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**Report Highlights:**

Bulgaria acceded to the European Union (EU) in 2007 and follows EU directives and regulations pertaining to food safety, quality and standards. This report outlines legislation regarding U.S. food-product exports to Bulgaria, particularly those rules which differ from EU legislation. This report should be read in conjunction with the U.S. Mission to the EU (USEU) Office of Agricultural Affairs' (OAA) 2023 EU FAIRS report. Additional updates and other relevant information can be found on the FAS Europe website.

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**DISCLAIMER:** This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate because of policy changes since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information regarding these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCTS IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY’S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

Note 1: English translations of hyperlinks with an asterisk may be requested from FAS/Sofia.  
Note 2: The page of the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency has been recently upgraded and is still not completed.

**Executive Summary**

Bulgaria is a small but growing market for U.S.-origin food and beverage exports. It also shares borders and international ports of entry with non-EU countries, including Türkiye, Serbia, and North Macedonia. Bulgaria uses international Black Sea ports, as well as ports of entry in neighboring Greece and Romania, to import food and agricultural products. Significant food and agricultural products are also shipped overland from western EU ports of entry, notably the Netherlands, Germany and Italy.

Bulgaria acceded to the EU in 2007 and follows all relevant EU directives, regulations, and obligations. EU directives require Member States to harmonize national laws accordingly. The following report

outlines legislation applicable to U.S. food exports to Bulgaria, particularly those requirements which differ from EU regulations. Exporters should note that when EU-wide legislation is incomplete, absent, or open for interpretation, Bulgarian national laws may apply.

On May 20, 2020, the European Commission (EC) published its 'Farm to Fork Strategy' which forecasts regulatory changes that will impact EU food labeling legislation through 2025. New requirements are expected to be adopted by the EU, including food sustainability labeling, animal welfare labeling, additional origin labeling, marketing standards for fishery and aquaculture products, nutrient profiles, and mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labeling.

Following the political stalemate over the last two years, Bulgaria had its last Parliamentary elections in April 2023 and a ruling coalition is governing the country since early June. Since then, the Parliament had a busy agenda aiming to address a number of legislative issues related to higher political priorities such as security, energy, and economic stability. Legislation related to agricultural and food issues remained a lower priority. Reportedly, more work focused on the food legislation is expected to take place in early 2024.

### **Section I. Food Laws**

The EU's approach to food safety includes all sectors of the food and feed chain. [General Food Law Regulation 178/2002](#) establishes the basic regulatory framework, including the [precautionary principle](#), and sets out requirements and procedures related to food safety and crisis management. The regulation on harmonized food control, [Regulation 2017/625](#) became applicable in 2019. In June 2019, [Regulation 2019/1381](#) on transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain, amending the General Food Law, was published in the EU's Official Journal. This regulation covers food additives, smoke flavoring, food contact materials, food enzymes, flavorings, and novel foods.

The regulations on general food law, food and feed control, and food and feed hygiene make up the body of the EU's food safety laws. Revisions of existing EU food regulations or new regulations apply the principles contained in these framework regulations (see more details on [U.S. Mission to the EU](#) website and the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report).

### **Bulgarian Food Law**

In June 2020 Bulgaria passed the [Food Act](#)\* (please, refer to Note 1), a major regulatory update regarding the food industry and trade. The Act's main objective was to more closely harmonize with EU legislation, as well as to achieve better food traceability and consumer protection. The Act introduced regulations for online trade that were previously unregulated. It also levied new taxes on business operators, including vehicle registrations for transporting certain food categories, and enforced new production and trade requirements for baby food, food supplements, and therapeutic foods. Authorities continue to develop the Food Act's implementing regulations. Most implementing regulations under the Food Act were approved in 2021/2022 but new amendments are currently being developed. The [Ministry of Agriculture](#) (MinAg) and the [Bulgarian Food Safety Agency](#) publish all relevant regulations under the Food Act on their websites, respectively on the MinAg's national legislation [platform](#)\* and BFSA's national regulations' [page](#)\*.

The latest [amendment](#)\* to the Food Act was done in September 2023 and addressed the use of nitrous oxide in foods, food establishments and food service outlets. The reason driving this amendment was

misuse of this chemical by youngsters for different purposes. The amendment imposed heavy fines for the violation of the proper use of nitrous oxide.

Other major legislation applicable to imported food products can be found in the [Veterinary Medical Act\\*](#), including the latest amendments adopted on December 23, 2022. Imports of raw materials and foods of animal origin are regulated by this legislation. Another relevant law last amended in 2020 is the [Animal Husbandry Law\\*](#) (June 20, 2020) covering new policies in the area of genetic resources. Similar legislation was updated for the beekeeping industry ([Beekeeping Law\\*](#), last amendment December 23, 2022). Additional legislation which may have direct or indirect effect on food imports includes the [Plant Protection Law\\*](#) (last revised December 23, 2022) and the [Feed Law\\*](#) (last revised December 23, 2022). In November 2021 the Ministry of Health updated the regulation about laboratory control and analysis of foods ([Naredba #12\\*](#) of November 10, 2021). The following sources have a complete list of applicable EU and national Bulgarian legislation: MinAg's [EU legislation\\*](#), and MinAg's [Bulgarian legislation\\*](#).

In 2017 Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic, followed by Bulgaria in 2018, reported that many food products sold in their countries are of lower quality than the same brands and packaging sold in “older” Member States. In 2019 the EU adopted [Directive \(EU\) 2019/2161](#) amending the rules on better enforcement of EU consumer protection rules. The new Directive included an article stating that “any marketing of a good, in one Member State, as being identical to a good marketed in other Member States, while that good has significantly different composition or characteristics, unless justified by legitimate and objective factors” shall be regarded as misleading. In Bulgaria, a political decision was taken to move this topic from the Ministry of Agriculture’s portfolio to the Ministry of Economy. The Ministry of Economy drafted the respective [bill](#) as an amendment to the [Consumer Protection Law\\*](#) to transpose the EU directive. The law was amended in March 2022 ([Official Gazette #20\\*](#), March 9, 2022).

### **Relevant Competent Authorities**

The Ministry of Agriculture controls imports of food products for human consumption, animal feed/ingredients, and live animals not intended for direct human consumption through the Bulgarian Food Safety Administration (BFSA). Food safety is the responsibility of BFSA, which coordinates the food and feed chain control. BFSA remains the competent regulatory authority on all food imports, exports, and manufacturing, with the exception of bottled water (mineral, spring, and table water). The [BFSA website](#) lists all relevant regulations, documents, certificates, tariffs, registers, and any other information, including links to the EU regulations.

