

(English version)

Question for written answer E-003980/25
to the Commission
Billy Kelleher (Renew)
(9 October 2025)

Subject: Review of the Tobacco Products Directive

The Tobacco Products Directive ⁽¹⁾ outlines the requirements concerning the manufacturing, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products, including electronic cigarettes.

However, the directive has not been updated to account for the recent surge of novel nicotine products on the market, despite the Commission setting out in the 2021 Europe's Beating Cancer Plan that it commits to reviewing 'the Tobacco Products Directive, the Tobacco Taxation Directive and the legal framework on cross-border purchases of tobacco by private individuals' by the end of 2025 ⁽²⁾.

A revised Tobacco Taxation Directive was indeed proposed by the Commission in July 2025 to respond to such changing nicotine trends, while a parallel review of the Tobacco Products Directive was started but appears to have stalled. This review is crucial if the Commission is to achieve its goal of a tobacco-free generation by 2040 as set out in the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan.

1. Why did the Commission not propose a revised Tobacco Products Directive in parallel with the revised Tobacco Taxation Directive?
2. Will the Commission meet its commitment to review the Tobacco Products Directive by the end of 2025, and if not, when is the review of this directive expected to be completed and published?

Submitted: 9.10.2025

Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(25 November 2025)

1. The Commission is currently undertaking a comprehensive evaluation of the Tobacco Products Directive 2014/40/EU ⁽¹⁾ and Tobacco Advertising Directive 2003/33/EC ⁽²⁾. This complex exercise involves considering a broad range of scientific, market and regulatory developments, including the emergence of new tobacco and nicotine products, evolving digital marketing practices and varying national regulatory responses to certain aspects of tobacco and nicotine products. The findings of this evaluation will inform the next steps concerning these two Directives.
2. The evaluation of the Tobacco Products Directive 2014/40/EU and Tobacco Advertising Directive 2003/33/EC is expected to be completed and published in the first half of 2026.

¹ Directive 2014/40/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 April 2014 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products and repealing Directive 2001/37/EC.

² Commission communication of 3 February 2021 entitled 'Europe's Beating Cancer Plan' (COM(2021)0044).

⁽¹⁾ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2014/40/oj>.

⁽²⁾ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2003/33/oj>.