

Empowering EEN Advisors: Promoting Geographical Indications (GIs) for Craft and Industrial Products (CI)

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New EU GI scheme for craft & industrial products: Building on the success of the EU Agri GI scheme

- Agricultural GIs: wine, spirit drinks, agricultural products EU asset since 1992
- More than 3,600 protected names
- Sales value of approx. €75 billions annually
- Account for 15% of all EU food/drink exports
- Support rural areas (ensure higher incomes for producers, revitalised local economies and boosted tourism in many EU regions)
- GIs are an important Union's priority:
 - Recent reform of the EU agricultural GI system
 - Set up of new EU GI scheme for craft and industrial products





The New EU CIGI Regulation

What is changing & Why it matters

- Regulation (EU) 2023/2411 introduces a new EU-wide GI protection for CI product
- Protection for all products <u>not</u> covered by the agricultural GI protection scheme and hence, fall into the category of 'craft and industrial' products

Criteria:

- Originate from specific place, region or country
- Quality, reputation, or other characteristic **essentially** attributable to the geographical origin
- At least one production step takes place in the defined geographical area

Sectors most interested in CIGI products

- Ceramics, pottery, porcelain
- Glassware
- Leather
- Marble, stone, granite
- Metalware, cutlery
- Jewellery
- Furniture
- Watches and clocks
- Laces, embroidery
- Textiles, tapestry
- Clothes, footwear, headwear
- Musical instruments

Estimation of ±1000 EU craft and industrial products candidate to GI protection



Opportunities for SMEs



Build a Distinct Market Identity

- GI registration strengthens branding with a clear, region-linked identity
- Helps small producers differentiate from massproduced alternatives

Expand into EU & Global Markets

• GI status boosts export potential and acceptance in premium market segments

Strengthen Local Ecosystems

- Supports rural economies, traditional skills, and cooperative networks
- Encourages regional clusters and collective action among small producers



Benefits of the new CIGI legal framework

Product Differentiation

- Confirms that products come from a specific region and follow recognised traditional methods
- Helps customers easily identify genuine goods

Legal Protection

- Gain EU-wide legal rights to prevent free-riders from misusing recognised product names
- Safeguards traditional skills, giving them formal recognition and economic value.

Market value

- GI products often sell for 20–50% more than similar non-GI items
- Price premium supports reinvestment in quality, skills, and innovation, making products more competitive in local and global markets.





How the Registration Process Works

Phase 1 Application by the producer group to the national competent authority Examination National opposition Decision on national application

Union application to the EUIPO Scrutiny of the application Worldwide opposition Final decision on registration Publication in the Union register Advisory Board assists the EUIPO

Phase 2



From Entry into Force to Applicability: Timeline

16 November 2023: Regulation entered into force.

1 December 2025: Regulation becomes fully applicable. Producers can start to submit applications.





Role of different stakeholders

European Commission

Sets and updates the legal framework, Represents the EU in international GI negotiations, Oversees system-level promotion and communication, Participates in the Advisory Board

EUIPO

- Manage the EU GICI Register
- Examines applications submitted by national authorities for compliance with EU requirements
- Handle oppositions and amendments

National Authorities

- Review of initial application by producer groups
- Monitor Compliance:
 Ensure that producers
 adhere to the specifications
 of the registered GI within
 their territory.
- Assist in the enforcement of GI protections against misuse or infringement

Producer Groups

- Submit GI applications
- Define Product Specifications
- Monitor: Oversee the use of the GI, report any misuse, and ensure compliance among members.
- **Promote the GI** to raise awareness of the system and its associated products

Promoting the CIGI system as EEN advisors



Identify Eligible Products

Help clients **assess** whether **their craft/industrial products** have regional roots.



Raise Awareness

Inform clients about the new EU GI system and its benefits



Facilitate Partnerships

Encourage collaboration among regional producers to form producer groups



Connect with National Authorities

Guide clients to the **relevant national authority** for application support.



Thank You



More info:

https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/industry/strategy/intellectual-property/geographical-indications-craft-and-industrial-products en

Factsheet: Geographical Indications (GI) for craft and industrial (CI) products - A Seal of Origin, Quality, and Authenticity

Geographical Indications Capitals Tour

EUIPO GI HUB

DG GROW Intellectual Property Unit D3

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