Since 2016 the [Risk Assessment Center](#) has operated as an independent agency under the direct supervision of MinAg. It is responsible for risk assessment and management and works directly with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

### **Section II. Labeling Requirements**

In 2014 the EC’s general rules on labeling, displaying, and advertising of food products became applicable by Food Information to Consumers (FIC) [Regulation \(EC\) 1169/2011](#). The mandatory nutrition declaration requirement introduced by the FIC regulation became applicable in 2016.

Details can be found at the FAS/USDA/U.S. Mission to the EU's [website](#) and in [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report. The standard U.S. label fails to comply with EU labeling requirements, and U.S. exporters are strongly advised to consult with their importers regarding information on additional Bulgarian requirements.

In March 2021 Bulgarian authorities approved a new implementing [regulation](#) related to labeling under the Food Act which fully harmonized Bulgarian regulations with the EU (Official Gazette #25 of March 26, 2021). The products should bear original labeling (not necessarily in Bulgarian) allowing proper identity and food safety checks prior to Customs clearing. The products must be properly labeled in Bulgarian (by a sticker or by translation of the original label) when placed for retail sale.

Bulgaria applies EU-harmonized legislation to:

- General Labeling Requirements
- Nutritional Labeling
- Product-Specific Labeling
- Genetically engineered (GE) products labeling [Regulation \(EC\) 1829/2003](#).

In 2020 the EC published a roadmap outlining its intention to advance a legislative proposal to revise Regulation (EU) 1169/2011. This revision will include harmonized mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling, setting of 'nutrient profiles' restricting the promotion (via nutrition and health claims) of foods that are high in fats, sugars and/or salt, extension of mandatory origin or provenance indications to certain products, and a revision of the EU rules on date marking ('use by' and 'best before'). A legislative proposal was expected in the fourth quarter of 2022 but has been delayed. Please, see details about the EU roadmap at FAS/USDA/U.S. Mission to the EU [website](#).

### **General Labeling Requirements**

As per Article 9 of FIC regulation 1169/2011 and Chapter I, Section IV of the Food Act, mandatory labeling information includes:

- Product name
- List of ingredients and quantity of certain ingredients or category of ingredients
- Allergens listed in Annex II
- Nutrition declaration
- Alcoholic content when over 1.2 percent in volume
- Net weight in packaged products
- Expiration date
- Storage and use conditions
- Use instructions when essential to make a proper use the product
- Company identification: name and address of the manufacturer or packer or seller established within the EU. If that operator is not established in the EU, the name and address of the importer
- Batch information
- Country of origin or place of provenance in accordance with the provisions of Article 26

### **Warning of Labels**

Annex III to FIC Regulation 1169/2011 establishes a list of products that require a special warning on the label. For foods containing added sugar and sweeteners the applicable regulations is [Food Additives Regulation 1333/2008](#), the same regulation applies also for foods containing more than 10 percent added polyols. Annex V of the regulation requires foodstuffs containing the food colors sunset yellow (E110),

quinoline yellow (E104), carmoisine (E122), allura red (E129), tartrazine (E102), and ponceau 4R (E124) to be labeled “may have an adverse effect on activity and attention in children.”

### **Ingredients List**

For information on ingredient lists, minimum durability and quantitative ingredients declaration (QUID), see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report. The EC has published [guidelines](#) on the QUID requirement which explains when QUID is mandatory and which products are exempt from QUID. If the ingredient is emphasized on the label, the quantity in percentage must be indicated to the list of ingredients.

Please note that dates must be given in the following order: day/month/year (if required). In the last two years, several U.S. shipments to Bulgaria were rejected entry due to non-compliant date order.

### **Additives and Flavorings**

For information on additives and flavorings please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Allergen Labeling**

Allergens must be highlighted in the list of ingredients. Please refer to the EC’s [Notice relating to the provision of information on substances or products causing allergies or intolerances](#), FoodDrink Europe: [Guidelines on precautionary allergen labelling](#), and [Allergen Labeling – Food Safety Authority Ireland](#), as well as to [2023 EU FAIRS](#). Allergens must be highlighted in the list of ingredients.

### **Origin Labeling (Country of Origin Labeling/COOL)**

Please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report, FAS/USEU’s [website](#), and FoodDrink Europe’s (EU Food and Drink Industry Confederation) [Guidance on Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2018/775](#) (May 2020). COOL is mandatory for honey, fruits and vegetables, olive oil, fishery and aquiculture products, beef, pork, sheep and goat meat, and poultry.

In 2019, the MinAg issued a [regulation](#) (Ordinance 4, May 2019) defining the term of use and control on manufacturers of so called “mountain products” which corresponded and transposed to the EU quality schemes regulation (EC) [1151/2012](#) (Article 31). In October 2023, the MinAg published a [registry](#) of manufacturers of “mountain products” that bear such labelling.

The Bulgarian Food Act introduced two new labels for local foods. The first is “Produced in Bulgaria,” and it means farm products produced in the country, namely crops, livestock products, and wild-caught fish and game. The second term is “Product from Bulgaria,” relating to products whose main ingredient is produced in Bulgaria and all stages of the production process take place in the country.

In April 2023, the EC published several proposals to update the EU’s marketing standards for some agricultural products, including dried fruits and nuts proposing more stringent mandatory origin labeling rules for honey, nuts and dried fruits, as well as some other products. The country, or countries of origin in the case of blends or mixes, will have to appear on the label. The proposal is expected to be adopted in late 2023. Bulgaria is a significant importer of U.S. nuts and U.S. exporters are advised to consult with FAS/Sofia on this issue once the regulation is adopted in the EU.



## **Language Requirements**

Article 15 of FIC Regulation 1169/2011 stipulates that the mandatory information be provided in “a language easily understood by the consumers of the Member States where the food is marketed.” Bulgarian is the official language in Bulgaria. The Government of Bulgaria (GOB) permits multi-language labeling and stickers, although one of the languages must be Bulgarian. Specific rules on stickers to provide mandatory labeling information are not included in FIC regulation 1169/2011. U.S. manufacturers or exporters are encouraged to contact their importer to learn the applicable labeling requirements.

