

**Question for written answer E-004458/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Asger Christensen (Renew)

Subject: Recognition of ‘non-novel’ assessments for UV-C-treated foods and Germany’s national ban under Section 8 of the Food and Feed Code (LFGB)

Under Regulation (EU) 2015/2283, foods treated with UV-C technology can be assessed by Member State authorities as ‘non-novel’. This is registered by the Commission.

In Germany, however, a national ban on UV-C-treated foods remains in force under Section 8 of the Food and Feed Code (LFGB), unless the foods concerned are specifically approved nationally or via a formal ‘novel food’ authorisation. ‘Non-novel’ products are not covered by the exemption and therefore cannot be placed on the market in Germany.

This practice results in de facto double approval, is at odds with the principle of mutual recognition laid down in the TFEU and in Regulation (EU) 2019/515, and hinders the uptake of climate-friendly food technologies.

In the light of the foregoing:

1. Does the Commission take the view that Germany’s maintenance of a general national ban on UV-C-treated foods under Section 8 LFGB is compatible with the principle of mutual recognition and the harmonised assessment procedure laid down in Regulation (EU) 2015/2283?
2. Does the Commission believe that it should be possible for foods assessed as ‘non-novel’ in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 to be freely marketed throughout the EU in line with the principle of mutual recognition, without additional national requirements?
3. Will the Commission call on the German authorities to include an exemption in Section 8 LFGB according to which UV treatments assessed as ‘non-novel’ are recognised as permitted without separate national approval?

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