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The E.U. registers Nivegy-völgy as a protected designation of origin.

The Hungarian geographic name receives legal protection across the bloc after the opposition period closed without a challenge.

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The European Commission has registered the geographical indication “Nivegy-völgy / Nivegy-völgyi” from Hungary as a protected designation of origin, adding the name to the European Union’s register of geographical indications and giving it legal protection throughout the bloc.

The measure was adopted on Sept. 14 through Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/2105 and was published Monday in the Official Journal of the European Union. Under the text, the name is entered in the Union register referred to in Article 22 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, the EU law that now governs geographical indications for wine, spirit drinks and agricultural products, as well as related quality schemes.

The Commission said Hungary's application had been received before Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 entered into force. Because of that timing, the file moved through a transition between the older and newer legal frameworks. The application had originally been published in the Official Journal on May 21, 2026, under procedures linked to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013, which had covered the common organization of agricultural markets and included rules for wine names.

According to the regulation published Monday, no statement of opposition was submitted to the Commission under Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1143. That absence of objections cleared the way for the registration to go ahead.

A protected designation of origin, or PDO, is one of the EU's main quality labels for names tied to a specific geographic area and a defined product specification. Registration means the name receives protection within all EU member states under the bloc's geographical indications system.

The Commission's regulation states that the new entry will take effect on the twentieth day after publication in the Official Journal. As an EU regulation, it is binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all member states, without the need for national implementing legislation.

The decision is a technical legal act, but it can carry commercial importance. For businesses in the drinks sector, a registered geographical name can affect who is allowed to use that name on labels, packaging and marketing in the EU market. That can be relevant for producers, distributors and retailers dealing with wine and other beverage categories that operate under the EU's geographical indication rules, because protected names are reserved for products that meet the approved specification.

The registration also reflects the EU’s broader policy of protecting regional product names through a common legal framework. Regulation (EU) 2024/1143, cited in the new act, updated and consolidated rules for geographical indications and related quality schemes across several product sectors. In this case, the Commission said the Hungarian application was handled under those rules once the opposition stage passed without challenge.

The Official Journal notice identifies the act as OJ L 2026/2105, published on Sept. 21, 2026. It also cites the earlier publication of the application in OJ C/2026/2812 on May 21, 2026. With the registration now confirmed, “Nivegy-völgy / Nivegy-völgyi” joins the EU register as a protected designation of origin under the current Union system.