## **Nutritional Declaration**

As part of the Farm to Fork Strategy, the EC announced that it would propose harmonized mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labeling as part of the revision of the FIC Regulation. The publication of the proposal has been delayed. Nutritional information must be presented in tabular format and in a specific order expressed per 100 grams/milliliters. For additional information on EU nutritional declaration regulations see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

Between 2020 and 2023 Mondelez International, Nestlé, PepsiCo, Coca-Cola, and Unilever in Bulgaria began voluntary labeling of their products using the Evolved Nutrition Label (NutriInform) to test consumer perception. In 2022 and in 2023 FoodDrinks Bulgaria organized several discussions with industry and regulators on available front-of-pack nutritional declaration options. Most food industry groups had a neutral opinion about the EU schemes and stated that such labeling should be voluntary and not mandatory. The conclusion was that “there are no unhealthy foods, there are unhealthy diets.” Bulgaria does not officially support any of the currently used schemes in the EU.

## **Health /Nutritional Claims Labeling**

### **Nutritional Claims**

The Annex to [Nutrition & Health Claims Regulation 1924/2006](#) lists the authorized EU nutrition claims and conditions of use. Nutritional claims that are not included in the annex are not allowed.

### **Health Claims**

EU rules on the use of health claims are set out in [Nutrition & Health Claims Regulation 1924/2006](#), [Regulation 432/2012](#), [Commission Implementing Decision 2013/63](#), and [Regulation 353/2008](#). Bulgaria follows these regulations. On May 20, 2020, the EC announced that it would set nutrient profiles to restrict promotion of food high in salt, sugars and/or fat as required by [Regulation 1924/2006](#). The publication of the proposal has been delayed and is not yet scheduled. For more information visit the FAS/EU website on [Nutrition and Health Claims](#) and the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Alcoholic Beverages**

In June 2019, the European spirits sector signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) and committed to voluntarily include caloric information on labels and online ingredient and nutritional information. The Bulgarian distilled spirits industry joined the voluntary EU-industry MOU in 2022. On September 5, 2019, the European beer industry also signed an [MOU](#) and committed to voluntarily inform consumers on ingredient and nutrition information. Please, see details on the Brewers of Europe’s [website](#). Under the MOU, Bulgarian brewers follow voluntary nutritional labeling for beer. For more information on alcoholic beverages please see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.



### **Other Specific Labeling Requirements**

FIC Regulation 1169/2011 sets out horizontal rules applicable to all products. Sectoral or “vertical” legislation exists for various products.

For labeling rules on minimum durability, warnings on labels, quantitative ingredients declaration, minimum front sizes on labels, gluten-free food, trans-fats, and samples, see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Genetically Engineered (GE) Foods**

The Bulgarian [Food Act](#) (Chapter III, Section IV) transposed all EU requirements for GE food labeling (see [GAIN](#)) and introduced stricter labeling rules regarding the font size and label size for such foods.

Bulgaria has a centralized system for testing and controlling the unauthorized presence of GE products in the feed and food. The Food Act bans GE ingredients and GE products in baby foods regardless of their safety evaluation.

In July 2023, the EC published [a proposal](#) for a new Regulation for plants obtained by certain New Genomic Techniques (NGTs). The EC proposes two categories of NGT plants: Category 1 – NGT plants that could also occur naturally or be produced by conventional breeding techniques and Category 2 - NGTs plants that could not occur naturally or be produced by conventional breeding techniques. Category 1 plants and products would be labelled in the same way as conventional plants and products. Food containing products belonging to Category 2 would follow the same requirements as food containing GMOs. The proposal is now going through the EU legislative process and might still change. Additional information on GE foods can be found at U.S. Mission to the EU’s [website](#) and in the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

**Organic Foods:** A new [EU Regulation \(Regulation \(EU\) 2018/848](#) on organic production and labeling was adopted in May 2018 and entered into force on January 1, 2022. For more information see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report, as well as EC [website](#).

**Organic Wine:** For information on the EU’s organic wine legislation, including labeling requirements, see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

**Meat:** For information on the EU’s meat legislation (beef, veal, pork, sheep, goats and poultry, and minced meat), including labeling requirements, see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

**Fish and Seafood:** [Regulation 1379/2013](#) sets out labeling rules for fishery and aquaculture products listed in Annex I to the regulation. On May 20, 2020, the EC announced that it would propose a revision of the EU marketing standards for agricultural, fishery, and aquaculture products. Detailed information on shipping seafood and fishery products to the EU is provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce [certification page](#), and information on EU regulations can be found in the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Trans Fats and Gluten-free Labeling**

In April 2019 [Regulation 2019/649](#) amending Annex III to [Regulation 1925/2006](#) on trans fats was published and entered into force in May 2019. The regulation sets a maximum limit of at 2 grams per 100 grams of fat in food intended for consumers. Commission [Implementing Regulation 828/2014](#),

applicable since July 20, 2016, sets out conditions for using “gluten-free” and “very low gluten” statements on food labels.

## **Wine**

Allergen labeling is compulsory on all alcoholic beverages. Mandatory nominal quantities for wines and spirits are set out in the Annex to [Directive 2007/45/EC](#). In 2021, the EU adopted [Regulation 2021/2117](#) which introduces a compulsory nutrition declaration and a compulsory list of ingredients for wines, aromatized wines, and dealcoholized and partially dealcoholized wines. These new rules on the mandatory nutrition declaration and list of ingredients will enter into force on December 8, 2023. For more information, please see GAIN Report: [European Commission Publishes New EU Labeling Rules for Wines – January 2022](#) and [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report, as well as and the EC’s [website](#).

## **U.S.-EU Wine Agreement**

For information on the U.S.-EU Wine Agreement see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

## **Spirit Drinks**

[Regulation 2019/787](#) entered into force in May 2021. This Regulation outlines general rules on the definition, description, presentation, and labeling of spirits, as well as on the protection of geographical indications of spirits. In February 2022, the EC published [Guidelines for the implementation of certain labelling provisions of Regulation \(EU\) 2019/787](#). The public database [eAmbrosia](#) lists the geographical indications of spirit drinks registered in the European Union. In February 2019, “Tequila” was approved as a geographical indication in the EU ([Implementing Regulation 2019/335](#)). For information on EU spirit drinks regulations see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

**Beer:** There is no beer-specific EU-harmonized legislation. All alcoholic beverages must comply with allergen labeling requirements. Bulgaria’s beer industry lists ingredients on a voluntary basis. More information can be found on the Brewers of Europe’s dedicated website: <https://beerwisdom.eu>

**Special Use Foods:** The EU’s “foods for specific groups” rules are set out in [Regulation \(EU\) 609/2013](#). For information on special use foods, including fish, frozen foodstuffs, fruit juice, honey, and olive oil see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report. On April 21, 2023, the EC published a proposal to update the EU’s “breakfast directives” with changes the rules for honey, fruit juices, fruit jams, and evaporated milk. More information in GAIN Report: [European Commission Proposes to Update Marketing Standards for Agricultural Products](#).

