

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004356/25
to the Commission
Vicent Marzà Ibáñez (Verts/ALE)
(5 November 2025)**

Subject: Simplification in the wood packaging sector

A life-cycle analysis carried out by Valencia Polytechnic University showed that wood packaging for transporting fruit reduced water consumption by 15%, soil acidification by 32% and impact on marine ecosystems by up to 95% when compared with corrugated cardboard packaging.

In view of this:

1. Has the Commission carried out — or does it plan to carry out — any assessment of the environmental, social and economic impact of including wood packaging in the extended producer responsibility obligations of the regulation on packaging and packaging waste?
2. What simplification measures are planned for reporting obligations for operators in the wood packaging sector within the framework of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) and the Commission's commitment to reducing administrative burdens?
3. Is the Commission planning to create exemptions, simplified approaches and specific implementing acts (for example under the Ecodesign Directive or other delegated or implementing acts) for wood packaging, given its lower environmental impact and contribution to circular bioeconomy chains?

Submitted: 5.11.2025

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(2 February 2026)**

The Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) ⁽¹⁾ has established for all packaging materials a modulation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) fees based on recyclability performance grade ⁽²⁾.

However, sales packaging made of lightweight wood is exempted from the recyclability obligations ⁽³⁾, while it remains subject to EPR fees.

The Commission is required to review this exemption by 1 January 2035 ⁽⁴⁾.

Based on a Commission proposal ⁽⁵⁾ of 21 October 2025, the European Parliament and Council adopted in December 2025 a revised EU Deforestation Regulation ⁽⁶⁾ (EUDR) with targeted amendments to ease administrative burdens and reduce pressure on the Information System, while maintaining environmental integrity through simplifications and transitional periods.

In addition, to support the implementation of the EUDR, the Commission issued ⁽⁷⁾ updated guidance ⁽⁸⁾ and Frequently Asked Questions ⁽⁹⁾ reflecting input from Member States, partner countries and industry.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC, OJ L, 2025/40, 22.1.2025.

⁽²⁾ The methodology to calculate the recyclability performance grades for all packaging materials will be adopted in a delegated act, due 31 December 2027. This delegated act will also include a harmonised framework to help Member State modulate EPR fees of packaging, including wood packaging.

⁽³⁾ These materials are placed on the market in very small quantities, i.e. each category amounts to less than 1% of the weight of the packaging placed on the Union market.

⁽⁴⁾ The assessment of the exemptions should consider at least the evolution of sorting and recycling technologies and practical experience gained by the economic operators and Member States.

⁽⁵⁾ Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 as regards certain obligations of operators and traders, COM/2025/652 final.

⁽⁶⁾ Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 2023 on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation and repealing Regulation (EU) No 995/2010, OJ L 150, 9.6.2023, p. 206-247.

⁽⁷⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1063.

⁽⁸⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/document/5dc7aa19-e58f-42a3-bbbe-f0eb2e5a1d3a_en.

⁽⁹⁾ providing companies, EU Member States' authorities and partner countries with additional simplified measures and clarifications — <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/34861680-e799-4d7c-bbad-da83c45da458/library/e126f816-844b-41a9-89ef-cb2a33b6aa56/details>.