



Strengthening the EU Control and Enforcement System for Geographical Indications

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Why controls matter for GIs...

Controls of GIs

- Maintaining **integrity** of the GI system
- Ensuring **fair competition**
- Support **rural economies**

Impact of infringements on the GI system

- **Undermining** the value of the GIs
- Loss of **consumer trust**
- Economic **loss for** legitimate **producers**



Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 on GIs for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products

- Revision of the EU GI system

General objectives

- Strengthen the legislative framework on GIs by **enhancing protection and enforcement**
- **Streamline** and clarify the legal framework
- **Entry into force / application: 13 May 2024**

EU Framework for Official Controls of GIs

- **Framework**: Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, Regulation (EU) 2017/625, Regulation (EU) 1308/2013
- **Official Controls System** must be implemented by Member States and covers:
 1. **Control at production level**: Verification of compliance with the PDO/PGI product specification before placing the product on the market
 2. **Controls in the marketplace**: Verification of the use of protected names in the market, including on online interfaces

Competent authorities

Controls of GIs shall be carried out by:

- one or more **competent authorities** designated by Member States or
- one or **more delegated bodies** or **natural persons** to which certain official control tasks have been delegated
 - only controls at production level
 - must be accredited with Standard EN ISO/IEC 17 065 or Standard EN ISO/IEC 17 020

→ Rules apply to **third countries**:

- one or more **competent authorities** or
- delegated bodies operating as **product certification bodies**

Controls at production level

- verification of **compliance of final product qualities described in product specification** before they are placed on the market
- these controls cover primary producers and processors
- every GI producer must be covered by a system of controls
- **organoleptic and/or analytical testing and traceability** (including checking of documents) of products covered by the geographical indication
- carried out based on a control plan



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Controls in the marketplace

- Verification on the market of **the use of registered GI names** to assure protection against any misuse – **on physical and online market**
- Operators who prepare and store a product marketed under a GI or who place such products on the market shall also be subject to the controls
- **Carried out by** public authority (may be different from authority for verification of compliance)
- Mainly **controls on** traceability, labelling, presentation, advertising and relevant packaging materials
- Carried out systematically, through random checks based on risk analysis
- Cover **EU's GIs** and **third countries' GIs**



Actions against infringement of GIs

Member States shall take appropriate administrative and judicial steps to prevent or stop the unlawful use of the name of **GI products that are produced, provided or marketed** in their territory, or **intended for exports to third countries**

- **Different national approaches** → Civil and criminal laws establishing clearly sanctions against infringements and frauds
- **Administrative actions:** seizures, ordering the alteration of label, etc.
- **Civil actions:** protection law providing remedies for users of GIs (fines and sanctions, destruction of the infringing goods, suspension or closure of all or part of the business)
- **Criminal actions:** for the more serious offenses investigated by the police or customs (e.g. falsifications of the 'seal of guarantee', important volume of infringing products)

Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 on GIs for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products – novelties relevant for controls and enforcement

1. Increased protection of GIs
2. Recognised producer groups
3. Rules on the use of GI name in the name of processed product
4. Attestation of compliance
5. Sustainability

Increased protection of GIs – on internet

- Increased protection of GIs on the internet with regard to online sales
- The relevant national judicial or administrative authorities of the Member States may issue **an order to act against illegal content**
- Link to Digital Services Act

Rakuten



amazon

ebay




Il mio Alibaba ▾ Grana Padano Formaggio - Buy Product on Alibaba.com

Prodotti ▾ Parole di chiave per cerca

fornitore: HBE Trading ▾ 1 YRS

Profilo aziendale | Dati di contatto

casa > All Industries > Food & Beverage > Dairy > Cheese (5708)



GRANA PADANO FORMAGGIO

FOB Riferimento Prezzo: [Ottiene l'Ultimo Prezzo](#)

Capacità di forni 100 Tonnellata/tonnellate per Giorno
tura:

porta: ASWP

[Contattare il fornitore](#)

[lasciare Messaggi](#)



pagamento: This supplier also supports T/T payments for offline orders.



Recognised producer groups (Art.33)

- System of RPG inspired by some Member States
- **Optional** for Member State to endorse **the system of RPGs**
- Objective: **better management of GI and enforcement** against unfair and devaluating practices
- Alternative criteria of eligibility
- Representativity of all producers of the GI by default
- RPG will have some additional tasks – e.g. receipt of a notification from a prepacked food producer (exclusive)

eAmbrosia
the EU geographical indications register

  eAmbrosia is a legal register of the names of agricultural products and foodstuffs, wine, and spirit drinks that are registered and protected across the EU. It provides a direct access to information on all registered geographical indications, including the legal instruments of protection and product specifications. It also displays key dates and links for applications and publications before the geographical indications are registered.

