

**Question for written answer E-004960/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Andreas Glück (Renew)

Subject: Single-use high thermal-insulation fish boxes under the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation

EU food-safety legislation requires fresh fish to be transported in packaging that ensures strict hygiene, contamination prevention and cold-chain integrity. Conditions that, according to competent authorities and public health experts, can only be met by single-use high-thermal-insulation fish boxes. Reusable systems cannot be sanitised to the required microbiological standards, as fish residues and biofilms demand disproportionate water, energy and chemical use, while cleaning would also damage the boxes insulating capability.

Given the Commission's interpretation that the feasibility of reuse depends primarily on the nature of the filling product, and its stated intention to consider flexibilities where hygiene and food safety rules prevent reuse:

1. Can the Commission confirm that single-use high-thermal-insulation fish boxes fall outside of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)¹ reuse targets due to overriding food safety and public health requirements?
2. If not, with reference to the Commission communication of 10 December 2025 entitled 'Simplifying for sustainable competitiveness' (COM(2025)0980), which states that the Commission will consider 'additional flexibilities for other packaging formats, notably where hygiene and food safety issues prevent the achievement of those targets', such as the PPWR reuse targets, could the Commission indicate which types of flexibility or exemption measures it envisages for single-use high-thermal-insulation fish boxes?

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¹ OJ L, 2025/40, 22.1.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/40/oj>.