

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001058/26
to the Commission**

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(13 March 2026)

Subject: Simplifying cross-border sales in the internal market

The European Commission's efforts to boost the competitiveness of European businesses would appear to be heavily skewed towards sectors such as cyberspace and energy. However, much remains to be done in terms of strengthening the single market and fostering direct sales between businesses and consumers located in different Member States. One example is the wine market, where wineries face various obstacles to online sales from producer countries to consumer countries.

Given the need to continue removing the non-tariff and administrative barriers that still hamper our competitiveness and integration, can the Commission say:

1. What measures it intends to take to foster closer integration within the single market?
2. Whether it plans to plan to review the non-tariff administrative barriers that are preventing full implementation of the single market, particularly in respect of the wine market?
3. Whether it plans to simplify the bureaucracy associated with the payment of excise duties on alcohol? To that end, whether it intends to promote a one-stop-shop model similar to that in place for other taxes?

Submitted: 13.3.2026

Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission

(26 May 2026)

With the new Single Market Strategy, the Commission intends to strengthen the integration and efficiency of the internal market. This initiative primarily aims to dismantle unjustified barriers, reduce the administrative burden, stimulate investment, and ensure a level playing field within the Union.

With the Wine Package⁽¹⁾, the Commission is empowered to lay down rules for providing consumers with the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration via electronic means on the label of wine bottles, with the aim to minimise costs and facilitate trade across the internal market.

The Commission started discussing possible elements of a regulation in this regard within the Group of Experts on Wine and Spirits under the common organisation of the markets.

In the context of the FISCALIS programme, and with the support of the Commission, experts from Member States have investigated potential solutions, based in part on a one-stop-shop for the payment of excise duty in the Member State of establishment of the seller.

The Commission is currently examining these findings with a view to removing obstacles while considering risks of tax evasion. An ongoing study on excise simplification that will be completed by October 2026 will, among others, contain a detailed cost-benefit analysis of the proposed solution that will serve as a basis for potential further action in this field.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2026/471 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 February 2026 amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) No 251/2014 and (EU) 2021/2115 as regards certain market rules and sectoral support measures in the wine sector and for aromatised wine products and Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 as regards certain labelling rules for spirit drinks, OJ L, 2026/471, 26.2.2026, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/471/oj>.