

Question for written answer E-004553/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Classification of alcohols produced from crisis distillation measures as advanced biofuels

The European wine sector is undergoing a major crisis. Measures such as permanent grubbing-up of vines and distillation of wine surpluses are being taken in some Member States in an effort to tackle the crisis.

Crisis distillation is a way to eliminate wine surpluses and transform them into alcohol.

The Renewable Energy Directive (RED) categorises non-fossil fuels based on the raw material used to produce them. Fuels of plant origin are classified as advanced biofuels if they are produced from waste listed in Annex IX and do not specifically mobilise areas of agricultural land for their production.

Grape marc and wine lees are covered by a distillation obligation. These raw materials are already listed in Annex IX to the RED.

Surplus wines used for crisis distillation can also be considered as waste.

Does the Commission intend to amend Annex IX to the RED, by means of a delegated act, so that alcohols produced from crisis distillation can be classified as advanced biofuels? And also those resulting from the de-alcoholisation of wines?

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