

## BEWARE! Global Regulatory Trends Undermining the Future of Brands



Big Tobacco, Big Food, Big Soda, Big Alcohol: It's not just us saying so!





Resolution of the 53<sup>rd</sup> World Health Assembly: Prevention and Control of NCDs

2000



Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health

2004



Global Strategy to Reduce the Harmful Use of Alcohol

2010



UN Sustainable Development Goals

2015

2003

Framework Convention on Tobacco Control



2008

2008-2013 Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases



2013

Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs) 2013-2020



2017

NCDs Global Action Plan 2013-2020 Appendix 3 Amendment



"[...] the most prominent NCDs are linked to common risk factors, namely, TOBACCO USE, ALCOHOL ABUSE, UNHEALTHY DIET, PHYSICAL INACTIVITY [...]"

Reference: Resolution of the Fifty-third World Health Assembly: Prevention and Control of NCDs (May 2000)

"[...] these diseases are largely preventable by means of effective interventions that tackle shared risk factors, namely: *TOBACCO USE*, *UNHEALTHY DIET*, *PHYSICAL INACTIVITY and HARMFUL USE OF ALCOHOL* [...]"

Reference: 2008-2013 Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of NCDs (May 2008), p.1

"[...] major non-communicable diseases share four behavioural risk factors: TOBACCO USE, UNHEALTHY DIET, PHYSICAL INACTIVITY and HARMFUL USE OF ALCOHOL [...]"

Reference: Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013-2020, p.7



The existence of a global health treaty (WHO FCTC) as well as effective national and sub-national legislation *MAKE TOBACCO CONTROL A MODEL* for addressing other pressing NCD-related issues that require better regulations, *INCLUDING HARMFUL USE OF ALCOHOL AND UNHEALTHY DIET* 

Reference: 5th Edition of the Global Tobacco Atlas, pp. 80-81

Packaging regulations, a method employed to control tobacco use, *CAN ALSO SERVE TO DETER PROPLE FROM CONSUMING OTHER UNHEALTHY PRODUCTS* 

Reference: 5th Edition of the Global Tobacco Atlas, pp. 80-81





This fifth edition of the *Tobacco Atlas* provides *A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE INTERRELATEDNESS OF HEALTH ISSUES*, and how we need to work together, across diseases and conditions, to improve public health

Reference: Margaret Chan, 5th Edition of the Global Tobacco Atlas, p. 4



With regards to health warnings, expert opinion INFORMED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF TOBACCO, suggests alcohol warning labels should be designed and implemented as follows: develop research to identify 'direct' and 'evidence-based' health warnings; increase the visibility of the warnings; INCORPORATE PICTORIAL HEALTH WARNINGS; CONSIDER PLAIN PACKAGING FOR ALCOHOL PRODUCTS

Reference: Public Health England, The Public Health Burden of Alcohol and the Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Alcohol Control Policies: An evidence review, December 2016, p. 139



Furthermore, the valuable lessons learnt in the fight against tobacco can be taken on board in countering **THE RAMPANT MARKETING OF ALCOHOL AND FAST FOOD** 

Reference: The Lancet (Editorial), 25 August, 2012



Calls on the World Health Organization to adopt and implement a binding international treaty, A
FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON ALCOHOL CONTROL, MODELED AFTER THE
FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL

Reference: American Public Health Association, Policy Statement 2006



...the NEGOTIATION OF A PUBLIC HEALTH-ORIENTED GLOBAL AGREEMENT TO ADDRESS ALCOHOL-RELATED HARM, independent of commercial interests in alcohol, that could be binding on its signatories

Reference: Global Alcohol Policy Conference Declaration, 2015



#### The Slippery Slope

The Slippery Slope refers to the trend of applying restrictions first to tobacco, and then to other consumer products, such as *ALCOHOL*, *SOFT DRINKS AND FOOD* 

Excessive regulation comprised of measures such as *TAXATION*, *HEALTH WARNINGS*, *BANS ON ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION*, and *PRODUCT RESTRICTIONS* that used to be specific to the tobacco industry is *SPREADING* and becoming a *COMMON* threat to other industries

At the extreme end of the slippery slope is *PLAIN PACKAGING* which will have major ramifications for other consumer goods industries, because it creates a *DANGEROUS LEGISLATIVE PRECEDENT* for depriving other industries of their intellectual property and creates *A BLUEPRINT THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO OTHER SECTORS* in the future



#### The Slippery Slope



#### The Slippery Slope: Pricing and Tax measures



The Economist World politics Business & finance Economics Science & technology Culture Blogs

Denmark's food taxes
A fat chance

The Danish government rescinds its unwieldy fat tax

Nov 17th 2012 | COPENHAGEN | From the print edition

FARMERS, retailers and shoppers whooped with joy this week when the government announced the abolition of one of its most hated taxes: a tariff on saturated fats, imposed just over a year ago. The tax was undoubtedly well intentioned. Higher prices for unhealthy foods would reduce consumption and improve public health; obesity levels and cardiovascular disease would fall; strains on health-care budgets would be eased.

