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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2026/2478

of 9 November 2026

rejecting an application for protection of a geographical indication in accordance with Article 21(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council

'Kale Biberi' (PDO)

(notified under document C(2026) 7838)

(Only the English text is authentic)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 on geographical indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products, as well as traditional specialities guaranteed and optional quality terms for agricultural products, amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2019/787 and (EU) 2019/1753 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 ([1]), and in particular Article 21(1) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Pursuant to Article 15(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, the Commission has examined the application for registration of the name 'Kale Biberi' as protected designation of origin (PDO), submitted by Türkiye on 19 July 2024 (PDO-TR-03298).

(2) Following the examination of the application for registration, on 13 January 2025, the Commission communicated its observations, highlighting deficiencies in the application in particular as regards the applicant, the quality of the English language used, the proof of protection, the description of the product, the description of the production method, the definition of the geographical area, the proof of origin, and the causal link with the geographical area. The applicant was requested to provide adjustments to the application as well as clarifications.

(3) The applicant did not respond.

(4) On 27 October 2025, the Commission informed the applicant of its intention to launch the procedure for the adoption of a formal Commission decision rejecting the application pursuant to Article 21(1) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, unless a revised version of the application for registration is submitted, or the application is withdrawn. The letter mentioned several non-conformities.

(5) The applicant neither provided comments nor requested the withdrawal of the application within the prescribed two-month period following receipt of the letter.

(6) The application is affected by several non-conformities. In particular, the requirement set out in Article 14(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 is not respected, as the applicant is the Municipality of Kale ('KALE BELEDİYESİ') which is neither a single producer under the conditions set out in Article 9(3) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 nor a producer group which works with the product, the name of which is proposed for registration.

(7) The proof of protection in Türkiye and its translation in one of the official languages of the Union, required by Article 13(2)(d) and (4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, are missing.

([1]) OJ L, 2024/1143, 23.4.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1143/oj.

(8) The reference to the publication of the product specification at the end of the single document, under 'Reference to the publication of the specification', is also missing. Therefore, the requirement established in Article 13(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 and Article 2(2) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/26 ([2]) is not met.

(9) In addition, the application does not identify the procedures which ensure that the product originates in the defined geographical area; hence, the requirement set out in Article 20 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/26 is not met.

(10) The description of the product is unclear and incomplete as it does not identify whether the name sought for protection covers only the fresh product or also other preparations mentioned in the text (dried, paste, ground, fried, etc.). In addition, the morphological characteristics of the product are insufficiently specified using vague characterisations while inconsistencies are noted as regards these characteristics between different sections of the single document. Therefore, the product description does not comply with Article 49(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143.

(11) The description of the method of production is incomplete as the submitted information does not describe how harvesting is carried out nor which further processing steps are required for obtaining other forms of product (dried, paste, ground, etc.). Therefore, the conditions laid down in Article 49(1)(e) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 are not fulfilled.

(12) The geographical area is not defined in a precise way: the administrative boundaries are not clearly defined and inconsistences are noted on this point between the corresponding sections of the single document and the product specification. Therefore Article 49(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 and Article 6 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/26 are not complied with.

(13) In the product specification and the single document, the 'link' section does not include any description of particular characteristics of the geographical environment, in terms of natural or human factors, which essentially or exclusively attribute or influence the specific characteristics of the product, nor is the link between the elements of the geographical environment and the specificities of the final product explained. Therefore, the causal link between the quality or characteristics of the product and the defined geographical area is not established in accordance with Article 49(1)(f)(i) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143.

(14) In light of the above, the Commission considers that the application for registration of 'Kale Biberi' as PDO does not fulfil several requirements of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143.

(15) The application for protection of the name 'Kale Biberi' as PDO should therefore be rejected.

(16) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Quality Policy Committee for agricultural products, wine and spirit drinks,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The application for registration of the name 'Kale Biberi' as protected designation of origin (PDO) is rejected.

([2]) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/26 of 30 October 2024 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards registrations, amendments, cancellations, enforcement of the protection, labelling and communication in respect of geographical indications and traditional specialities guaranteed, and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/34 as regards geographical indications in the wine sector, and repealing Implementing Regulations (EU) No 668/2014 and (EU) 2021/1236 (OJ L, 2025/26, 15.1.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2025/26/oj).

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the applicant:

KALE BELEDİYESİ
Cumhuriyet Mah. İstiklal 1 Blv. No:22
Kale / DENİZLİ, Türkiye

Done at Brussels, 9 November 2026.

For the Commission
Christophe HANSEN
Member of the Commission