

# Revision of EU legislation on Food Information to Consumers

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

## Introduction

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### Target Group

All EU and non-EU citizens and stakeholders are welcome to contribute to this consultation.

### Objective of the consultation

The public consultation aims to collect the views of citizens, professional and non-professional stakeholders about proposals for the revision of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers (FIC Regulation) in the following areas: Front of pack nutrition labelling/ Nutrient profiling, Origin labelling, Date marking and Alcoholic beverage labelling.

### The proposed revision to the FIC regulation

The European Commission adopted the “Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system” on 20 May 2020, as part of the European Green Deal. This strategy aims to reduce the environmental and climate footprint of the EU food system and facilitate the shift to healthy and sustainable diets. The strategy targets the entire food chain and describes, amongst others, the need to stimulate sustainable food processing and reformulation, to further empower consumers through labelling information and to reduce food waste. The proposed revision of the FIC Regulation will address this need by considering:

- Front of pack nutrition labelling and nutrient profiling criteria to restrict claims: a proposal for EU harmonized and mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling and for the setting of ‘nutrient profiling’ criteria, which are thresholds of nutrients above or below which nutrition and health claims on foods are restricted.
- Origin labelling: An extension of mandatory origin indications to certain products.
- Date marking: A revision of the EU rules on date marking (‘use by’ and ‘best before’).

The European Commission adopted the Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan on 3 February 2021. One of its areas of action concerns sustainable cancer prevention, including by reducing harmful alcohol consumption. The proposed revision of the FIC Regulation will address this concern by considering:

- Alcoholic beverage labelling: The introduction of mandatory indications of the list of ingredients and the nutrition declaration for all alcoholic beverages.

## **Where are we in the process of revising the FIC Regulation**

Inception Impact Assessments for the above-stated FIC Regulation revisions were published for public consultation between 23 December 2020 - 04 February 2021 (for nutrient profiles and front-of-pack nutritional labelling, origin labelling and date marking), and 24 June 2021 - 22 July 2021 (for alcoholic beverage ingredient and nutrition declaration labelling). Feedback from these consultations has been used to further refine understanding of the problems and potential policy options and their impacts.

The European Commission will base its revision of the FIC Regulation on a full impact assessment of the different options. The impact assessment will also consider the setting of nutrient profiles as provided in Regulation (EC) No. 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods.

This Public Consultation will contribute to the evidence that will inform the impact assessment for the revision of the FIC Regulation. It is part of a broader consultation strategy. Additional consultation activities will include targeted surveys and interviews with stakeholder organisations and Member State Authorities, to gather more detailed and technical information.

A FIC Regulation proposal is expected to be made by the end of 2022.

## **How to contribute**

Your views are important. Please tell us what you think and fill in the online questionnaire. The questionnaire includes questions on:

- Front-of-pack nutrition labelling and the setting of nutrient profiles to restrict the use of claims on foods – Questions 1 to 5
- Alcoholic beverage labelling (list of ingredients and nutrition declaration) – Questions 6 to 9
- Date marking – Questions 10 to 14
- Origin labelling – Questions 15 to 20

The questionnaire for citizens is accessible in all official EU languages. As there may be delays in translating replies submitted in some languages, contributions in English are welcome, as they will help to process the survey more swiftly.

You can pause at any time and continue later. Once you have submitted your answers, you will be able to download a copy of your completed questionnaire. Questions marked with an asterisk (\*) are compulsory. Those who are interested have the option to develop their responses in a more detailed manner.

Please note that in this questionnaire, we do not intend to obtain data relating to identifiable persons. Therefore, in case you will describe a particular experience or situation, please do it in a way that will not allow linking to a particular individual, whether it is you or somebody else.

Received contributions will be published on the Internet. It is important that you read the specific privacy statement attached to this consultation for information on how your personal data and contribution will be dealt with.

## **Related links**

Further information on the prospective revision and impact assessment can be found at [https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling-and-nutrition/food-information-consumers-legislation\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling-and-nutrition/food-information-consumers-legislation_en).

