulation' toolbox, 2023.