EN
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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.5.2025)

1. The Commission's extensive work on food labelling—including scientific studies, public consultations, and targeted surveys— has confirmed the complexity of this issue and highlighted the challenges of reaching common solutions. The Commission remains committed to working with Member States and stakeholders to engage in a comprehensive dialogue on the lifelong prevention of non-communicable diseases. This includes addressing food reformulation, the impacts of ultra-processed products, and the effects of certain food marketing practices on the most vulnerable consumers.

2. The Commission is committed to guaranteeing the safety of consumers, provide transparent information, and respect the right of the citizens to make informed choices. Clear, accurate and easy to understand information on food products is essential. Food information shall not mislead the consumer, nor be ambiguous or confusing for the consumer. These principles are already enshrined in EU food labelling rules[1]. The Commission will continue to ensure they are upheld.

3. The Commission has taken careful note of the report of the European Court of Auditors on food labelling in the EU[2].

[1] Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 on the provision of food information to consumers, amending Regulations (EC) No 1924/2006 and (EC) No 1925/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Commission Directive 87/250/EEC, Council Directive 90/496/EEC, Commission Directive 1999/10/EC, Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Commission Directives 2002/67/EC and 2008/5/EC and Commission Regulation (EC) No 608/2004 - OJ L 304, 22.11.2011, p. 18.
[2] www.eca.europa.eu/ECAPublications/SR-2024-23/SR-2024-23_EN.pdf