

Poland bans sale of e-cigarettes to minors, public vaping

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Poland will ban the sale of popular e-cigarettes to minors and their use in public spaces under a law that comes into effect on Thursday.

Adopted by parliament in July, the new measures put e-cigarettes on a par with their traditional tobacco-based counterparts, making it illegal to sell them to anyone under 18 years of age or "vape" anywhere that smoking is banned.

The new law also prohibits advertising e-cigarettes, their sale over the internet or from vending machines.

An estimated 1.5 million people use e-cigarettes in Poland, an EU state of 38 million people, making sales in the sector worth some 115 million euros (\$129 million) per year.

The United States and several European countries, including Belgium, Luxembourg, Malta, Slovenia and Lithuania, have already banned e-cigarettes in enclosed public places.

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