

EN

E-002482/2024

Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.12.2024)

The name Viñedos de Álava/Arabako Mahastiak protected designations of origins (PDO) has not been entered in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications. The scrutiny of the application for registration of the name Viñedos de Álava/Arabako Mahastiak (PDO) has been suspended by the Commission on request of the Spanish authorities made on 29 July 2022 in line with Article 97(3)(b) of Regulation (EU) 1308/2013¹. The Commission will give an appropriate follow-up to the developments in the national judicial proceedings concerning the application in question, taking account of the official communications of the Spanish authorities in this respect.

The Commission is not aware of the reputational and economic damage the Honourable Member refers to. This said, the EU actively promotes registered geographical indications, like PDO Rioja, by ensuring strong legal protection, raising consumers awareness through targeted promotional campaigns, and securing recognition in international trade agreements.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02013R1308-20230101#:~:text=The%20Commission%20shall%20be%20empowered%20to%20adopt%20delegated,of%20market%20developments%20without%20adding%20new%20definitions.%205>