Comparative study on the geographical indication protection between China and the European Union – From the perspective of the China-EU Geographical Indications Agreement

Weiwen Qian, Yinguo Dong*

School of Business, East China University of Science and Technology, Shanghai, China *Corresponding author: dongyinguo2005@163.com

Citation: Qian W.W., Dong Y.G. (2023): Comparative study on the geographical indication protection between China and the European Union – From the perspective of the China-EU Geographical Indications Agreement. Agric. Econ. – Czech, 69: 185–201.

The authors are fully responsible for both the content and the formal aspects of the electronic supplementary material. No editorial adjustments were made.

Electronic supplementary material

Supplementary Tables S1-S8

Table S1. Issuing time, issuing agency and main content of the important policies on geographical indication (GI) of the EU

Issuing time	Issuing agency	Policy name	Main content
July 1992	European Parliament and Council	Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2081/92 of 14 th July 1992 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs	Establish a regional name protection system within the EU member states. The Decree divides the naming of places of origin into two types: the protected geographical indication (PGI) and the protected design of origin (PDO).
March 2006	European Parliament and Council	Council Regulation (EC) No. 510/2006 of 20 th March 2006 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs	To regulate the registration, examination, objection, name, sign, and symbol of agricultural products and food GIs.
January 2008	European Parliament and Council	Regulation (EC) No. 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 th January 2008 on the definition, description, presentation, labelling, and the protection of geographical indications of spirit drinks and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1576/89	Stipulate the scope of application of the regulations, the materials provided for applying for the GI of spirits and the registration procedures for spirits.
November 2012	European Parliament and Council	Regulation (EU) No. 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21st November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs	The EU Regulation No. 510/2006 on the Protection of Geographical Indications and Names of Origin of Agricultural Products and Foods and Regulation No. 509/2006 on the Protection of Traditional Characteristics of Agricultural Products and Foods were repealed and replaced. Compared with Regulations No. 509/2006 and No. 510/2006, the protection of geographical indications is more systematic, normative, and operable, and the relevant provisions are more detailed and stricter.
December 2013	European Parliament and Council	Regulation (EU) No. 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 th December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No. 922/72, (EEC) No. 234/79, (EC) No. 1037/2001, and (EC) No. 1234/2007	GIs of wine are divided into two categories, namely protected geographical indication (PGI) and protected geographical indication (PDO). The application subject and registration procedure are specified.

Table S1. To be continued

Issuing time	Issuing agency	Policy name	Main content	
February 2014	European Parliament and Council	Regulation (EU) No. 251/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 th February 2014 on the definition, description, presentation, labelling, and protection of geographical indications of aromatic wine products and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1601/91	The definition, description, publicity, labelling, and GI protection of flavored wine are specified.	
April 2019	European Parliament and Council	Regulation (EU) No. 2019/787 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 th April 2019 on the definition, description, presentation and labelling of spirit drinks, the use of the names of spirit drinks in the presentation and labelling of other foodstuffs, the protection of geographical indications for spirit drinks, the use of ethyl alcohol and distillates of agricultural origin in alcoholic beverages, and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 110/2008	Repeal and replace Regulation No. 110/2008. Make provisions on the definition, description, introduction, label of spirits, and the protection of GIs of spirits.	

 $Source: The \ data \ collected \ by \ the \ author \ according \ to \ the \ relevant \ information \ on \ the \ website \ of \ the \ European \ Commission$

Table S2. Registration and protection system of geographical indication (GI) in major EU member countries

Country	Law	Issuing agency	Typical product
France	Origin Naming Control (AOC Law)	Ministry of Agriculture	wine, spirits, and dairy products
Italy	Name of Origin Control Ministry of Agriculture, (DOC Law) Food and Forestry Policy		wine, olive oil, cheese, ham
Portugal	Law on the Protection of Marks of Origin and Geographical Indications	Ministry of Agriculture	wine, cheese, etc.
Greece	Regulations on Geographical Indications of Specific Products	Ministry of Agriculture	olive oil, cheese, wine, etc.
Spain	Trademark Law of the Law on the Protection of Marks of Origin	Name of Origin Office and Trademark Office of the Ministry of Agriculture	olive oil, wine, cheese, meat, bacon, and ham
Germany	Trademark and Unfair Competition Law	Patent and Trademark Office, Consumer Protection Office, Federal Agriculture and Food Office	cheese, beer, sausage, bacon, and ham

