



COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE  
PRESS RELEASE

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## **Reform of the EU Sugar Regime: not to consumers' taste!**

Today the European Commission issues its proposal on the reform of the Sugar Regime.

The proposed reform will have the following effects:

- Consumers will not be forced to pay, or will not be forced to pay as much as before, for dumping sugar on the world market;
- Instead they will be forced to pay, excessively, for the restructuring of the EU sugar market. Compensation of poor farmers in developing countries should rather be on the agenda;

One of the worst aspects of the current regime is that it forces European consumers to pay for the unethical dumping of sugar on the world market to the direct detriment of farmers in the developing world. The proposed reform should substantially reduce the level of dumping and we strongly support this element of the reform. However, it is not clear that the reform will eliminate dumping entirely.

With the retention of national quotas and increasing concentration, there will be even less competition than before in the EU market for sugar. As a result, consumers may enjoy little if any benefits in terms of lower sugar prices, whilst contributing heavily to the 'restructuring' of the sector through taxes.

"We ask for a clear commitment by the EU to end dumping entirely and therefore to take the necessary steps to do so", said Jim Murray BEUC Director.

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