## **About you**

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\* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

\* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
- Business association
- Company/business organisation
- Consumer organisation
- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
-

Non-governmental organisation (NGO)

- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

\* First name

Panagiotis

\* Surname

Chaslaridis

\* Email (this won't be published)

panagiotis.chaslaridis@efanet.org

\* Organisation name

*255 character(s) maximum*

European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations (EFA)

\* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

*255 character(s) maximum*

Check if your organisation is on the [transparency register](#). It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

28473847513-94

\* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

- Afghanistan
- Djibouti
- Libya
- Saint Martin
- Åland Islands
- Dominica
- Liechtenstein
- Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- Albania
- Lithuania

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|   | Dominican Republic  |  | Saint Vincent and the Grenadines                                   |
| <input type="radio"/> Algeria             | <input type="radio"/> Ecuador                             | <input type="radio"/> Luxembourg       | <input type="radio"/> Samoa  |
| <input type="radio"/> American Samoa      | <input type="radio"/> Egypt                               | <input type="radio"/> Macau            | <input type="radio"/> San Marino                                   |
| <input type="radio"/> Andorra             | <input type="radio"/> El Salvador                         | <input type="radio"/> Madagascar       | <input type="radio"/> São Tomé and Príncipe                        |
| <input type="radio"/> Angola              | <input type="radio"/> Equatorial Guinea                   | <input type="radio"/> Malawi           | <input type="radio"/> Saudi Arabia                                 |
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| <input type="radio"/> Argentina           | <input type="radio"/> Ethiopia                            | <input type="radio"/> Malta            | <input type="radio"/> Sierra Leone                                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Armenia             | <input type="radio"/> Falkland Islands                    | <input type="radio"/> Marshall Islands | <input type="radio"/> Singapore                                    |
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| <input type="radio"/> Azerbaijan          | <input type="radio"/> France                              | <input type="radio"/> Mayotte          | <input type="radio"/> Solomon Islands                              |
| <input type="radio"/> Bahamas             | <input type="radio"/> French Guiana                       | <input type="radio"/> Mexico           | <input type="radio"/> Somalia                                      |
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| <input type="radio"/> Bangladesh          | <input type="radio"/> French Southern and Antarctic Lands | <input type="radio"/> Moldova          | <input type="radio"/> South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands |
| <input type="radio"/> Barbados            | <input type="radio"/> Gabon                               | <input type="radio"/> Monaco           | <input type="radio"/> South Korea                                  |
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| <input type="radio"/> Belize              | <input type="radio"/> Ghana                               | <input type="radio"/> Montserrat       | <input type="radio"/> Sri Lanka                                    |
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| <input type="radio"/> Bolivia             | <input type="radio"/> Grenada                             | <input type="radio"/> Namibia          | <input type="radio"/> Sweden                                       |
| <input type="radio"/>                     | <input type="radio"/> Guadeloupe                          | <input type="radio"/> Nauru            | <input type="radio"/> Switzerland                                  |

Bonaire Saint  
Eustatius and  
Saba

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bouvet Island
- Brazil
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Brunei
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Christmas Island
- Clipperton
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Guam
- Guatemala
- Guernsey
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Niue
- Norfolk Island
- Northern Mariana Islands
- North Korea
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Palestine
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- The Gambia
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States

- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Curaçao
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Pitcairn Islands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Réunion
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saint Barthélemy
- Saint Helena
- Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- United States
- Minor Outlying Islands
- Uruguay
- US Virgin Islands
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Wallis and Futuna
- Western Sahara
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association', 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

### \* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

#### Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not

be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

**Public**

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

## Information on your organization

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If you are a food business or representative of food businesses, please indicate the following (if this does not apply to you, please select 'not applicable'):

\* What is the geographic scope of your business / members' markets? (If this does not apply to you, please select 'not applicable')

- Single EU Member State/ EEA country
- Multiple Member States (including EEA countries) / Pan-EU
- International
- Not applicable

\* Which stage(s) of the value chain is your business / are you members' businesses active in? Please select all that apply (if this does not apply to you, please select 'not applicable').

