



Geographical Indications **ALBANIA**

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Regional Expert Advisory Working Group (REAWG) on
Quality Policy – PDO, PGI, TSG
Kick-off Meeting

MEANS OF PROTECTION FOR GIs

Albania has adopted the **Law on Industrial Property** in 2008 as amended
As amended by law: No.10/2013, date 14.02.2013 No.55/2014, date
29.05.2014.

Article 1, paragraph ç) constitutes that the purpose of this law is to protect geographical indications (and other IPRs).

Part V of the law regulates the Geographical Indications and Designation of Origin

PGI – PDI – TSG

Legal Framework

- **Primary Legislation**

- Law on Industrial Property in 2008 as amended As amended by law: No.10/2013, date 14.02.2013 No.55/2014, date 29.05.2014.

- **Secondary Legislation**

- Decision No. 1705 of December 29, 2008, on Approval of the Regulation on the Registration of Geographical Indications

- **To do be done:**

- Decision on determining the geographical area
 - Decision on controlling of product specifications
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Term of Protection [Art. 181](#)

- Unlimited
- Renew each 5 years



Applications

- **Every person or group of natural or legal persons** who produces processes or prepares, in a designated geographical zone, a product for the definition of which a geographical indication is used, has the right to file an application for the registration of this indication.
 - *Every person* – not in line with the EU acquis
- Description of the product
- Geographical area determined
- Description of the link between the product and the area
- Payment of fees



Geographical Indications System in Albania

Registration
Authority

General Directorate of
Patents and
Trademarks of Albania

Certification
Authority

Art. 177
Relevant authority
NOt specified

Controlling
Authority

NOt specified

Implementation



**Where are
we now?**

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- The GI staff being under the TM division
 - Several GI applications from EU
 - **11** requests for registration of a geographic indications were submitted
 - **5** geographic indications were registered
 - **4** of which have Albanian applicants.
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Albania

- **Albania has 6 GIs:**

1. “Borsh” – oil produced between Vlora and Saranda [the name comes from the name of the Village]
2. “Glina” – mineral water. Glina is a mountain in Gjirokaster [the water has a special taste]
3. Chestnut of North Albania
4. Hasi Goat Meat
5. Wines



International Aspects

Albania is a signatory party of most of the international Agreement/Conventions

Albania is a Member of almost all of the International and/or Regional organizations

Follow up – to get done:

- Legal Framework to be aligned with the EU acquis
 - The Industrial Property Law to be in line with the EU Acquis
 - Traditional Specialties Guaranteed to be protected and incorporated into the law
 - The law has only 7 Articles related to GIs (Art. 176 – Art. 183)
 - The law does not constitute the relationship between a GI and a TM
 - No existing rules on the determination of the Geographical Area
 - No existing rules on the controlling authority
 - Authorities to be mandated
 - Staff to be assigned
 - Capacity building and on the job training for the staff
 - Awareness campaigns to be conducted
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