## **Honey**

On May 15, 2014, the EU adopted [Directive 2014/63/EU](#) amending [Directive 2001/110/EC](#) relating to honey. It defines pollen as a natural constituent of honey that should not be considered an ingredient of honey. This means that GM pollen present as a quantity of more than 0.9% of the honey (not the pollen) would need to be labeled as such. Since pollen only forms around 0.5% of any batch of honey, it is unlikely to exceed the GM labeling threshold.

In January 2023, Bulgaria adopted [a regulation\\*](#) (Decree #3 of January 6, 2023) about honey for human consumption which harmonized local legislation with [Directive 2001/110/EU](#) and [Directive 2014/63/EU](#). The regulation also introduced the country-of-origin labeling.

## **Plant-based Meat and Dairy Alternatives**

To date, there is no EU-harmonized definition of the terms “vegetarian” and “vegan” and no specific requirements for the labeling of plant-based meat and dairy alternatives.

Bulgarian consumers are sensitive regarding correct labeling information on dairy products, while the dairy industry is split on this issue. Several manufacturers produce less expensive dairy products, mainly cheese, which contain more plant oils/proteins and less milk and have a good market niche. Due to pressure from industry and consumer protection advocates to regulate the market by clear differentiation of the two types of products, Bulgaria approved a [regulation\\*](#) (Ordinance for specific requirements to dairy products) related to dairy products in August 2021 and updated it with a new [regulation\\*](#) in May 2023. Such dairy products, including cheese, butter, and milk, cannot be labeled, advertised, or presented in any way with dairy names. These products should be sold in retail only packaged, on separate displays or shelves, and under a general category called “imitating products.” Imitating products exclude plant-based dairy alternatives that contain up to 10 percent milk.

## **Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations**

### **Size and Content**

The Bulgarian Food Act transposes two EU Directives related to the weight and volume of certain prepackaged products ([Council Directive 76/211/EEC](#)) which establishes nominal quantities for pre-packed products. [Directive 2007/45/EC](#) abolished mandatory pack sizes at both EU and national levels. Mandatory quantities for wines and spirits are included in the Annex to Directive 2007/45/EC. See EC’s packaging waste [page](#) and [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report for specific information.

### **Packaging Waste Management**

[Council Directive 94/62/EC](#) provides for measures aimed at limiting the production of packaging waste and promoting recycling, re-use, and other forms of waste recovery. A well-known and widely used recycling program is the German “green dot” system. More information can be found on the Packaging Recovery Organization Europe website which provides easy access to all Green Dot systems in Europe ([www.pro-e.org](http://www.pro-e.org)). See EC’s packaging waste [page](#) and [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report for specific information.

### **Reducing Packaging-Related Waste**

In 2018, the EC approved a regulation to ban the use of select plastic products which could also affect food packaging. [Directive \(EU\) 2019/904](#) targets reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, such as single-use plastics, and went into effect on July 3, 2021. Other provisions in the Directive, such as the extended producer responsibility, will take effect by the end of 2024. On March 11, 2020, the EU published its [Circular Economy Action Plan](#) which aims to support a circular economy. On November 30, 2022, the EC proposed [a revision](#) to the 1994 Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste with the goal to harmonize the increasingly fragmented packaging rules across the EU that are creating internal trade barriers and disrupting the single market. An overview of current EU legislation applicable to packaging and packaging waste is available on the EC website <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/packaging/legis.htm>.

Bulgaria transposed above the EU directive and the respective [regulation\\*](#) was approved in November 2021. Business operators have a detailed time schedule for meeting the mandates of the regulation in

stages starting from 2022 until 2030. A specially developed [guidance](#) assist business in implementation of the regulation.

In 2023, the Bulgarian food industry made a significant progress in developing a deposit system, mainly for beer and soft drinks packaging. These efforts have enjoyed a strong public support. Several retailers introduced pilot projects (Lidl and Kaufland) for PET bottles and beer cans. The retail industry and the food/drinks industry are still developing a nationwide system, and efforts are coordinated by the Ministry of Environment of Waters and the Ministry of Economy. It is expected that the deposit system, will be fully introduced by the middle of 2024. The goal is 77 percent of recycling of PET bottles by 2025 compared to current only 22 percent.

### **Materials in Contact with Foodstuffs**

A summary of EU and Bulgarian legislation, as well as guidance documents and Bulgarian contact information with regard to the submission of applications for authorization can be found at EC [food safety page](#). Chapter II, Section II of the Bulgarian [Food Act](#) transposes current EU legislation about packaging and materials in contact with foodstuffs.

The EC announced a revision of the EU rules on food contact materials, based on the regulatory fitness and performance check (REFIT) of the [EU's Food Contact Material's \(FCM\) legislation](#). A [public consultation](#) was held between October 2022 and January 2023. The legislative proposal is expected to be published before the end of 2023. For additional information on materials in contact with foodstuffs see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Section IV. Food Additive Regulations**

Bulgaria applies EU-harmonized legislation regarding food additives (see [USEU website section on additives](#)). The EU's "Package on Food Improvement Agents" includes four regulations: [Regulation 1331/2008](#) establishing a common authorization procedure for food additives, food enzymes, and food flavorings, [Regulation 1332/2008 on food enzymes](#), [Regulation 1333/2008 on food additives](#) and [Regulation 1334/2008 on flavorings](#). Please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report for more details.

### **Additives (Including Colors and Sweeteners)**

The EC's [food additives database](#) provides detailed information on the different food additives allowed in the EU. Bulgaria generally adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on additives. For information on additives see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Re-Evaluation Program**

On July 20, 2023, [Regulation \(EU\) 2023/1329 amending the specification for glycerol \(E 422\), polyglycerol esters of fatty acids \(E 475\) and polyglycerol polyricinoleate \(E 476\)](#) entered into force. [Regulation \(EU\) 2023/1428 amending the specification for mono- and diglycerides of fatty acids \(E 471\)](#) entered into force on July 30, 2023. Please see the [schematic representation of the transitional measures](#). Bulgaria generally adheres to EU-harmonized legislation. For information on the re-evaluation program see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Flavorings**

[Regulation 1334/2008](#) establishes a list of authorized flavoring substances, listed according to the category of food to which they may be added. It also sets specific rules for the use of the term "natural".