You can also find information about the traditional terms for wine and the traditional specialties guaranteed in the section [Related links](#) below.

[Wine register](#) [Agricultural products and foodstuffs register](#) [Spirit drinks register](#)

Geographical indications - Search

Product type Combined nomenclature code Name

Application type Country zone Country

Type Status File number

Recognised producer group name

GI use in names of processed products (food and wine) (Art. 27)

- **3 conditions** to be complied with:
 - the processed product does not contain **any other product comparable to the GI ingredient**,
 - the ingredient is used **in sufficient quantity** to confer essential characteristic,
 - **percentage** of the GI ingredient on **label**
- Prepacked food producers obliged to notify to Recognised Producer Groups the use of the GI in the name of their products



Attestation of compliance with the product specification (Art. 45)

- A system to grant **certificate of compliance** with the product specification to producers of a GI
- Applicable as of **1 January 2025**
- Depending on the system in Member States, producers shall on request be entitled to either:
 - an **attestation**, including by digital means, which may be a certified copy, certifying compliance of its production with the product specification; **or**
 - **inclusion in a list of approved operators** established by the competent authority. The relevant extract of the list ('listing') shall be made available online to each approved operator.



Sustainability (Art.7)

- **Sustainability practices** on a voluntary basis
- Where included in the product specification they become mandatory = **controls**
- Producer Groups/Recognised Producer Groups can prepare a **sustainability report** on a **voluntary** basis (to be published by the Commission)

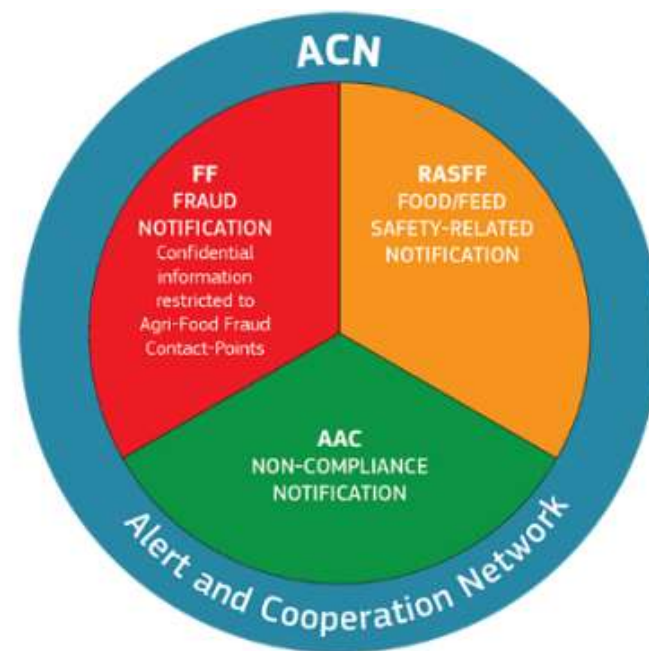
Meaning of
'sustainable
practice'

- a practice which **contributes to one or more social, environmental or economic objectives**





Communication and cooperation among Member States

- **The Alert and Cooperation Network (ACN)** facilitates the exchange of administrative information and the cooperation between Member States on official controls in the agri-food chain.
- ACN is composed of 3 networks (FF, AAC and RASFF) work together to allow a smooth exchange of information between Members States' competent authorities, and ease cooperation among them
- **The Food Fraud Network (FF)** is also engaged in joint operations with the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) targeting fake and substandard food and beverages and counterfeit pesticides.



Digital tools

eAmbrosia: The legal register for direct GIs applications (EU and non-EU)



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Wine register ☐

Agricultural products and foodstuffs register ☐

Spirit drinks register ☐

Geographical Indications - Search

Product type

Product category

Name

Application type

Country zone

Country

Type

Status

File number

Search

Reset


<https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/food-safety-and-quality/certification/quality-labels/geographical-indications-register/>

GIview: a searchable database



all GIs applied for, published or registered in the EU and protected under international agreements.

the country authorities and Producer Groups can edit information on the products

GI representatives gain access to the IP Enforcement Portal



English ▾




Search for Geographical Indications across the European Union and beyond

Country ▾

Geographical Indication / File number

Search

Latest GI updates



European Commission

<https://www.tmdn.org/giview/>

Thank you

More information: https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/geographical-indications-and-quality-schemes_en



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