- Primary producer (e.g. farming, fishing)
- Manufacturers/processing
- Distribution
- Retail
- Not applicable

\* Which food/beverage product groups is your business active in / does your organization represent? Please select all that apply (if this does not apply to you, please select 'not applicable').

- Meat and meat products
- Fish and seafood products
-



- Fruit and their products
- Vegetables and their products
- Vegetable and animal oils/fats and spreadable fats
- Milk
- Dairy products
- Bakery products
- Cereal and cereal products including biscuits and breakfast cereals
- Confectionary products, ice cream
- Ready meals, soups, sandwiches
- Soy based and similar vegetable protein-based products
- Beverages - wine or aromatized wine products
- Beverages - beers
- Beverages - spirit drinks
- Beverages - other alcoholic beverage's
- Beverages - non-alcoholic beverages
- Other food products
- Not applicable

## Interest in the FIC Regulation revision

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\* Which FIC Regulation topics are you interested in? Please select all that apply.

- Front-of-pack nutrition labelling and the setting of nutrient profiles to restrict the use of claims on foods – Questions 1 to 5
- Alcoholic beverage labelling (list of ingredients and nutrition declaration) – Questions 6 to 9
- Date marking – Questions 10 to 14
- Origin labelling – Questions 15 to 20

## Front of pack nutrition labelling and setting nutrient profiling criteria to restrict claims

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*Under the current EU rules, the indication of simplified nutrition information on the front of the food packaging ('front-of-pack') is possible on a voluntary basis. Several formats are legally possible under certain conditions and are currently present on the EU market. The European Commission is considering harmonised mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling for pre-packed foods present on the EU market.*

*Products may bear **nutrition claims** (such as "low fat", "high fibre") and **health claims** (such as "Vitamin D is needed for the normal growth and development of bone in children"). The European Commission is*

considering restricting the right to make such claims to only the products that would meet defined nutritional criteria such as for example the content of sugar, salt etc.

**Question 1:** To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

	1 - Strongly disagree	2 - Disagree	3 - Neutral	4 - Agree	5 - Strongly agree	Don't know
* Nutrition labelling on the front-of-pack is an important tool to improve the population's dietary habits.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Consumers pay more attention to nutrition information on the front-of-pack compared to the nutrition declaration on the back-of-pack.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Simplified and easy to understand nutrition information on the front-of-pack helps consumers to make healthier food choices.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Nutrition information on the front-of-pack should be consistent with dietary guidelines.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Consumers should have access to the same front-of-pack nutrition label across the whole EU.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food businesses should be subject to the same rules on front-of-pack nutritional labelling across the whole EU.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Front-of-pack nutrition information should be displayed on more products.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Front-of-pack nutrition labelling is an appropriate tool to incentivise food businesses to improve the nutritional content of their products.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Health and nutrition claims on food products should only be allowed if they meet some nutritional quality (e.g. levels of salt, sugars,...).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

**Question 2:** In your opinion, how likely is each of the following options to encourage consumers to change their food purchasing behaviour?