Bulgaria generally adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on flavorings. For information on flavorings see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Enzymes**

Bulgaria generally adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on enzymes. For detailed information see the EC's website [https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food\\_improvement\\_agents/enzymes/eu\\_rules\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/food_improvement_agents/enzymes/eu_rules_en) and the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

## **Section V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants**

Tolerance for pesticide residues were harmonized in the EU in 2008. Bulgaria adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on pesticides and contaminants.

### **Pesticides**

[European Parliament and Council Regulation 1107/2009](#) established the rules for approvals of plant protection products (PPPs). PPPs (also referred to as 'pesticides') must contain at least one approved active substance. Only PPPs containing approved active substances as per the list established in [Commission implementing Regulation 540/2011](#) may be authorized for use in the EU. Before any PPP can be placed on the market or used, it must be authorized by Bulgarian authorities. According to Annex I of Regulation 1107/2009, the EU is divided in three different zones. Bulgaria is included in the Zone C (South) along with Spain, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, and Portugal. [Directive 2009/128](#) on the sustainable use of pesticides is also part of the so-called Pesticides Package. For more information see EC [food safety/pesticides page](#). Once Bulgaria approves a PPP, it can become mutually recognized and authorized within the EU.

In August 2023, the MinAg approved a new [regulation\\*](#) (Decree#12 of August 23), about the procedures for use of plant protection chemicals, in accordance with [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/1165](#) and notified EC following [Regulation \(EU\) 2015/1535](#).

The EC adopted a proposal in June 2022 for a new Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products (SUR), including EU wide targets to reduce by 50 percent the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030, in line with the EU's Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies. The proposal is currently going through legislative procedure.

Currently, Bulgaria does not support mandatory national pesticides reduction targets and joined 10 EU like-minded member states in its appeal to the EC to not adopt such targets. Bulgaria's main justification is that 85 percent of its agricultural land is used for cultivation of grain and oilseed crops which require minimum use of pesticides and only when necessary. Any mandatory reduction of pesticide use would be challenging, potentially leading to changes in the cultivated crops and creating risks for the food security. Instead, Bulgaria suggests adopting specific national measures to reduce the use of pesticides leading to the EU goals for 2030.

### **Maximum Residue Levels (MRL)**

Bulgaria generally adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on MRL. The Bulgarian National Pesticides Plan 2023 can be found at the MinAg [website](#) and BFSA [strategic documents page](#). In 2019, Bulgaria approved [amended legislation\\*](#) (Decree 310, Official Gazette#12 of 2019) regarding MRLs in feed

(lead, mercury, melamine, and decoquinate MRL) transposing [Directive 2002/32/EC](#) and [Regulation EC 2017/2229](#).

For a list of authorized active substances or pesticide-MRL combinations, see the EC's [online database](#). The EU early alert system provides information on ongoing and upcoming reviews for active substances and MRLs that are of interest to U.S. stakeholders. For more information, please see FAS/USDA/U.S. Mission to the EU [page](#) and the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Import Tolerance**

Information on import tolerances is available in "[Pesticide Use and Food Safety](#)" guide published by the European Crop Protection Association (ECPA). All MRLs, including import tolerances, apply EU wide since September 2008. The application guidelines for an import tolerance can be found at EC food safety [page](#).

### **Ongoing Review**

Bulgarian authorities undertook wide discussions about pesticide reduction targets (as per the EC's F2F and Biodiversity Strategies) with the agricultural stakeholders. Application of pesticides is believed to be lower than in Western Europe, and the industry view is that the reduction targets should be adjusted for each country depending on its starting level. Bulgaria recently joined 10 more EU member states supporting a proposal to set voluntary measures, and not mandatory national targets, for achieving the EU goals for 50 percent reduction of pesticides' use by 2030.

On Official Controls of MRLs, please see EC food safety MRL's [page](#) and the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Contaminants**

Bulgaria applies EU-harmonized legislation regarding food contaminants. EU-wide harmonized maximum levels for contaminants are set in the Annex of [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2023/915](#). Please see USEU website [section on contaminants and 2023 EU FAIRS](#) report for more details.

### **Official Controls**

For information on official controls please review the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Aflatoxin in Tree Nuts**

In April 2015, the EU approved the pre-export checks (PEC) program for U.S. almonds. U.S. almonds were included in the Annex to [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2015/949](#) which lists all EU approved pre-export check programs. The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service began issuing PEC almond certificates on August 1, 2015.

On July 25, 2019, U.S. peanuts were included in the list of products/origins subject to increased import controls. The mandatory testing level for U.S. peanuts is laid out in [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1793](#). Bulgaria must test 20 percent of all incoming peanut shipments. [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1793](#) also requires aflatoxin controls on 20 percent of consignments of pistachios and derived products originating in the United States but transshipped through Türkiye to the EU. The testing rates specified in [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1793](#) are revised semiannually.



For additional information on aflatoxin testing and certification, please see: [PEC Program Manual: Pistachio Export Aflatoxin Reporting \(PEAR\) Program](#) and at USDA/AMS aflatoxins [page](#). Bulgarian imports of U.S. nuts grow every year and U.S. exporters are advised to consult with FAS/Sofia on aflatoxin issues prior to exports.

### **Residues in Animals and Animal Products**

Bulgaria adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on residues in animals and animal products. The prohibition on the use of hormones in meat production itself is addressed in [Council Directive 96/22/EC](#). A country is eligible to export food of animal origin to the EU if it has received approval from the EC for the residue plans it submits on a yearly basis to the EC for the various animal species of interest. Approvals are published in Annex 1 to [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/405](#). For information on residues in animals and animal products please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report and in EC's [brochure](#) on this topic.

### **Section VI. Other Requirements, Regulations and Registration Measures**

An overview of all U.S. authorities that issue the legally required certificates for export to the EU is available on [USDA EU website](#). The websites of each of those authorities provide detailed and up-to-date information on the specific product certificates under their legal authority. Additional certification and documentation requirements can be found at FAS/USDA/U.S. Mission to the EU [page](#).

Following an update of the EU's Animal Health Law, which entered into force on April 21, 2021, the EU has updated all required certificates for products of animal origin and for composite products.

For additional information please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Composite Products**

Bulgaria adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on composite products. USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) will issue EU composite product certificates for composite products produced at FSIS-regulated facilities and bearing the USDA mark of inspection. AMS Dairy Program will issue the EU composite product certificates for composite products not produced in an FSIS-regulated facility and not bearing the USDA mark of inspection, regardless of whether dairy is an ingredient in the composite product. More information on the import conditions for composite products is available on the EC's [website](#). For information on composite products please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Facility Registration**

The EU approves establishments to ship products of animal origin based on submissions from U.S. Government agencies. Detailed information on certification of products from approved U.S. establishments is available at [Approved U.S. Establishments - USDA \(usda-eu.org\)](#).

