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European Parliament , 15.04.2021

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EU Waste Laws implementation



EEB

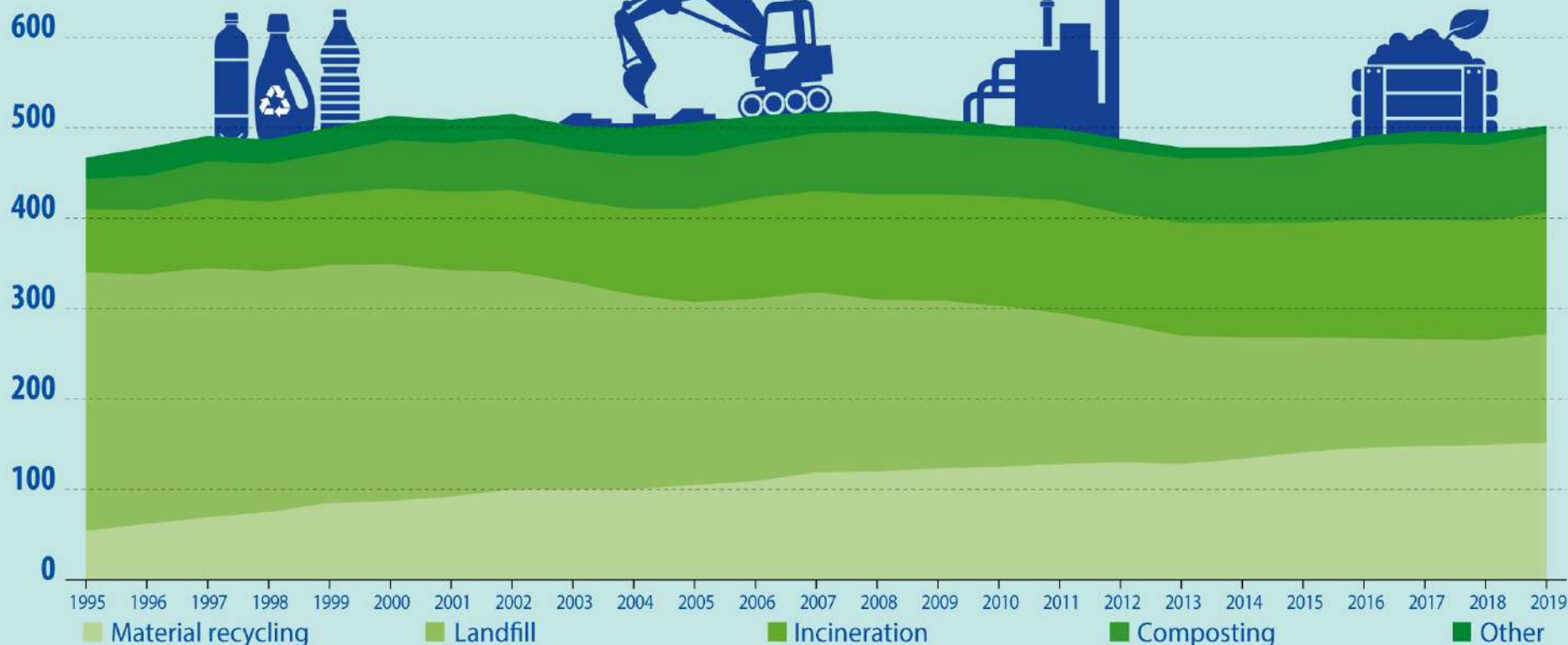
European
Environmental
Bureau



Whatever happened to Europe's Circular Economy ambition?

Municipal waste treatment in the EU, 1995-2019

(kg per person)



Data were estimated by Eurostat.

ec.europa.eu/eurostat 

502 kg/capita average

Circular Economy: Member States delaying the inevitable targets



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Categories: [Circular Economy](#), [Product Policy](#), [Resource Efficiency](#), [Waste and Recycling](#)

Types: [Report](#)

Published: 3 November 2020

Size: 3.45 MB

In an effort to boost the transition to a circular economy, the EU adopted several new anti-waste laws in May 2018. However, having missed the July deadline for the transposition into national law, many EU member states are yet to implement most of these laws.

In this report, we take stock of progress made so far to advance the circular economy across all 27 member states.