Yet in practice, the world's first fat tax proved to be a cumbersome chore with undesirable side effects. The tax's advocates wanted to hit things like potato crisps and hot dogs, but it was applied also to high-end fare like speciality cheeses. One gourmet cheesemaker cut his range of

Alam

f Like 796 > Tweet 87

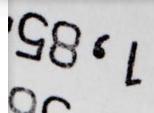
No more tax, thank God

products when his creamy Danish blue saw a price increase of 25%.

News > World news > Mexico

#### Mexico enacts soda tax in effort to combat world's highest obesity rate

Health officials in the United States look to Mexico's new law as an experiment in curbing sugar consumption



#### The Slippery Slope: Advertising and Promotion measures

by 2016.





#### Tough new rules for junk food ads

[Posted: Mon 15/10/2012 by Deborah Condon www.irishhealth.com]

New rules governing the advertising of fatty and sugary foods to children will come into effect next July, the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI) has said.

The rules, which will apply to television and radio ads, will target food and drink which are considered high in fat, salt and sugar (HFSS). These will include crisps, most breakfast cereals, most pizzas, biscuits, French fries, mayonnaise, butter and carbonated sweetened drinks.

Ads containing these products will not be permitted during children's programmes. While ads for these products that are shown outside of children's programmes, but are directed at children, will have to follow specific rules relating to their content.

These rules include a ban on the use of celebrities or sports stars in these ads, a ban on the use of characters seen in programmes, such as Peppa Pig and a ban on promotional offers. These ads must also contain no health or nutritional claims.

Is for a "social responsibility" levy on the industry.

recommended that drinks industry sponsorship of sport and other large events be phased out

s legislation for minimum alcohol

proposal is a 21:00 GMT watershed for alcohol advertising on and radio.

an, is chief executive of Alcohol Action Ireland, which is a of the strategy's steering group.

sports sponsorship was "very lucrative" for the alcohol industry them access to the young male market.

said alcohol was as much a threat to people's health as tobaccome thirteenth of the country's health budget was being spent on slated illness.

#### guidelines

spital beds a night are in terms of alcohol related causes, one in 11 kids tell us they are impacted by parental drinking, one in seven kids are in care because of parental drinking." she said.