### **Inspections**

The [Official Controls Regulation \(EU\) 2017/625](#) sets common rules for official controls to ensure the correct application of food and feed laws, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health, and plant protection products. The BSA is responsible for national-level inspections and enforcement of food and feed regulations. Products can be checked upon entry or at all further stages of marketing. There are no known pre-shipment testing requirements to be met or inspections to be conducted prior to shipment. Violations of EU food and feed legislation are reported through the [RASFF portal](#). Products of animal origin must be presented at EU border inspection posts (BIP) and submitted to an import control



following prior notification of the shipment. [Commission Decision 2009/821/EC](#) establishes a list of EU BIPs approved to carry out veterinary checks on animals and animal products from third countries. A full list of Bulgarian BIPs can be found at BFSA [border control page](#).

For product registrations such as foods for specific groups, vitamin enriched foods and nutritional supplements, see the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

## **Section VII. Other Specific Standards**

### **Novel Foods**

Bulgaria adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on novel foods. The updated [Regulation 2015/2283 on Novel Food](#) defines novel food as food that has not been consumed to a significant degree in the EU before May 15, 1997 and falling within at least one of the categories listed in Article 3 of the regulation (e.g. [cranberry extract powder](#)). [Commission Implementing Regulation 2017/2470](#) establishes a list of novel foods authorized in the EU. U.S. exporters are advised to verify the legal status of novel food ingredients. For information on novel foods please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Traditional Food from non-EU countries**

For information on traditional food from non-EU countries please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Dietetic Foods**

[Regulation 609/2013](#) sets out compositional and labeling rules for foods for specific nutritional uses. Its scope is limited to infant formula and follow-on formula, processed cereal-based food and baby food, food for special medical purposes and total diet replacement for weight control. Bulgaria adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on dietetic foods. U.S. exporters of dietetic products should verify whether the products fall within the scope of the above regulation. For information on dietetic foods please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report. The Bulgarian regulation about foods for sportsmen can be found at BFSA regulations' [page](#)\*.

### **Fortified Foods**

[European Parliament and Council Regulation 1925/2006](#) established an EU-wide regulatory framework for the addition of vitamins and mineral and of certain other substances such as herbal extracts to foods. More information can be found on the EC's website:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling\\_nutrition/vitamins\\_minerals\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/labelling_nutrition/vitamins_minerals_en)

### **Food Supplements**

[EU Directive 2002/46/EC](#) only sets out EU-harmonized rules on labeling and vitamins and minerals that may be used in food supplements. The Bulgarian [Food Act](#) (Chapter III, Section III) transposes EU legislation and contains special provisions regarding food supplements marketing. This includes a new set of requirements for e-commerce sales of food supplements, which have not been regulated to date. The BFSA requires registration and approval of each food supplement before its release to the market. Bulgaria adopted a [regulation](#)\* about food supplements in December 2021 which transposed [Directive 2002/46/EC](#).

### **Seafood**

Detailed information on shipping seafood and fishery products to the EU is provided on the U.S. Department of Commerce's [website](#) and the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

Information on mandatory EU labeling requirements as well as reports on the feasibility of an EU eco-label can be found in the EC's Fisheries [website](#).

### **Irradiated Foodstuffs**

Chapter III, Section V of the Bulgarian [Food Act](#) regulates irradiated foodstuffs and transposes the EU legislation. To date, Bulgaria has no authorizations of food and food ingredients which may be treated with ionizing radiation (see [link](#)). For additional information on irradiated foodstuffs please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Pet Food**

Bulgaria adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on pet food. In December 2022, the EC published [a proposal](#) on the labeling of organic pet food. Following the adoption of the new Organics Regulation, there are currently no specific rules for the labeling of pet food as organic in the EU; this proposal aims to correct that. Under the proposed rules, processed feed, including pet food, can only be labelled as organic if all the ingredients of agricultural origin and at least 95 % of the dry matter are organic. The text is currently going through the EU legislative cycle and is expected to be adopted in the second half of 2023.

For information on pet food please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report and [GAIN report “Exporting Pet Food to the European Union](#).

### **Vegetarian and Vegan Foods, and Plant-Based Meat and/or Dairy Alternatives**

For information on vegetarian and vegan foods, and plant-based meat and/or dairy alternatives please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

## **Section VIII. Trademarks, Brand Names, and Intellectual Property Rights**

### **Trademarks**

In the EU, trademarks can be registered at the national, regional or EU level. Rules on the protection of trademarks in the EU are set in EU [Directive 2015/2436](#). [Commission Implementing Regulation 2018/626](#) sets out detailed rules on application procedures. [Commission Delegated Regulation 2018/625](#) sets out procedural rules on opposition and revocation of EU trademarks. Trademarks registered at the national level are protected in the respective state. Applications for registering under the Community Trademark Register must be submitted to the Patent Office of Bulgaria (see contact information below under Annex I).

A Community Trademark gives the owner protection in all Member States with one single registration. Additional information on EU trademark criteria can be found on the EC's [website](#) and in the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) and Protected Geographic Indications (PGI)**

The [European Commission's website](#) provides guidance on how to register a PDO/PGI or how to object to a PDO/PGI proposed for registration. [eAmbrosia](#) is the EU's legal register of the names of agricultural products and foodstuffs, wine, and spirit drinks that are registered and protected across the EU.

Bulgaria's lists of protected food names is available at EC's [portal](#). As of November 2023, Bulgaria has six registered TSG products (meat products), three registered PDO product (white cheese, yogurt and honey), and two registered PGI products (rose oil and a meat product). The country submitted one more application for TSG status for a meat product. In 2022 Bulgaria also applied for PDO status for a type of tea.

In July 2018 Bulgaria amended the [Law on Trademarks and Geographic Indications](#) (Official Gazette 61/2018). The amendment aimed to complete harmonization of the local legislation with the EU [European Parliament and Council Regulation 1151/2012](#). Before this change, Bulgaria maintained a national protection on certain geographic indications and designations of origin of food products (for example, yogurt) which was not in compliance with the regulation 1151/2012 since such protection is possible only at the EU level.