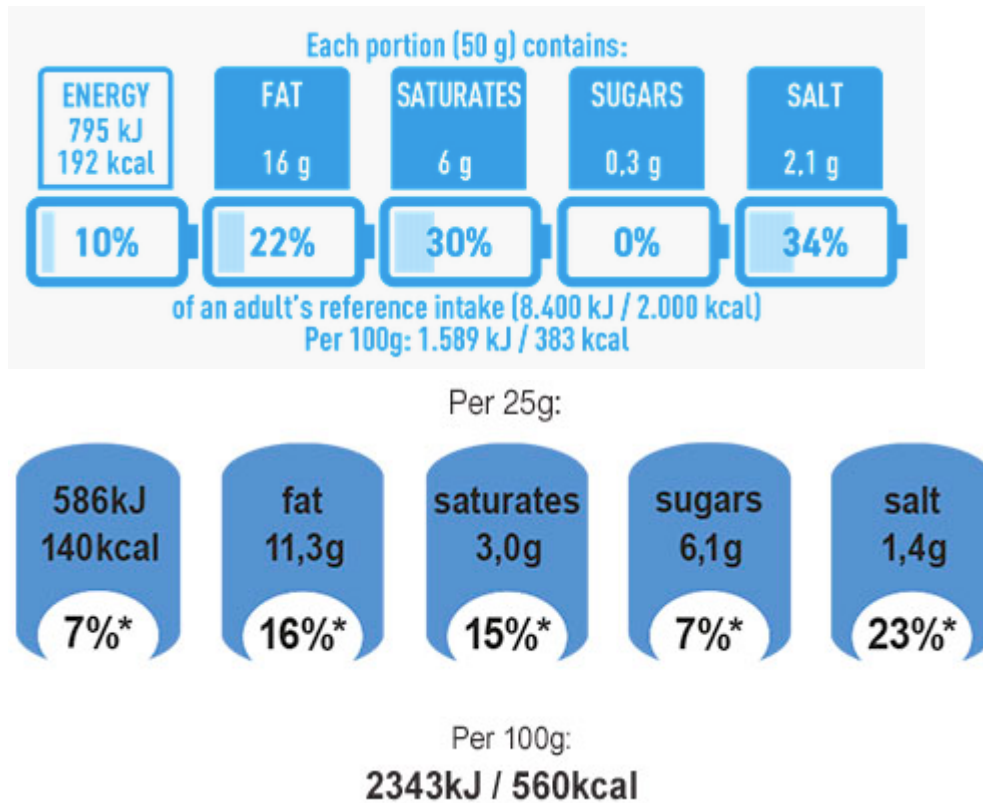
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1 -  
Very  
unlikely

2 -  
Unlikely

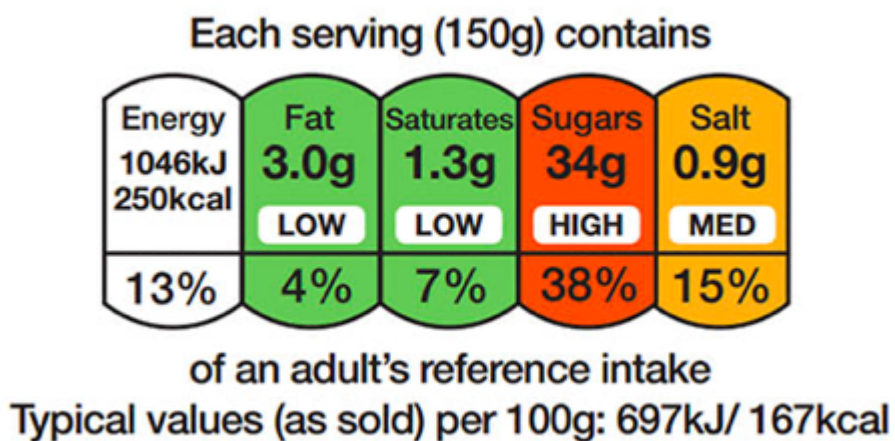
\* Information on the amounts of specific nutrients (fat, saturated fat, sugars, salt) and on the energy value in a portion of the food, as well as how much this represents as a percentage of the daily reference intake.

Example:





\* Information on the amounts of specific nutrients (fat, saturated fat, sugar, salt) and on the energy value in a portion of the food, as well as how much this represents as a percentage of the daily reference intake. Colours are used to classify those nutrients per 100 g of the product as 'low' (green), 'medium' (amber) or 'high' (red).

Example:

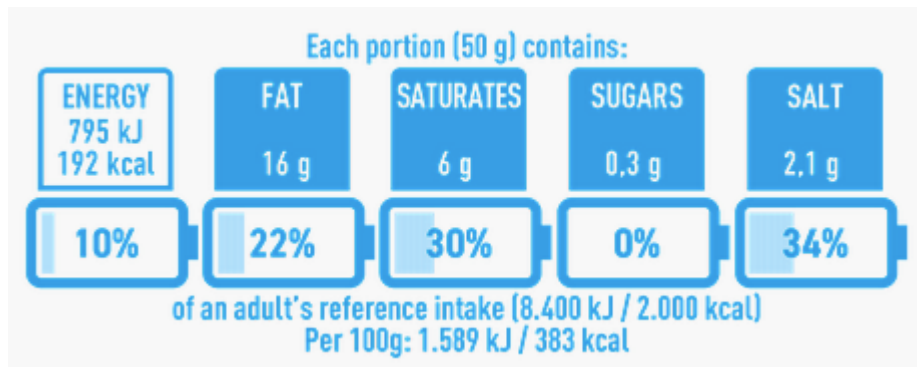


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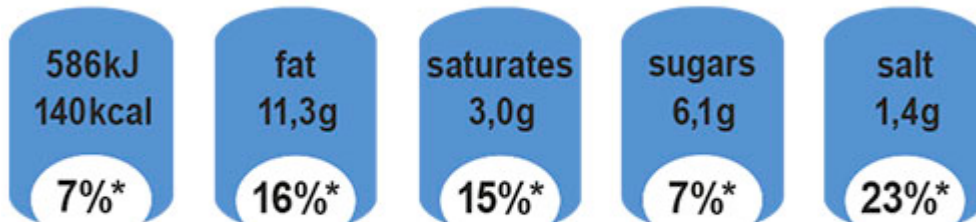
<p>Information on a product's overall nutritional value (based on the integration of both unfavourable elements (sugars, saturated fat, salt and calories) and favourable elements (protein, fibre and content of fruits, vegetables, pulses, nuts and olive /rapeseed/walnut oils)) through a graded indicator that can be applied on all products. Colours and letters are used to classify the overall nutritional value of the product, from 'highest nutritional value' (dark green, A) to 'lower nutritional value' (dark orange, E).</p> <p><i>Example:</i></p> 	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>* Information on a product's overall nutritional value through a positive (endorsement) logo that can be applied on foods that comply with specific nutritional criteria only. The criteria can be based on e.g. amount of fat, saturated fat, sugars, salt, fibre, wholegrain, fruit and vegetables depending on the food category and the specific label.</p> <p><i>Example:</i></p> 	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>* A combination of the above options: information on the overall nutritional quality of a product combined with information on the content of specific nutrients.</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Question 3:** In your opinion, how likely is each of the following options to encourage businesses to improve the nutritional aspects of their products?

	1 - Very unlikely	2 - Unlikely
<p>* Information on the amounts of specific nutrients (fat, saturated fat, sugars, salt) and on the energy value in a portion of the food, as well as how much this represents as a percentage of the daily reference intake.</p> <p><i>Example:</i></p>		



Per 25g:

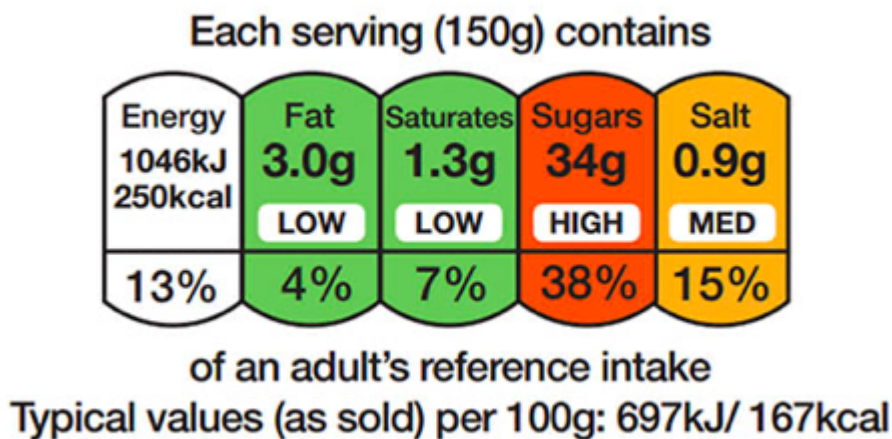


Per 100g:



**2343kJ / 560kcal**

\* Information on the amounts of specific nutrients (fat, saturated fat, sugar, salt) and on the energy value in a portion of the food, as well as how much this represents as a percentage of the daily reference intake. Colours are used to classify those nutrients per 100 g of the product as 'low' (green), 'medium' (amber) or 'high' (red).