 $Source: The \ data \ collected \ by \ the \ author \ according \ to \ the \ relevant \ information \ on \ the \ website \ of \ the \ European \ Commission$

Table S3. Issuing time, issuing agency and main content of the important policies on geographical indication (GI) of China

Issuing time	Issuing agency	Policy name	Main content
December 1994	Former State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC)	measures for the registration and administration of collective marks and certification marks	regulate the registration, application, and use of GI
August 1999	Former General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ)	regulations on the protection of products of origin and regions	protect products of origin and standardise the use of special marks for products of origin and region
October 2001	Former State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC)	trademark law	clarify the definition of GIs and increase the protection of the use of GI
May 2005	Former General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ)	regulations on the protection of geographical indications	effectively protect GI products, standardise the use of GI product names and special signs, and ensure the quality and characteristics of GI products
December 2007	Former Ministry of Agriculture	administrative measures for geographical indications of agricultural products	standardise the use of geographical indication of agricultural product (AGI), ensure the quality and characteristics of GI agricultural products, and improve the market competitiveness of agricultural products
December 2010	Former General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ)	notice on further strengthening the supervision of the protection of geographical indications	further strengthen the protection and supervision of GI, promote the scientific transformation of the protection of GI to both approval and supervision and aim at the overall deployment and requirements for the protection and supervision of GI against counterfeit and shoddy GI products
November 2015	Former General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ)	notice on strengthening the protection of foreign-related geographical indication products	further play the role of the protection of foreign-related GI products in serving the country's foreign trade and promoting exports, and further improve the relevant requirements for the protection of foreign-related GI products
April 2020	China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA)	administrative measures for the use of special geographical indications (trial)	strengthen the protection of GI in China and unify and standardise the use of special GI
May 2021	China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA), State Administration of Market Supervision and Administration (SAMSA)	guiding opinions on further strengthening the protection of geographical indications	further strengthen the protection of GI and tighten the management of GI
January 2022	China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA)	the fourteenth five-year plan for the protection and application of geographical indications	further improve the protection and application system of GI, strengthen the protection of GI, and enhance the value connotation of GI products

Source: The data collected by the author according to the relevant information on the website

Table S4. Operational system of geographical indication (GI) protection in China

Protection system	Protection content	Geographical indication trademark (GI)	Geographical indication product (PGI)	Geographical indication of agricultural product (AGI)
Legal connotation	identification name	geographical indication	geographical indication product	geographical indication of agricultural product
	identification department	China Natior Property Admin	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)	
	management basis	trademark law; measures for the registration and administration of collective marks and certification marks	regulations on the protection of geographical indications	administrative measures for geographical indications of agricultural products
	protection mode	trademark law protection mode	special <u>r</u>	protection mode
	ownership	declaration subject	country (authorised to be used by the applicant)	country (subject of transfer declaration)
Application for registration	declaration subject	non-profit social organisations, industrial associations and other organisations authorised by the government at or above the county level or the competent industrial departments	application agencies for the protection of GI products designated by the government at or above the county level or associations and enterprises recognised by the government	institutions, farmers' professional cooperatives, industrial associations, etc. determined by the governments at or above the county level according to the conditions
Operational system	application process	intellectual property and submits of materials → Property office make and recommendation Intellectual Property A accepts the appl	ies to the provincial coffice for registration corresponding vincial intellectual s a preliminary review on → China National administration (CNIPA) ication according oval and publicity	The applicant submits an application for registration to the competent department of the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs and submits the corresponding materials → Competent department of the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs selects the application and submits it to the competent department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) for approval → Competent department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) accepts the application according to law → approval and publicity
Management supervision	use of logo	special się	special signs for GIs	
	identification supervision	association supervision, local intellectual property office supervision		association supervision, local agricultural and rural bureau supervision