The report was written by the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) together with lawyers at [ClientEarth](#) and [Ecoteca](#).

Transposition timeline

EEB+ZWE timeline

- lists all the milestones
- an overview of the obligations for MS
- examples of national legal formulations



Implementation is key

Development of strategies and plans

Commitment to specific instruments

Committing funding / making investments

Monitoring and Reporting measures

New Circular Economy Action Plan

A new vision for Europe



35 actions along the entire life cycle of products, to:

- Make **sustainable products** the norm in the EU
- **Empower** consumers and public buyers
- **Focus also on key product value chains:** electronics and ICT; batteries and vehicles; packaging; plastics; textiles; construction and buildings; food; water and nutrients
- Ensure **less waste**
- Make circularity work for **people, regions** and **cities**
- **Lead global efforts** on circular economy

<https://eeb.org/library/10-policy-priorities-to-reduce-waste/>

10 policy priorities to reduce waste

10 Priorities to transform EU Waste Policy

Almost 90% of material resources used in the EU are lost after their first use. A lot more effort is needed to accelerate the systemic transition to a circular economy, to drastically reduce the EU's absolute natural resource use and greenhouse gas emissions, respecting the planetary boundaries and moving towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition, the **Prevent Waste coalition of European civil society organisations** advocates for the **improvement and enforcement of EU policies on waste prevention and product design**. Any new legislative proposals and strategies, and the implementation of the existing ones, need to adhere to the EU waste hierarchy (a gut prevention first, reducing resource extraction, designing circular products and ensuring waste prevention all reduce GHG emissions - contributing to the EU's decarbonisation objective).

The European Commission's next Circular Economy Action Plan (accompanying the overarching European Green Deal) should consist of ambitious measures enabling waste prevention at along the value chain in all sectors, including food, construction and demolition, packaging, transport, electronics, batteries and textiles.

We call on the European institutions to take the following measures (as decided below):

- 1. ESTABLISH AMBITIOUS AND REUSE TARGETS**
A progressive 2030 target should be adopted, including targets in kg/capita and measures.
- 2. SET MANDATORY OF 50% BY 2030**
All Member States should ensure that 50% of the food supply chain, from farm to fork, is covered by measures covering all stages from retail to consumer.
- 3. DEFINE COMPREHENSIVE CIRCULAR DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PRODUCTS**
These requirements should ensure durability, reparability, reparability and recyclability of products made of non-toxic materials from sustainable sources. Repair should become the norm, giving consumers a right to repair their products.
- 4. ENSURE CLEAN, SAFE AND NON-TOXIC MATERIAL CYCLES**
Zero pollution and a non-toxic environment can only be achieved when substances of concern are prevented and phased out through stringent legislation, which is currently missing. These substances can only be treated in both new and recycled products by ensuring that a public information system about substances present in materials, products and waste is in place.

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Categories: [Circular Economy](#), [Resource Efficiency](#), [Waste and Recycling](#)

Types: [Joint Publication](#), [Position](#)

Published: 14 November 2019

Size: 202.22 KB

As things stand, almost 90% of material resources used in the EU are lost after their first use. This means that more effort is needed to accelerate the transition to a circular economy, where waste is prevented and materials are recycled.

In this document, produced in cooperation with other Brussels-based NGOs, we highlight our 10 policy priorities to reduce waste in all sectors – including food, construction, packaging, transport, electronics, batteries and textiles.

The measures discussed in this document can help governments meet Europe's new recycling and waste prevention targets. Check out our [timeline for the implementation](#) of the new EU laws.

This document is also available in: [DE](#), [EE](#), [ES](#), [LV](#), [LT](#) and [RO](#)

EU Waste Directives explained + examples of good transposition

<https://eeb.org/work-areas/resource-efficiency/waste-recycling/>



#NoTimeToWaste

EXPLAINED: EUROPE'S NEW LAWS FOR THE SEPARATE COLLECTION OF WASTE

In this brief, the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) provides an overview of the revised laws set out by the EU to improve the way household waste is sorted and collected for recycling. The paper also outlines good practice examples from EU Member States where the laws have already been successfully implemented.