Example:



\* Information on a product's overall nutritional value (based on the integration of both unfavourable elements (sugars, saturated fat, salt and calories) and favourable elements (protein, fibre and content of fruits, vegetables, pulses, nuts and olive /rapeseed/walnut oils)) through a graded indicator that can be applied on all products. Colours and letters are used to classify the overall nutritional value of the product, from 'highest nutritional value' (dark green, A) to 'lower nutritional value' (dark orange, E).

<p><i>Example:</i></p> 	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>* Information on a product's overall nutritional value through a positive (endorsement) logo that can be applied on foods that comply with specific nutritional criteria only. The criteria can be based on e.g. amount of fat, saturated fat, sugars, salt, fibre, wholegrain, fruit and vegetables depending on the food category and the specific label.</p> <p><i>Example:</i></p> 	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>* A combination of the above options: information on the overall nutritional quality of a product combined with information on the content of specific nutrients.</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Question 4:** If EU rules meant that food product manufacturers could only make health and nutrition claims on foods that met defined nutritional criteria, how likely is the following?

	Very unlikely	Unlikely	Neutral	Likely	Very likely
<p>* Food businesses whose products <b>were bearing claims</b> before the new criteria were introduced, but whose products do not meet the new criteria, will change the recipe of their products to make them healthier so that they <b>may keep</b> health and nutrition claims on their products.</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>* Food businesses whose products <b>were not bearing claims</b> before the new criteria were introduced, and whose products do not meet the new criteria, will change the recipe of their products to make them healthier so that they <b>may add</b> health and nutrition claims to their products.</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Question 5:** If you would like to raise other issues pertinent to the issues of front of pack nutrition labelling and the setting of nutrient profiling criteria to restrict claims, please provide details below.

*1000 character(s) maximum*

If you wish to provide additional information relevant to front of pack nutrition labelling and the setting of nutrient profiling criteria to restrict claims (for example a position paper or evidence report) or raise specific points not covered by this questionnaire, you can upload your additional document here. The maximum file size is 1 MB. Provision of a document is optional and serves as additional background reading to help us understand your position better.

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

## Additional contributions

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If you would like to raise other issues pertinent to the topics covered in this consultation, please provide details below.

*3000 character(s) maximum*

The European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations (EFA) is the umbrella organisation that represents the voice of patients living with allergy (including food allergy), asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Today, more than 17 million of people in Europe suffer from food allergy, of which 3,5 million are under the age of 25. In addition, food allergy prevalence is increasing, especially among children.

EFA calls the Commission to fulfil its commitment for improved food information ensuring better healthier food consumption, as outlined in its 'Farm-to-Fork' strategy. While the revision of the Food Information to Consumers Regulation could an excellent opportunity, to do it, we regret to see that it lacks certain key elements:

- Links of nutrition information and food labelling more broadly with major chronic diseases such as cancer, allergy and airways diseases
- Provisions to address the existing legislative gaps on allergen labelling, notably Precautionary Allergen Labelling (PAL)

Regarding the allergen labelling aspects, EFA considers this revision process as a missed opportunity to address legislative issues around food information holistically and decisively, and urges the Commission to take the necessary steps to protect the health of consumers with food allergies by:

- o Harmonising EU-wide rules on Precautionary Allergen Labelling, based on common wording and conditions for use, in line with Article 36 of the FIC Regulation;
- o Encouraging and financing scientific research to establish reference doses for the 14 recognised allergens listed in the Annex II of the FIC Regulation, on the basis of a common approach to quantitative risk assessment.

EFA stands ready to convey allergy patients' needs to the EU institutions and agencies and work closely together to provide the highest food quality information and standards.

If you wish to provide additional information (for example a position paper or evidence document) or raise specific points not covered by this questionnaire, you can upload your additional document here. The maximum file size is 1 MB. Provision of a document is optional and serves as additional background reading to help us understand your position better.

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

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## **Contact**

SANTE-FIC-REVISION@ec.europa.eu