Source: The data collected by the author according to the relevant information on the website

Table S5. Countries and product categories with a high proportion of geographical indication (GI) in the EU

Country	Proportion of GIs in EU (%)	Type	Number of GI	Proportion in the country (%)
		PDO	581	66.40
Italy	26.73	PGI	261	29.83
		GI	33	3.77
		PDO	471	63.22
France	22.76	PGI	224	30.07
		GI	50	6.71
		PDO	206	56.75
Spain	11.09	PGI	138	38.02
		GI	19	5.23
		PDO	150	54.35
Greece	8.43	PGI	112	40.58
		GI	14	11.96
		PDO	95	48.97
Portugal	5.93	PGI	88	45.36
		GI	11	5.67
		PDO	109	63.00
Germany	5.29	PGI	31	17.92
		GI	33	19.08

 $PDO-protected\ design\ of\ origin;\ PGI-protected\ geographical\ indication;\ GI-geographical\ indication$ $Source:\ GIview\ database$

Table S6. Number and proportion of geographical indication (GI) by category in the EU

Overall category	Proportion of total category quantity (%)	Subdivision category	Number of GI products	Proportion in overall category (%)
		fresh or processed fruits, vegetables, and grains	401	28.40
		cheese	237	16.78
		meat products (cooked, salted, smoked, etc.)	182	12.89
		fresh meat (and viscera)	157	11.12
		grease (butter, margarine, oil, etc.)	146	10.34
Food	43.14	bread, pastry, cake, candy, biscuits, and other bread products	89	6.30
		other animal products [eggs, honey, various dairy products (excluding butter)]	52	3.68
		fresh fish, molluscs, crustaceans, and their products	43	3.05
		beer	20	1.42
		others	85	0.57
		fruit wine	55	22.54
I :	7.45	liqueur	32	13.11
Liquor		grapemark	30	12.30
		others	127	52.05
Wine	49.41	-	1 617	_

Source: GIview database

Table S7. Segmented categories with a high proportion of geographical indication (GI) products by region in China

Region	Proportion (%)	Category	Number of GI products	Proportion in the region (%)
		foodstuff	66	22.53
Northeast China	8.35	fruit	61	20.82
		marine animals	52	17.75
		fruit	108	27.55
North China	11.17	foodstuff	81	20.66
		vegetable	66	16.84
		vegetable	115	23.57
Central China	13.90	fruit	107	21.93
		foodstuff	58	11.89
		fruit	279	27.87
East China	28.52	vegetable	197	19.68
		marine animals	117	11.69
		fruit	82	30.37
South China	7.69	meat products	49	18.15
		vegetable	35	12.96
		fruit	161	29.49
Southwest China	15.56	meat products	108	19.78
		vegetable	88	16.12
		fruit	159	30.58
Northwest China	14.81	meat products	95	18.27
		vegetable	77	14.81

Source: China Green Food Development Center

Table S8. Number and proportion of geographical indication (GI) products by category in China

Overall category	Proportion (%)	Subdivision category	Number of GI products	Proportion in overall category(%)
		fruit	957	35.34
		vegetable	602	22.23
		foodstuff	418	15.44
		tea	240	8.86
		medicinal materials	230	8.49
		oil	77	2.84
Dl 4 :	77.22	edible fungi	76	2.81
Planting	77.22	spices	32	1.18
		flowers and plants	27	1.00
		cotton, hemp, and mulberry	17	0.63
		tobacco	16	0.59
		sugar	8	0.30
		other plants	6	0.22
		tropical crops	2	0.07
		meat products	443	83.90
		bee products	56	10.61
Animal husbandry	14.97	egg products	17	3.22
		other livestock products	6	1.14
		dairy	3	0.57
		marine animals	267	97.45
Aquatic product	7.81	aquatic plants	4	1.46
		primary aquatic products	3	1.09

Source: China Green Food Development Center