



Socio-economic aspects of Geographical Indications

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Geographical Indications in the EU

Geographical indications establish intellectual property rights for specific products, whose **qualities** are specifically linked to the **area of production**.

EU quality schemes

**Protected
designation of
origin (PDO)**



**Protected
geographical
indication (PGI)**



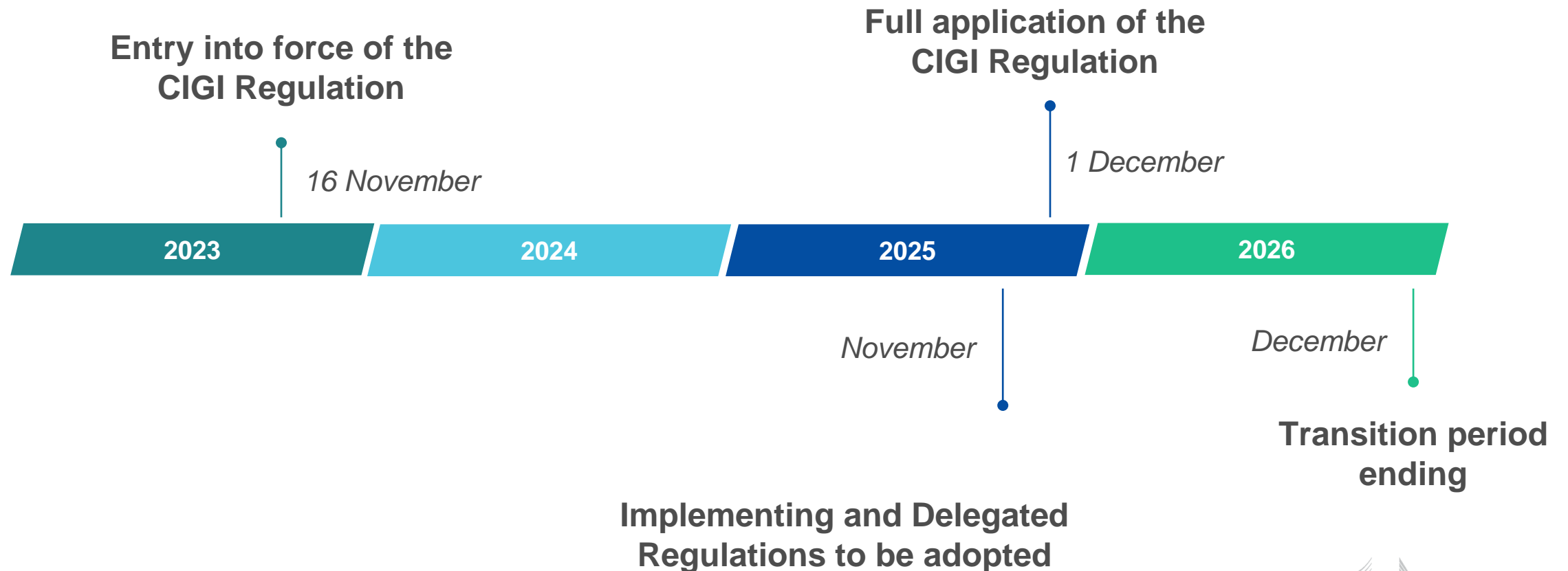
New scheme for craft and industrial products

As of **December 2025**, craft and industrial products will fully benefit from EU-wide protection under the **PGI scheme**.



- ❑ specific geographical origin
- ❑ quality, reputation or other characteristic essentially attributable to geographical origin
- ❑ at least one of its production steps takes place in the geographical area