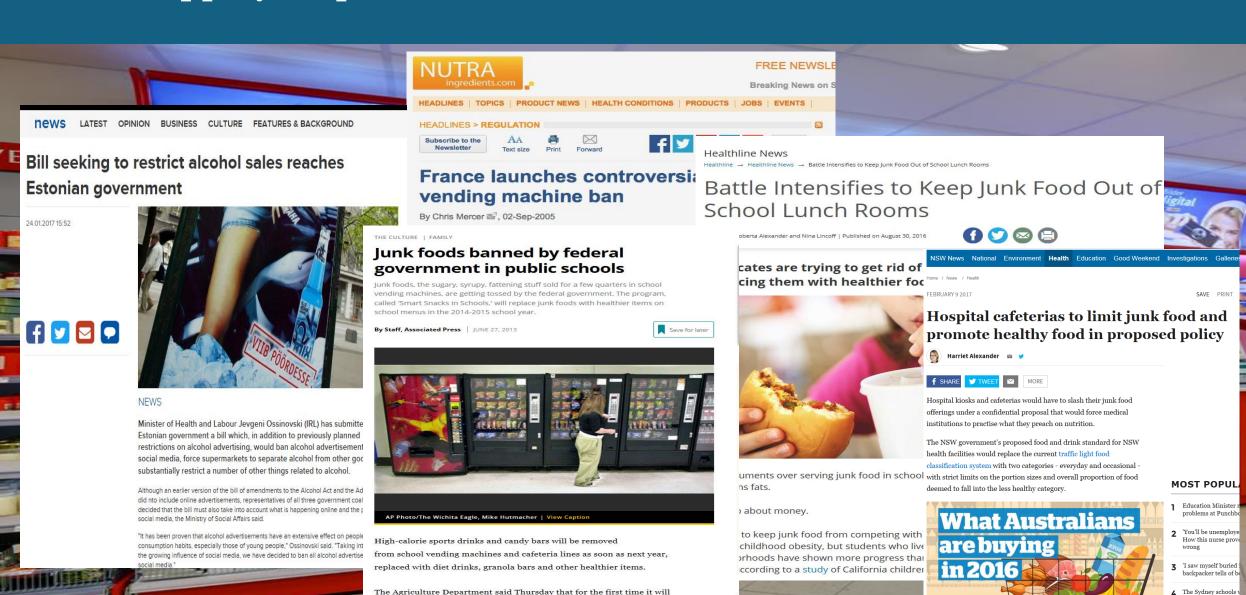
Loi Evin: 20 years on

01-02-2012 David-Irving Tayer and Benjamin Martin-Tardivat

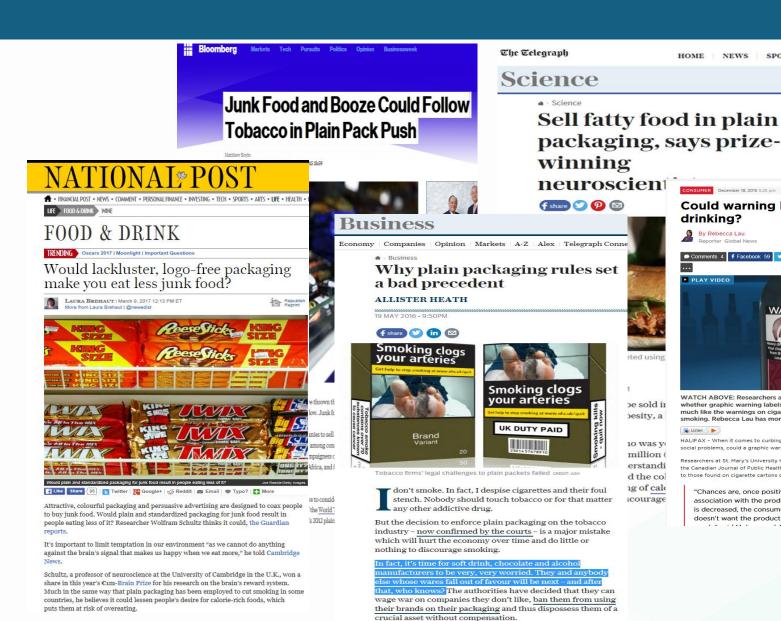
On January 10, 1991, France passed a law in the fight against smoking and alcoholism. This law, 'Loi Evin', was named after health minister Claude Evin and inserted in the French Public Health Code.

#### The Slippery Slope: Point of Sales and Access measures

make sure that all foods sold in the nation's 100,000 schools are healthier by expanding fat, calorie, sugar and sodium limits to almost everything sold



#### The Slippery Slope: Packaging measures & Plain Packaging



Could warning labels curb problem

By Rebecca Lau

drinking?



WATCH ABOVE: Researchers at a Halifax university have looked into whether graphic warning labels on alcohol could curb binge drinking, much like the warnings on cigarettes have reduced the rates of smoking. Rebecca Lau has more.

HALIFAX - When it comes to curbing binge drinking and the associated health and social problems, could a graphic warning be the answer?

Researchers at St. Mary's University have conducted a study, published this week in the Canadian Journal of Public Health, that looks at whether warning labels similar to those found on cigarette cartons can prevent problem drinking.

"Chances are, once positive association with the product is decreased, the consumer doesn't want the product as



NACS Online / Media / News Archive

#### CANADIAN HEALTH GROUP PUSHES PLAIN PACKAGING FOR SODA

Health advocacy groups suggest that plain packaging on tobacco has worked so well that it should be used on all unhealthy products.

August 8, 2016

LONDON - Retail Express reports that the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) in Canada has mocked up images of plain packaging on food and drink products, namely soft drinks.

Alex Scholten, president of the Canadian Convenience Stores Association, told Retail Express that the OMA's packaging designs were an international concern. "We're very troubled by this, and we absolutely see it as a threat," he said.

"Not only would it mean challenges for the industry, but it appears the products and services we provide are being singled out as the sole cause of unhealthy lifestyles, which is completely unfair," Scholten continued. "In Canada, health advocacy groups are saying plain packaging on tobacco has worked so well it should be used on all unhealthy products.

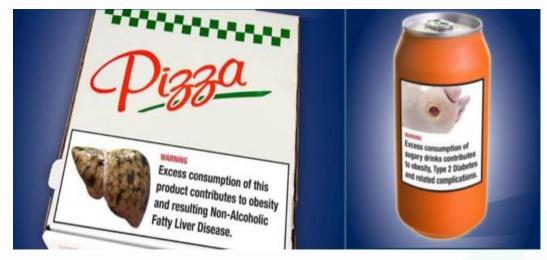
Scholten told the news source that convenience stores in Canada are not only being targeted by health campaigners, but also politicians who are likely to gravitate toward policies such as plain packaging on foods and beverages as a means to raise tax revenue.

