



# European Plastics Converters Circular Economy Package

Silvia Freni Sterrantino, EuPC Regulatory Affairs Manager

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# Circular Economy Package

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- On Dec. 2nd 2015, the EC published its new Circular Economy Package;
- This followed the withdrawal of the previous package of July 2nd 2014 as it was deemed (not ambitious enough by the new Juncker Commission);
- Idea behind the package is to increase resource efficiency in EU, by increasing recycling & phasing out land filling;
- A more circular economy would bring major economic and social benefits;
- The Package includes proposed amendments to the **Waste Framework Directive, Packaging & Packaging Waste Directive, Landfill Directive**, End Life Vehicles Directive, Batteries directive and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive;
- Main impacts will be the trio of PPWD, WFD and LD while the other 3 will only see monitoring and reporting changes.

# The Commission's proposal

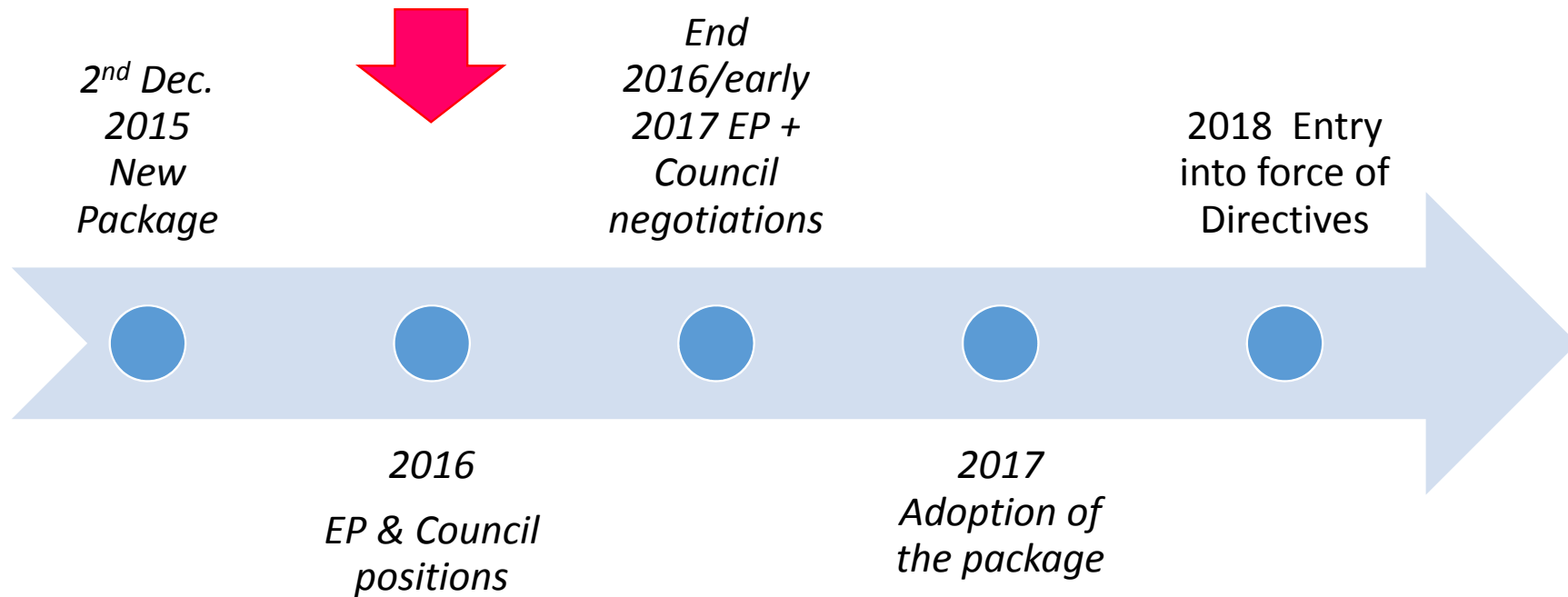
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The new package aims at:

- Increasing recycling targets
- Limiting landfilling to a maximum of 10% of municipal waste by 2030
- Establishing minimum rules for EPR schemes (but currently no minimum conditions defined in package). It may include a requirement to link EPR fees to recyclability and reusability.
- **Establishing a Strategy on Plastics in the Circular Economy by 2017 (this could lead to further legislation specific to plastics)**
- Recycling targets for plastics in PPWD would increase to 55% by 2025
- Establishing a waste-to-energy strategy in 2016 (laying out how much and what kind of waste can go to energy recovery)
- Member States would be required to encourage the setting up of reuse systems for specific waste streams (e.g. deposit systems for packaging)

# Timeframe



# Timeframe Council

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## Council

- First Meeting of the Ministers: March
- Final Meeting of the Ministers under the Dutch Presidency: June
- No final agreement is foreseen during the Dutch Presidency. The Slovakia Presidency will have to find a compromise for all MS
- Working Party on the Environment, Council experts are expected to continue the examination of the legislative proposals included in the circular economy package at the meeting foreseen on **15th September**.
- The Slovak Presidency has confirmed that the Commission's proposal on landfill of waste will be one of its priorities during the second semester of 2016, aiming to reach an agreement as soon as possible.
- **Informal trilogue meetings** between the two institutions will likely take place under the **next Presidency – January 2017 run by Malta**