CONTEXT

In 2018, EU Member States and institutions agreed on a comprehensive set of laws aimed at preventing household waste and boosting recycling. The new laws are part of four EU Directives, namely the *Waste Framework Directive (WFD)*, the *Landfill Directive (LD)*, the *Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (PPWD)* and the *Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUP)*. All Member States are expected to transpose the agreed EU laws into national legislation by **July 2020**.

Among the most transformative changes is an obligation to sort and separately collect different materials, such as textiles, hazardous material and organic waste. This is in addition to the existing laws mandating the separate collection of plastics, glass, paper, metals, waste oils.

The separate collection of waste is a precondition for high-quality recycling and preparation for reuse. It also prevents hazardous substances from contaminating other waste streams as well as communities and the environment.

The smooth and timely transposition of the new measures is essential to ensure Member States and municipalities complete the transition to a Circular Economy, where waste is prevented and materials recycled.

In this brief, the EEB outlines several examples of good legal solutions they can take inspiration from.



#NoTimeToWaste

EXPLAINED: EUROPE'S NEW WASTE PREVENTION AND REUSE LAWS

EXAMPLES OF WASTE PREVENTION POLICIES AND OTHER MEASURES TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR THE REDUCTION OF WASTE GENERATION

Revised EU waste directives that came into effect in July 2018 included a set of measures to boost recycling and cut waste.

All EU Member States (MS) must put in place new measures by **July 2020** to help them achieve these targets.

By **July 2021**, governments will also have to introduce legal measures addressing single-use plastic items, as part of the *Single-Use Plastics Directive*.

This legal briefing provides an overview of the most important new EU waste obligations from the *Waste Framework Directive (WFD)*, the *Landfill Directive (LD)*, the *Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (PPWD)* and the *Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUP)* and good examples of how countries have translated these into national law. The briefing can be used to inspire the ongoing development of national transposition of revised waste directives in order to make sure it is ambitious and in line with sound environmental waste management.

The best way to deal with waste is to prevent it from being created (see [10 policy measures to reduce waste](#) (EEB, 2018)).



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EXPLAINED: ANNEX IVa OF THE EU WASTE FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

EXAMPLES OF ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS AND OTHER MEASURES TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE WASTE HIERARCHY

In 2018, EU Member States (MS) and institutions agreed on a comprehensive set of laws aimed at preventing household waste and boosting recycling. The new laws are part of four EU Directives: the *Waste Framework Directive (WFD)*, the *Landfill Directive (LD)*, the *Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (PPWD)* and the *Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUP)*. All MS are expected to reflect the agreed EU laws in their national legislation by **July 2020**.

Article 6 (3) WFD requires MS to use economic instruments in order to provide incentives for the effective application of the waste hierarchy. These instruments are primarily to be set up and used by MS, not at the EU level. These economic instruments are used to varying degrees for waste management in some MS, but they are not used systematically or to their full potential everywhere.

Annex IVa of the WFD lists examples of the advanced MS economic instruments, as well as other measures, that can be used to further implement the waste hierarchy and make reuse and recycling more economically attractive. This document provides case studies from different MS to show how these examples have been put into practice. The examples are listed in the same order as the Annex.





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EXPLAINED: EUROPE'S NEW WASTE PREVENTION AND REUSE LAWS

EXAMPLES OF WASTE PREVENTION POLICIES AND
OTHER MEASURES TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR
THE REDUCTION OF WASTE GENERATION

A FLOURISHING NETWORK

At the end of 2019 we counted a total of 163 members in 36 countries. At our Annual General Meeting in November in Berlin, we welcomed 16 new members, including – for the first time ever – two members in Georgia.

EUROPEAN NETWORKS

AirClim
Bellona Europe
Carbon Market Watch
CEEweb for Biodiversity
Changing Markets Foundation
CHEM Trust
Chemsec
Compassion In World Farming
ClientEarth
Coastwatch Europe
Eco-Union
European Federation of City Farms
European Land and Soil Alliance
European Compost Network
UECNA – EU Against Aircraft Nuisances
Fédération Spéléologique Européenne
Fern
Justice and Environment
Naturefriends International
Pesticide Action Network Europe
Seas At Risk
WEFC International
Youth and Environment Europe

KEY

Full member
Associate member
Affiliate member
New member in 2019*

UNITED KINGDOM

Green Alliance
Keep Britain Tidy
Population Matters
RSPB
Scottish Environment Link
The Restart Project
Woodland Trust