"Where does this end?" Scholten said. "These are very complex issues."

## The Slippery Slope: Packaging measures & Plain Packaging









#### The failure of Australia's Plain Packaging legislation

Australia was the first country to introduce plain packaging in **DECEMBER 2012**. Since 2016, both England and France have introduced it and some other countries worldwide are also considering it

Despite its alleged beneficial health-related impact, it emerges when applying expert analysis of the data made available by the Australian government that THERE IS NO RELIABLE EVIDENCE THAT PLAIN PACKAGING HAS ACHIEVED ANY OF ITS PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS

Rather, plain packaging has **SERIOUS ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES**, some of which are today apparent in Australia. These include:

- Distorting market dynamics, specifically damaging within-price-segment competition and ultimately down-trading to the value end of the market
- Setting a negative precedent for the country on the protection of IP rights
- Raising doubts about its reliability from an investment perspective;
- Increasing the availability of illegal tobacco
- Reducing tax collected by governments from legal tobacco products

IN SHORT, PLAIN PACKAGING HAS PROVEN TO BE A FAILURE IN AUSTRALIA





### The WTO Dispute against Australia's Plain Packaging legislation

WTO Dispute against Australian Plain Packaging legislation

- **COMPLAINANTS**: Honduras, Dominican Republic, Cuba, and Indonesia
- A **RECORD OF 36 WTO MEMBERS** have joined as third parties

The eventual outcome of the WTO Dispute **WILL SET A PRECEDENT** for all WTO Members on the legality of plain packaging for tobacco products and other consumer goods under WTO law

If plain packaging of tobacco products is found acceptable, a WTO dispute regarding plain packaging of alcoholic beverages, sugary drinks or foodstuffs, WOULD LEAD TO A SIMILAR RESULT

Regulators around the world seeking to introduce plain packaging for other products are therefore likely to rely on the WTO tobacco ruling as a legal basis **FOR APPLYING SIMILAR REGULATIONS TO OTHER PRODUCTS.** 





#### Plain Packaging and Intellectual Property rights

The negative consequences of plain packaging extend beyond tobacco products, creating a dangerous precedent that will have *FAR-REACHING NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR ALL TRADEMARK OWNERS* 

Plain packaging is not an issue exclusive to the tobacco industry as it opens the door to extend this (potential) violation of IP rights *TO OTHER CONSUMER GOODS INDUSTRIES* 

Plain packaging sets a negative precedent for the country with regard to the protection of intellectual property rights and *RAISES DOUBTS ABOUT ITS RELIABILITY FROM AN INVESTMENT PERSPECTIVE* 





#### Plain Packaging: we are not the only ones concerned about it!

Multinational Companies, Chambers of Commerce, Intellectual Property Associations, Business Associations and Scholars around the world see extreme regulations affecting the tobacco industry - and in particular plain packaging - as potentially setting a worrisome precedent for other types of products and industries.

ASEAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ASSOCIATION



























































#### Key takeaways: a Slippery Slope?

Since 2000, the WHO has considered **TOBACCO USE**, **PHYSICAL INACTIVITY**, **AN UNHEALTHY DIET and the ABUSE OF ALCOHOL** alike as key determinants in the development of Non-Communicable Diseases.

Since 2003, the WHO has developed **DISTINCT STRATEGIES** to help WHO Member States tackle tobacco use, unhealthy diets and the abuse of alcohol.

Pressure to regulate these Industries has grown and **REGULATORY RESTRICTIONS**have been implemented in many jurisdictions around the world as a consequence.

**EXTREME REGULATORY MEASURES** are increasingly being proposed against the tobacco industry, chief among which is **PLAIN PACKAGING**.

We consider the introduction of plain packaging as the beginning of a **SLIPPERY SLOPE** towards the fundamental disruption of global consumer markets, affecting a number of Industries, **INCLUDING YOUR OWN**.



The negative consequences of Plain Packaging extend to all trademark owners

Depriving one industry of the right to brand its products creates a dangerous precedent for all trademark owners

If one industry is deprived of its intellectual property, ALL TRADEMARK OWNERS WILL LOSE





The Right to Your Brand is Not Absolute!

Your Brand is not Untouchable; it is not Sacrosanct!

It Can Be TAKEN AWAY!



# Global Regulatory Trends Undermining the Future of Brands: A possible future?











#### BEWARE!

# Global Regulatory Trends Undermining the Future of Brands

## It's Time to Speak Up!