Calendar of implementation

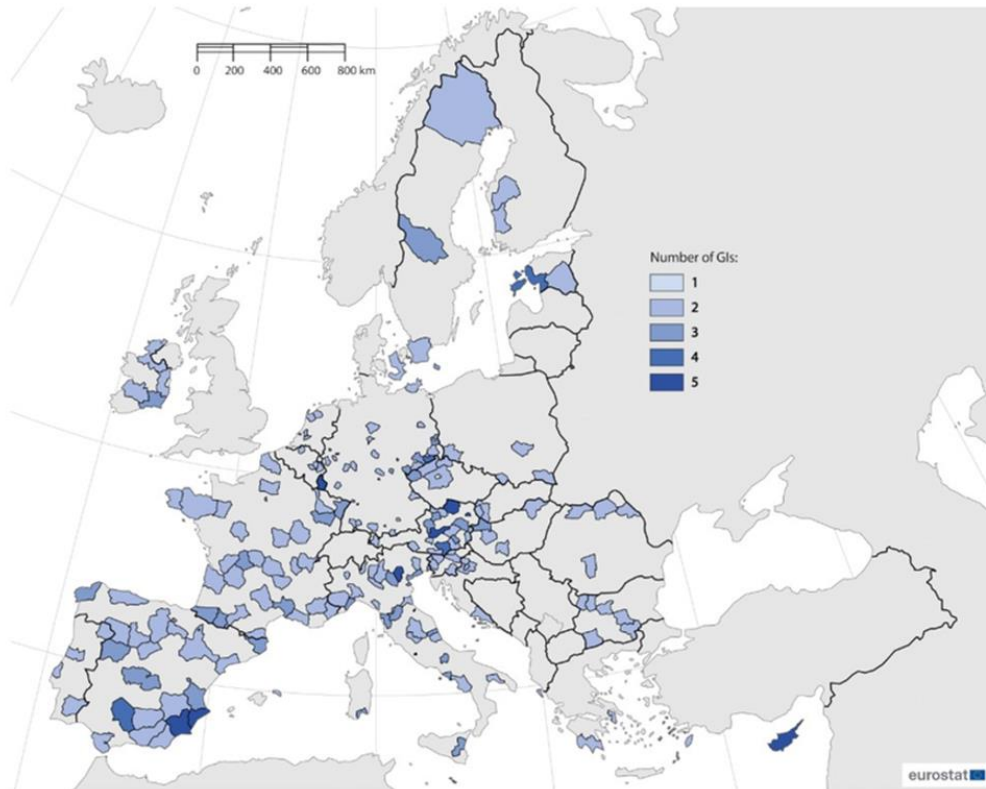


Geographical indications worldwide

- There were an estimated **58,600 protected GIs** in existence in 2023.
- Upper middle-income economies accounted for 52.2% of the world total, followed by high-income (42.9%), lower middle-income economies (4.8%) and low-income economies (0.1%).
- In terms of regional distribution, Europe had the most GIs in force, amounting to 52.5%, followed by Asia (39.5%), Oceania (3.6%), Northern America (2.8%), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) (1.6%) and Africa (0.2%).

According to [WIPO](#)

Socio-economical context in the EU



Note: The picture maps 300 craft and industrial products identified in VVA *et al.* (2020) into nuts 3 regions.

- **Craft sector in decline:** In 2018, 1.2 million persons were employed as craft and printing workers (29% less than in 2006)
- **Small and micro enterprises:** main producers of CIGIs (80%)
- **Located in less developed regions:** 75% of the regions with CIGIs have GDP per capita / employment rate below EU average
- **Sustainable tourism:** CIGIs are found in regions characterised by higher vulnerability to the tourism sector

Future EU system of GI protection for craft and industrial products

Regulation 2023/2411 on Geographical Indications for Craft and Industrial Products

Benefits for

Consumers

(Increased trust on product quality and authenticity - **EU logo**)

Producers

(marketing tool, increased competitiveness, enhanced reputation and prestige; IPR protection, ex officio enforcement actions offline and online)

Regions, Countries

Cultural exchange and cooperation, preserving traditional working methods, helping retaining workforce & attracting tourism, trade agreements.

Socio-economical benefits

- **Inform consumers:** functions as a protection measure through addressing information asymmetries and quality ([OECD, 2000](#))
- **Protect reputation:** marks indicating geographical origin were the earliest type of trademarks used by traders ([Rangnekar, 2003](#)); protecting reputation as an asset ([Shapiro, 1983](#))
- **Increase of revenue:** consumers are willing to pay more for products if the origin is guaranteed ([EU, 2004](#))
- **Rural development:** return of investment to local producers, job creation, tourism ([Rangnekar, 2003](#))

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