IRELAND

An Taisce
Friends of the Irish Environment
Irish Environmental Network
Irish Wildlife Trust
Sustainable Water Network
Voice of Irish Concern for the Environment
Zero Waste Alliance Ireland*

FRANCE

Agir pour l'Environnement*
Association pour la Protection des Animaux Sauvages
France Nature Environnement
SEPANSO
SOS Loire Vivante
Zero Waste France

SPAIN

AV Chueca*
ECODES
Ecologistas en Acción
Ecologistes de Catalunya
Ecoserveis*
Fundación Nueva Cultura del Agua
Fundación Vivo Sano
HIDMA
XCN*

PORTUGAL

GEOTA
LPN
Quercus
ZERO

NETHERLANDS

Landschappen
Mondiaal Alternatief
Natuurmonumenten
Nederlandse Stichting Geluidhinder
Stichting Natuur en Milieu
Vereniging Milieudefensie

BELGIUM

Bond Beter Leefmilieu
Inter-Environnement Bruxelles
Inter-Environnement Wallonie
stRaten-Generaal*

GERMANY

Bundesverband Bürgerinitiative Umweltschutz
Bund Heimat und Umwelt in Deutschland
BUND
Bundesverband Boden
Deutsche Umwelthilfe
DNR - Deutscher Naturschutzring
Grüne Liga
HEJSupport
Licht und Natur
Living Rivers Foundation
NABU
Öko-Institut
Runder Tisch Reparatur*
SDW - Schutzgemeinschaft Deutscher Wald
Umweltinstitut München
UVP
Verband Der Deutschen Höhlen-Und Karstforscher

SWITZERLAND

NoB21

NORWAY

Future in Our Hands
MKG
Naturskyddsforeningen

SWEDEN

DKG
Danmarks Naturfredningsforening
Rådet for Grøn Omstilling

CZECH REPUBLIC

Arnika Association
Frank Bold Society*
SSL - Society for Sustainable Living
Zelený Kruh

AUSTRIA

ÖAL
ÖKO-BÜRO
Umweltdachverband

LUXEMBOURG

Mouvement Ecologique
Natur & Umwelt

CROATIA

SUNCE
ZELENA AKCIJA

SLOVENIA

Drustvo Temno Nebo Slovenije
Institut za Trajnostni Razvoj

ITALY

CieloBuiro
Cittadini per l'Aria
Eliante*
Federazione Nazionale Pro Natura
Genitori Antismog
Legambiente
Società Speleologica Italiana*

MALTA

Nature Trust Malta

FINLAND

Natur och Miljö
Suomen Luonnonsuojeluliitto

ESTONIA

Club of Rome Estonia
Estonian Society for Nature Conservation

LATVIA

Green Liberty
Latvijas Dabas Fonds

LITHUANIA

VšĮ Žiedinė ekonomika
Lithuanian Fund for Nature

SLOVAKIA

CEPTA

HUNGARY

CAAG - Levegő Munkacsoport
EMLA
HUMUSZ
MTVSZ

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Eco-Tiras

SERBIA

EEG - Environment Engineering Group*
Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development
ALHem
SREDINA

NORTH MACEDONIA

Eko-Svest
Go Green

GREECE

ECOCITY
Elliniki Etairia
Mediterranean SOS Network
Organization Earth

POLAND

Centrum Prawa Ekologicznego
Eko-Unia
Institute for Sustainable Development
Nowa Idea
Polish Zero Waste Association
Polish Ecological Club
Pro Terra*
Society for Earth

UKRAINE

Environment People Law
MAMA-86
Resource & Analysis Center 'Society and Environment'

ROMANIA

2Celsius*
ARI*
CEDD
CNPCD
Ecoteca
Focus Eco Center
Fundatia ADEPT Transilvania
GEC Bucovina
Green Planet

BULGARIA

Europe and We
Za Zemlata

GEORGIA

CENN*
Green Alternative*

TURKEY

TEMA Foundation

CYPRUS

Cyprus Center for Environmental Research and Education
Federation of Environmental Organisations of Cyprus
Friends of the Earth Cyprus
Terra Cypria



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*The EEB gratefully acknowledges the financial support from the LIFE Programme of the European Union.
This communication reflects the organizers' views and does not commit the donors.*

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