Basic information

1997/0027(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Foodstuffs, alcoholic beverages: labelling, presentation and advertising **Subject** 4.60.02 Consumer information, advertising, labelling	

Key players

Council of the European Union	
European Commission	Commission DG: Health and Food Safety Commissioner:

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
10/02/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0020	Summary
17/02/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
05/01/1999	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
05/01/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0003/1999	
24/02/1999	Debate in Parliament		
01/07/1999	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0339	Summary
17/03/2006	Additional information		Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	1997/0027(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 095
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	ENVI/4/08642

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0003/1999 OJ C 104 14.04.1999, p. 0005	05/01/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0134/1999 OJ C 153 01.06.1999, p. 0014-0036	25/02/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1997)0020 OJ C 106 04.04.1997, p. 0005	10/02/1997	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1999)0339 OJ C 177 27.06.2000, p. 0011 E	01/07/1999	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0598/1997 OJ C 287 22.09.1997, p. 0059	28/05/1997	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Foodstuffs, alcoholic beverages: labelling, presentation and advertising

1997/0027(COD) - 10/02/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: taking into consideration the need to inform consumers the proposal for a directive, given the lack of progress in this area, is intended to relaunch the debate on the list of ingredients for alcoholic beverages. SUBSTANCE: the new proposal amending Directive 79/112/EEC takes account of certain criticisms regarding the maximum time-limit for adopting the rules for the labelling of ingredients and the simultaneous entry into force for all beverages of the obligation to label the ingredients. It provides that the rules for labelling the ingredients of beverages containing more than 1.2% of alcohol by volume are to be adopted within a period of three years starting on 1 July 1998.

Foodstuffs, alcoholic beverages: labelling, presentation and advertising

1997/0027(COD) - 01/07/1999 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal takes up, either in their entirety or partially, 12 amendments adopted by the European Parliament concerning: - reference in a recital to the proposal's objectives, viz. a high level of protection of consumer health and the preservation of the internal market; - extension of the deadline for adopting ingredient labelling rules from 3 to 5 years; - a more specific reference to aromatised beverages; - an indication that several categories of other products are subject to the Article 17 procedure; - the consultation of the Scientific Committee for Food where issues relating to human health are raised. The Commission, on the other hand, rejected the following EP amendments: - the addition of Article 153 as a second legal base; - the emergence of alcopops which could harm the position of, and be in unfair competition with, traditional beverages, and the

need for a code of conduct; - recourse to the procedure in Article 251 (co-decision) to adopt the rules under Directive 79/112/EEC; - the fact that Member States may not invoke lack of harmonisation in order to restrict the free movement of these products; - the addition of beer, and cider and perry to point (a) of Article 1.

Foodstuffs, alcoholic beverages: labelling, presentation and advertising

1997/0027(COD) - 28/05/1997 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Committee endorses the proposal for a directive as a valuable contribution. The Committee does, however, propose that the specific labelling rules in respect of alcoholic beverages be adopted by the Standing Committee on Foodstuffs, rather than by the common market organization committees, as proposed by the Commission. The Committee highlights the fact that, following the BSE crisis, the European Parliament is advocating greater transparency in food legislation. The same demand was also made in the ESC opinion on the BSE crisis. The European Commission endorses this approach, an integral part of which is judged to be referral to independent committees. The Standing Committee on Foodstuffs is an independent body whose remit it is to assess rules governing foodstuffs. The abovementioned approach also takes account of the need to avoid any discrimination between alcoholic beverages.

Foodstuffs, alcoholic beverages: labelling, presentation and advertising

1997/0027(COD) - 25/02/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The Parliament approved the Commission's proposal designed to oblige EU Ministers to agree on labelling rules for alcoholic drinks within 3 years from 1 July 1998 with a number of amendments. Parliament's rapporteur was Mr. Horst SCHNELLHARDT (D, EPP). One of the main amendments introduced was one to ensure that the Parliament is involved in the detail of any new labelling rules for alcoholic drinks. Another drew attention to the urgent need for new labelling rules for new alcoholic drinks, such as alcopops.