

# Upcoming EU regulatory changes and opportunities for feedback: March–September 2024

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Overview of EU policies and regulations under development where non-EU countries can provide feedback: March–September 2024

Better Regulation [Guidelines](#)

Better Regulation [Toolbox](#)

## Update

For some new policies and regulations, the EU gives the opportunity to all stakeholders (including from non-EU countries) to provide their input and feedback. For more information on the EU consultation process, see [Stakeholder inputs into EU policy-making – explained](#). The upcoming initiatives so far announced for **March–September 2024** are listed here.

## Background

The European Commission will be collecting feedback on the new agri-food policies and regulations listed here.

Once consultations are launched, all stakeholders (competent authorities, trade associations, individual exporters) may provide direct feedback via the EU's "[Have your say](#)" website.

Participating in this process is important and helps to ensure that the interests of low- and middle-income countries are taken into account when new policies or regulations are developed by the EU.

These consultations are part of the Commission's commitment to greater regulatory transparency and are carried out in line with its Better Regulation [Guidelines](#).

The regular AGRINFO Update newsletters highlight when the Commission opens an EU consultation or submits a notification to the WTO for comment. You can subscribe to receive the AGRINFO Update [here](#).

## Impacted products

fish, olive oil, animal products, plant based food, food supplements, fortified foods, organic, food contact materials

## Upcoming opportunities to give feedback

Stakeholders can provide input to public consultations or give feedback on draft proposals for the following.

### Fish

#### [Rules for fishery products frozen in brine on board vessels and for unpurified bivalve molluscs](#)

*Aim:* Amend hygiene rules regarding fish initially frozen in brine on board vessels at a temperature of not more than  $-9^{\circ}\text{C}$

*Timeline:* Initially announced for Q3 2023, but not yet launched

#### [Common Fisheries Policy – evaluation](#)

*Aim:* Evaluate if the Common Fisheries Policy Regulation has successfully contributed to ensuring that fisheries and aquaculture are managed in an environmentally and socially sustainable way

*Timeline:* Call for evidence upcoming, followed by public consultation Q4 2024

### Food safety

#### [Vitamins and minerals added to food \(minimum and maximum levels\)](#)

*Aim:* Set maximum levels for vitamins and minerals that may be added to food supplements and foods; and set minimum levels for food supplements

*Timeline:* Update expected soon

#### [Foodstuffs – methods of analysis for official checks as laid down in Commission Regulation No 2073/2005](#)

*Aim:* Establish the analytical methods that may be used by EU Member State competent authorities when checking the implementation of Regulation (EC) No [2073/2005](#) on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs

*Timeline:* Update expected soon

#### [Listeria monocytogenes in ready-to-eat foods – update of safety criteria](#)

*Aim:* Align EU rules with international Codex alimentarius standards on the acceptable level of *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination of certain categories of ready-to-eat food

*Timeline:* Q3 2024

## **Food contact materials**

### Plastic food contact materials (FCMs) (update to quality control rules)

*Aim:* Increase quality control on plastic food contact materials by aligning with rules on biocidal products, introducing purity requirements, and adapting testing/quality controls

*Timeline:* 13 March–15 April 2024

## **Fruit and vegetables**

### Reviewing sectoral rules and modernising certain market-monitoring rules and mechanisms

*Aim:* Review and codify sectoral rules covering fruit and vegetables, and streamline certain market monitoring rules and mechanisms

*Timeline:* Q4 2024

## **Olive oil**

### Olive oil marketing standards – revision of conformity checks

*Aim:* Bring EU olive oil marketing standards into line with recent changes to the International Olive Council Trade Standard; clarify rules on verifying the organoleptic characteristics of olive oil, and the sampling procedure for conformity checks

*Timeline:* Q3 2024

## **Animal products**

### Animal welfare – protection of animals during transport

*Aim:* Reinforce animal welfare during transport, based on new scientific evidence including transport from non-EU countries

*Timeline:* Feedback period ends **12 April 2024**

### Animal health – EU entry requirements for plant material & means of animal transport

*Aim:* Prevent animal diseases from non-EU countries and territories entering the EU by completing requirements on plant materials such as hay and straw; and means of transport for animals and animal products

*Timeline:* Update expected soon

### [Animal health – disease-free compartments for terrestrial animals](#)

*Aim:* Set out the general rules that EU countries must follow for the EU to recognise the disease-free status of compartments (distinct units with specific biosecurity measures corresponding to a certain health status) for terrestrial animals, in order to prevent and control animal diseases

*Timeline:* Update expected soon

### [Antimicrobials for use in animals: list of substances banned and substances authorised](#)

*Aim:* Establish a list of permitted/prohibited antimicrobial substances

*Timeline:* Q3 2024

## **Residues**

### [Pesticide residues in food – methods for sampling and analysis \(update\)](#)

*Aim:* Update the current methods for sampling and analysing plant and animal products to determine their compliance with maximum residue levels (MRLs) for pesticides: an Implementing Regulation will replace Directive [2002/63/EC](#)

*Timeline:* Update expected soon

## **Organic production**

### [Organic production – amended list of authorised products and substances](#)

*Aim:* Amend the list of products and substances that may be used in organic production

*Timeline:* Q2 2024

### [Organic insects – detailed production methods \(new rules\)](#)

*Aim:* Set detailed rules for the organic production of insects (except bees) used in feed or food, including where insects should come from, how they should be fed, and how they should be kept and killed

*Timeline:* Q3 2024

Organic and in-conversion products – import controls and certificates of inspection (revision):  
[Delegated Regulation](#) and [Implementing Regulation](#)

*Aim:* Revise the rules on EU import controls for organic and in-conversion products that are not yet certified under EU organic legislation, and the accompanying certificates of inspection

*Timeline:* Q3 2024

### [EU organic logo – clarification on versions that can be used](#)

*Aim:* Clarify which versions of the EU organic production logo can be used (e.g. a negative format of the black-and-white version)

*Timeline:* Q3 2024

### [Wine-making – practices allowed under certain conditions to produce organic de-alcoholised wine](#)

*Aim:* Allow wine-making practices acceptable for the production of non-organic de-alcoholised wine to apply also to the production of organic de-alcoholised wine, under specific conditions

*Timeline:* Q2 2024

## **Trade**

### [Tariff quotas – amended rules on reference quantity requirement](#)

*Aim:* Adjust the rules on reference quantities of agri-food products to avoid any risk of market distortions posed by recent market developments in some sensitive sectors.

*Timeline:* Q2 2024

## **Recommended Actions**

Keep track of upcoming consultations and make sure to have enough time to collect data and prepare feedback.

## **Resources**

European Commission: [Better Regulation: why and how](#)

## **Sources**

Online resources from the European Commission:

- Better Regulation Guidelines
- Better Regulation Toolbox

Better Regulation Toolbox by [chapters](#)

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