### **Registration of Geographic Indications for Spirit Beverages**

Regulation (EU) [2019/787](#) updates the definitions of various spirits beverage categories. It also clarifies and changes the rules on the protection of GIs, including registration. On July 29, 2021, the EC published Delegated Regulation (EU) [2021/1235](#) and Implementing Regulation (EU) [2021/1236](#) concerning GIs applications for registration of spirits beverages. As of November 2022, Bulgaria has 54 wines registered under PDO scheme and 12 spirit drinks under GI.

## **Section IX. Import Procedures**

### **Union Customs Code (UCC)**

The EU is a customs union, and all Member States uniformly apply import duties on goods from outside the EU based on the tariff classification of goods and the customs value. Once goods are cleared, they can move freely throughout the EU. The UCC, along with the implementing provisions, became applicable on May 1, 2016. A [complete overview of the EU's UCC](#) is available on the EC's DG TAXUD website. In the case of Bulgaria, the Customs Agency under the Ministry of Finance is the responsible entity. Contact information for the Customs Agency can be found in Appendix I.

In 2017, the EC launched the "[Customs Decisions System](#)", a new pan-EU electronic system to facilitate permission to import goods into the EU. Importers in Bulgaria can use the same portal and exchange applications between all the relevant customs authorities.

In May 2023, the EC released [a proposal](#) to reform the UCC. The reform aims to simplify and rationalize customs reporting requirements for traders. More information about the proposal can be found on the [Commission's website](#).

### **Customs Clearance**

Bulgaria adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on customs clearance. The EC's [Access2Markets database](#) provides a complete overview of documents needed for customs clearance such as:

- Tariffs
- Rules of origin
- Taxes and additional duties
- Import procedures and formalities

- Product requirements
- Trade barriers
- Trade flow statistics

On September 29, 2023, the Bulgarian Ministry of Finance adopted a [regulation\\*](#) about fiscal control on movement of products of high fiscal risk on the territory of the country (applicable since October 3, 2023). The regulation is implemented by the National Revenue Agency (NRA) (more details at NRA's [page\\*](#)). Most foods and alcohol drinks are subject of this regulation. The industry describes the regulation as burdensome and requiring considerable administrative resources. Although the regulation is applicable to Bulgarian importers/traders, the U.S. exporters may need to provide detailed information about their shipments to their local partner for compliance with this regulation.

### **Import Duties**

Bulgaria adheres to EU-harmonized legislation on import duties. The [EU's 2023 Tariff Schedule](#) was published on January 1, 2023 in the Official Journal. The EU's [on-line "TARIC" customs database](#) can be consulted to look up commodity codes and relevant import duties.

Duties payable on goods imported into the EU may include:

- Import duty (expressed as ad valorem tariffs or specific tariffs per unit weight/volume/number of pieces) – EU harmonized (above)
- Additional duties on flour and sugar (processed products) – EU harmonized (above)
- Entry price (fruit and vegetables) – EU harmonized (above)
- Environmental taxes - not harmonized (Please, see relevant BFSA taxes on the [administrative services page\\*](#))
- Inspection fees - not harmonized (Please, see the inspection fees charged by BFSA [administrative services page\\*](#))
- Value Added Tax (VAT) – The standard VAT in Bulgaria is set at 20 percent.
- Excise duties (alcohol and tobacco) - not harmonized (see below).

### **Excise Duty for Alcohol Products**

Since February 13, 2023, [Directive \(EU\) 2020/262](#) replaced EU Directive 2008/118. The excise legislation establishes the minimum rates of tax that must be applied for each category, but Member States can decide to set rates at a higher level. As of February 13, 2023, all excise duty transactions in the EU also became fully electronic. The new Directive increases the threshold for lower strength beer that can benefit from reduced excise duty rates. It extends the special regime of reduced excise duty rates for small beer and ethyl alcohol producers to producers of other fermented beverages, such as cider. Directive 2020/1151 also sets out the conditions for application of the exemption from excise duty rules for denatured alcohol, used for example in cleaning products. More information on excise duties for alcohol can be found on the [Commission's website](#).

The level of excise duties on alcohol and tobacco products in Bulgaria are the lowest in the EU at 66 percent of the EU average. Please, see the Bulgarian [list of excise duties\\*](#) and relevant [documents\\*](#) and rules at the Bulgarian Customs Agency website.

## **Import Documentation and Process**

Agricultural products are examined when they enter Bulgaria by the Bulgarian BIP. The TRACES NT system was applied in December 2019 with the new EU import rule and official control regulations. All BIPs can execute both veterinary and phytosanitary control and inspect all products for human consumption. The EC's [Trade Helpdesk](#) offers a complete overview of documents needed for customs clearance.

In Bulgaria there is no official requirement for import documentation to be translated into Bulgarian. The most used language by border inspectors is English. Translation in Bulgarian, though, can speed up the border process. Product samples for trade shows and/or not for commercial distribution are subject to the same import regulations as all other food products.

U.S. exporters interested in introducing a product into the Bulgarian market should obtain local representation and/or a local importer/distributor to gain knowledge of the market, up-to-date information, and guidance on trade laws and business practices, sales contacts, and market development expertise. Please contact FAS/Sofia for comprehensive information about local market entry and specific regulations and practices.

## **Other Certification and Testing Requirements**

For information on other certification and testing requirements please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

## **Section X. Trade Facilitation**

### **Advance Rulings**

For information on advance rulings and the pre-clearance program please refer to the [2023 EU FAIRS](#) report.

### **Electronic Certificates**

The Official Controls Regulation ([Regulation \(EU\) 2017/625](#)) provides the legal basis for the acceptance of electronic certificates using the EU's Integrated Management System for Official Controls (IMSOC). For plant products, Bulgaria can receive U.S. electronic phytosanitary certificates sent via the Hub, created by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). For other commodities, currently no connection exists between IMSOC and the respective U.S. systems the U.S. Government Agencies uses to issue electronic certificates. In the absence of such a connection, paper certificates will satisfy the EU requirement for an original certificate with an ink signature.

### **Import Control Fees**

The [Official Controls Regulation](#) provides the legal basis for the financing of import controls. Mandatory fees are charged to operators for certain official controls, including on import controls of animals, products of animal origin, germinal products, animal byproducts, composite products, hay and straw, plants, and plant products. Operators also have to pay for the border controls performed on food and feed of non-animal origin listed in [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1793](#). Specific fee information can be found at the BFSA's [administrative services page\\*](#).

### **Average Release Time for Products – Common Delays**

Bulgaria's ports are organized efficiently to perform customs formalities as well as the necessary animal and plant health inspections. Incomplete or incorrect certification generally leads to delays.

