

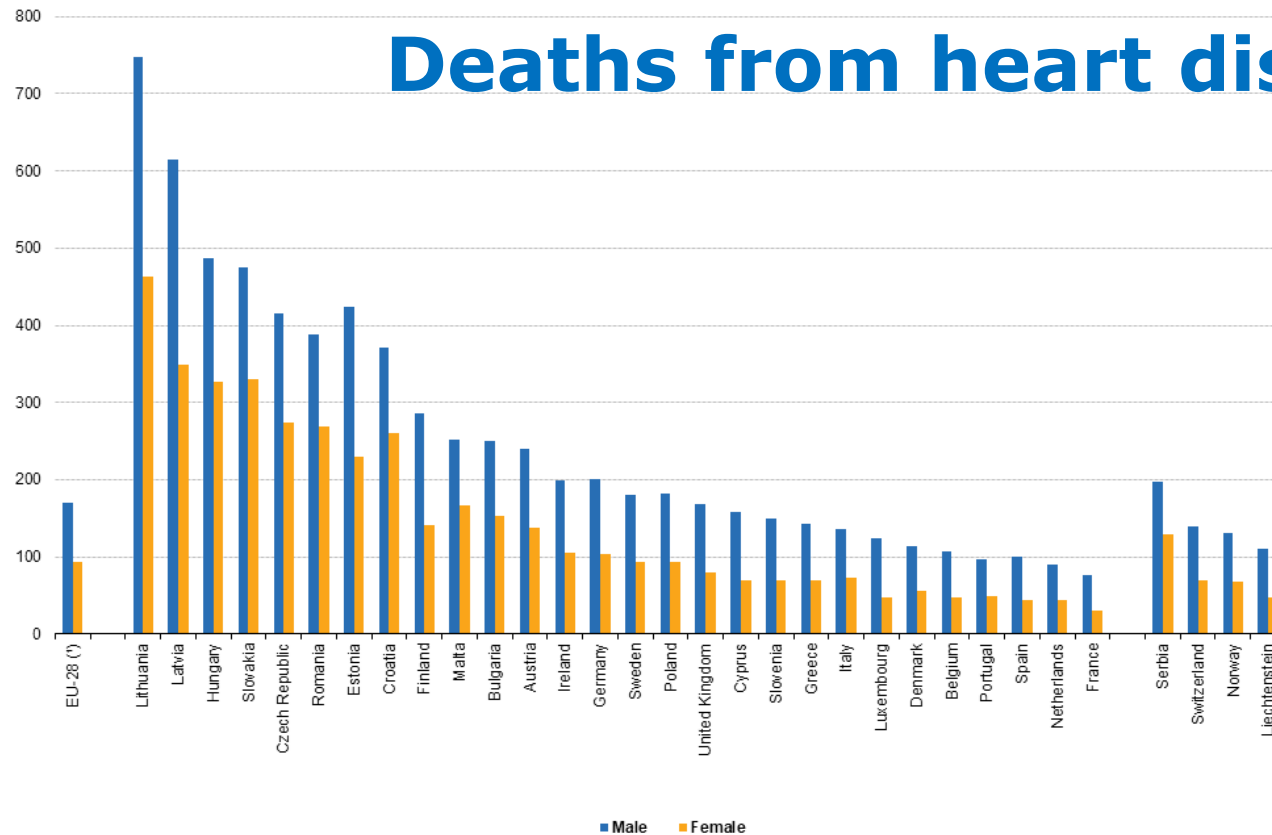


Trans fats in food: Consumer protection and challenges for food industry

**Vytenis Andriukaitis
European Commissioner for Health and
Food Safety**

**18 September 2017
VILNIUS**

Deaths from heart disease



Deaths from ischaemic heart diseases – standardised death rate, 2014 (per 100 000 inhabitants)
(source: Eurostat)

Member States' Actions on Trans Fats

- Four Member States have already introduced legal limits to industrial trans fats at national level:
 - Denmark
 - Austria
 - Hungary
 - Latvia
- Lithuania notified a similar draft national measure on 29 June 2017. The Commission is assessing the notification. The standstill period ends on 2nd October 2017.
- Other six Member States have self-regulatory agreements: Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, the UK and Greece.

Report on Trans Fats

(Adopted 3 December 2015)

Conclusions:

- Industrial trans fats are present at levels of concern in certain foods in the EU
- Trans fats intakes remain excessive in certain Member States and for particular population groups (i.e. low-income citizens or students)
- A legal limit for industrial trans fats content is the most effective measure in terms of
 - public health
 - consumer protection and
 - compatibility with the internal market
- Further investigation is required to find proportionate and effective measure

Impact Assessment

- The Commission's Inception Impact Assessment was published in October 2016. This is the first step in the process.
- The options that are considered are
 - limits to industrial trans fats through legislation or self-regulation,
 - mandatory trans fats labelling and
 - a ban on partly hydrogenated oils through legislation or self-regulation.
- An external study on the impacts of these options on operators, consumers and the environment is currently being prepared and will be finalised by the end of 2017. Special attention is paid to SMEs.
- An open public consultation will also take place by the end of 2017.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations_en



Thank you!

Ačiū!