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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(25.9.2026)

The harmonisation of maximum permitted levels for vitamins and minerals in food supplements (MPLs) is a legal requirement and a necessary step to complete the existing framework under Directive 2002/46/EC on food supplements¹, to ensure a high level of consumer protection and strengthen the single market. The Commission is taking this work forward on a solid scientific and technical basis, in close cooperation with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and Member States' experts.

The approach will be based on the legal requirements for setting MPLs provided for in Directive 2002/46/EC, while considering relevant case law by the Court of Justice of the European Union. Member States' experts have shared national experiences in setting MPLs, ensuring that current national rules and market practices are properly considered. EFSA's updated safe intake levels² and Member States' experience will be central to preparing balanced and workable MPLs.

A call for evidence will be launched by end 2026, followed by targeted stakeholder consultations so that all stakeholders concerned can make their views known. The impacts of setting the MPLs will be thoroughly assessed and reported, alongside the methodology and bases used, by the Commission in a staff working document accompanying the draft legal act. The Commission will carefully evaluate available scientific evidence and stakeholder submissions, including from Member States, organisations representing consumers and healthcare professionals, while adhering to the legal requirements when drafting the legal act.

¹ Directive 2002/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 June 2002 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to food supplements (OJ L 183, 12.7.2002, p. 51, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2002/46/oj>).

² <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/dietary-reference-values>.