### **Duplicative Inspections**

Inspections on imported foods are concentrated at the EU external borders. Once goods have passed inspection and customs duties are paid, they can move freely throughout the EU. However, official controls remain at any stage of distribution in the EU. Due to its geographic location, Bulgaria is an external EU border with eight BIPs at the border with Türkiye, Serbia, and North Macedonia. Bulgaria is often used as a door for commercial overland traffic from the Türkiye and the Middle East, and for international ocean freight from the Black Sea ports of Varna and Bourgas.

### **Appendix I. Government Regulatory Key Agency Contacts:**

#### **Ministry of Agriculture**

Bld. Hristo Botev 55 Sofia 1040

Tel.: (+359) 2-985-11858

Fax: (+359) 2-981-7955

Website: <http://www.mzh.government.bg>

#### **Ministry of Health**

Sqr. Sveta Nedelya 5, Sofia 1000

Tel.: (+359) 2-981-0111

E-mail: [press@mh.government.bg](mailto:press@mh.government.bg)

Website: <http://mh.government.bg>

Direction Public Health

Tel.: (+359) 2-9301-252

<http://www.mh.government.bg/bg/kontakti/>

#### **Bulgarian Food Safety Agency**

Bul. Pencho Slaveikov 15A, Sofia 1606

Tel.: (+359) 2-915-98-20

Fax: (+359) 2-954-9593

E-mail: [bfsa@bfsa.bg](mailto:bfsa@bfsa.bg)

Website: <https://bfsa.egov.bg/wps/portal/bfsa-web/home>

#### **Customs Agency, Ministry of Finance**

Str. Rakovski 47, Sofia 1202

Tel.: (+359) 2-9594-210

Fax: (+359) 2-9859-4528

E-mail: [pr@customs.bg](mailto:pr@customs.bg)

Website: <http://customs.bg>

#### **National Drug Agency**

8 Damyan Gruev Str., Sofia 1303

Tel.: (+359) 2-8903-555

Fax: (+359) 2-8903-434;

E-mail: [bda@bda.bg](mailto:bda@bda.bg)

Website: <http://en.bda.bg>

#### **National Center of Public Health and Analyses**

Acad. Ivan Evst. Geshov 15 blvd Sofia 1431

Tel.: (+359) 2-8056-444

Fax: (+359) 2-9541-211

E-mail: [ncpha@ncpha.government.bg](mailto:ncpha@ncpha.government.bg)

Website: <http://ncpha.government.bg>

### **Bulgarian Institute for Standardization**

1797 Sofia, Lachezar Stanchev" Str. Nr 13  
"Izgrev" Complex

Tel.: (+359) 2-8174-504

Fax: (+359) 2-8174-535

Website: <https://bds-bg.org/bg/>

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### **Executive Agency Bulgarian Accreditation Services**

52 A "Dr. G. M. Dimitrov" Blvd. 1797 Sofia, Bulgaria

Tel/Fax: (+359) 2-8735-303

E-mail: [ea\\_bas@abv.bg](mailto:ea_bas@abv.bg); [office@nab-bas.bg](mailto:office@nab-bas.bg) Website: <http://www.nab-bas.bg/bg/>

### **Republic of Bulgarian Patent Office**

Sofia 1040, 52 b

Dr. G.M. Dimitrov Blvd.

Tel. (359-2) 9701 + extension number

Fax: \*(359-2) 870 83 25

E-mail: [bpo@bpo.bg](mailto:bpo@bpo.bg); <http://www.bpo.bg>

### **Major Bulgarian Trade Associations**

#### **American Chamber of Commerce in Bulgaria**

Business Park Sofia, bld. 2, fl. 6. Sofia 1766 Bulgaria

Tel.: (+359) 2-9742

Fax: (+359) 2-9742-741

E-mail: [amcham@amcham.bg](mailto:amcham@amcham.bg)

Website: <http://amcham.bg>

#### **Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

1058 Sofia, 9 Iskar Street

Tel.: (+359) 2-811-740

Fax: (+359) 2-987-3209

E-mail: [bcci@bcci.bg](mailto:bcci@bcci.bg)

Website: <http://www.bcci.bg>

#### **Bulgarian Industrial Association**

1000 Sofia, 16-20 Alabin Street

Tel.: (+359) 2-932-0911

Fax: (+359) 2-987-2604

E-mail: [office@bia-bg.com](mailto:office@bia-bg.com)

Website: <https://www.bia-bg.com/> **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

#### **Bulgarian Association of Food and Beverage Industries**

1606 Sofia, 29 Vladaiska Street

Tel.: (+359) 2-952-0989

Fax: (+359) 2-952-0989

E-mail: [bafdi@mb.bia-bg.com](mailto:bafdi@mb.bia-bg.com)

Website: <http://www.bia-bg.com/member/26>

#### **Food and Drink Bulgaria**

1113 Sofia, 23 A Bl 56 Lulyakova Gradina Street

Tel: (+359) 889 202 265



E-mail: [iana.ivanova@fooddrink.bg](mailto:iana.ivanova@fooddrink.bg)

Website: <https://www.fooddrinkeurope.eu/member/food-drink-bulgaria/>

**Spirits Bulgaria**

1618 Sofia, 40 Bratia Bukston Street, floor 5

Tel: (+359) 2 9566090

E-mail: [office@spirits.bg](mailto:office@spirits.bg)

Website: <http://www.spirits.bg/>

**Bulgarian Association for Modern Trade**

Sofia 1756, Iztok area, 5“Lachezar Stanchev“ Street

Sofarma Business Towers, Tower B, fl. 4, office 1

Tel.: (+359) 8-957-7746 and (+359) 2-4433-444.

E-mail: [office@moderntrade.bg](mailto:office@moderntrade.bg)

Website: <http://www.modertrade.bg/>

**Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Contacts:**

**Delegation of the European Union to the United States**

2300 M Street, NW

Washington, DC 20037

Tel.: (+1) 202-862-9500

Fax: (+1) 202-429-1766

**United States Mission to the European Union**

Office of Agricultural Affairs

27 Boulevard du Regent

1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel.: (+32) 2-508-2760

Fax: (+32) 2-511-0918

E-mail: [AgUSEUBrussels@fas.usda.gov](mailto:AgUSEUBrussels@fas.usda.gov)

Website: <http://www.usda-eu.org>

**European Commission Mission to Bulgaria**

24, Rakovsky St., 1000 Sofia

Tel.: (+359) 2-933-5252

Fax: (+359) 2-933-5233

E-mail: [COMM-REP-SOF@ec.europa.eu](mailto:COMM-REP-SOF@ec.europa.eu)

**Attachments:**

No Attachments