# Council

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## Discussions:

- Germany against of having targets
- Supporting Member States: Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania and Bulgaria
- Possible next supporting Member States: UK, Italy, Finland and Greece
- Germany and Denmark back a method where a standard loss rate is set by the recycler. That percentage, representing the waste lost in the process, is deducted from the recycling figure
- That rate will vary across Member States but the Commission favours a harmonised way of measuring recycling, which is based on how much waste enters the recycling process.
- This could have a chilling effect on the progress of discussions at the Council

# Timeframe Parliament

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The Directives concerned will be adopted in the co-decision/ordinary legislative process:

## European Parliament –

### ENVI, Environment, Public Health & Food Safety Committee

- Draft report: May
- Amendments: June – July
- Discussion provisionally: September 29<sup>th</sup>
- Adoption of the Committee Report provisionally: November 7<sup>th</sup>
- Vote in Plenary provisionally: December 14<sup>th</sup>

### ITRE-Industry, Research, Energy Committee

- Amendments: June
- Adoption of the Committee Report provisionally: October 13<sup>th</sup>



# Timeframe Parliament

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## Proposed amendments – relevant aspects to follow:

- **PPWD:**

- restriction of single-use

- excessive packaging

- derogation to Article 18

- lack of link between packaging and its functionalities

- design of products

- **Waste:**

- higher targets

- tackle marine litter

- hazardous substances

- obligatory EPRs, EU guidelines on EPRs and costs

# Strategy on Plastics

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- Implementation plan accompanying the proposals of the five Directives foresees as first of the five priority areas is plastics
- Main sectorial action is the Strategy on plastics in the Circular Economy to be **finalized in 2017**
- Premise of the Strategy is that no existing waste policy has ever focused only on plastic products
- **Outcome: legislative and non-legislative** action – unknown yet

# Plastics Common Position

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- PlasticsEurope, Plastics Recyclers Europe and European Plastics Converters
- The aim of this joint group is to find a common set of priorities shared among the actors of the plastics value chain
- The meetings were the occasion to verify how other close associations look at the proposal
- Next: list of amendments that have the same objectives as the Joint Statement principles.



# Plastics Common Position

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- **Zero Plastics to landfill by 2025**  
This will ensure that plastic waste can be used as a resource and does not end up in the environment
- **The 55% plastic packaging “preparing for re-use and recycling” target by 2025 is challenging**; we are willing to continue to play our part and call the other relevant stakeholders to act too
- **We call for the mandatory separate collection of all packaging by 2025**

# Plastics Common Position

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- The Commission shall establish a **uniform methodology** for the calculation of the **targets of “preparing for re-use and recycling”** and the **measurement point for recycling performance**. Uniformity will set a level-playing-field for all actors on the market and enable an accurate overview of Member States’ performance as well as meaningful comparisons.
- **EU wide quality standards** for plastic waste and its treatment should be developed, including **specifications for sorted waste, harmonization of tests methods** for recycled plastic materials and **certification of plastic recycling operations**
- **Innovation in technologies throughout the whole plastics value-chain** should be enhanced in order to increase its potential

# Packaging Chain Forum

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- Packaging Chain Forum, chaired by European, aims at gathering material neutral packaging related associations
- In the context of the CEP, it has been agreed to come with a Joint Statement in relation to the PPWD
- Main points:
  1. Life cycle approach
  2. Safeguard the Internal Market
  3. Clear division of responsibility in EPRs
  4. Free competition in packaging
  5. Realistic packaging “preparing for reuse”/recycling targets
- Co-signed by 38 Associations

# Packaging Chain Forum

## Joint Statement from 38 Packaging Value Chain associations on the legislative review amending the Waste Framework Directive and Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive

### Key Messages

1. Ensure a **life-cycle approach** in legislation, taking into account the functionalities of packaging, such as preserving the entirety of resources invested in the packaged product along the entire value chain.
2. Safeguard the **Internal Market** (the legal basis of the PPWD) to ensure the free movement of packaging and packaged goods. Avoid *de facto* trade barriers for packaging and packaged goods; retain the PPWD's pre-notification procedure and Article 21 Committee.
3. Ensure relevance of the EU **EPR "general requirements"** for the packaging waste stream, alongside nationally and clearly defined roles and responsibilities, for all actors involved in EPR implementation. Obligated costs for producers need to be clearly demarcated and net of revenue from the sale of secondary raw materials.
4. Allow free competition so that producers can choose the packaging most appropriate for the product and distribution system. Legal requirements that mandate additional packaging **reuse** systems alongside existing EPR systems risk undermining the cost-efficiency of EPR and recycling efforts/investments. Resist national measures to promote packaging reuse systems that will distort the Internal Market.
5. Set realistic and achievable packaging **"preparing for reuse"/recycling targets**, based on an updated ex-ante impact assessment, known starting points, as well as a harmonised and clarified measurement point and calculation methodology.

The undersigned organisations<sup>1</sup> represent a wide range of sectors in the packaging value chain. They support an enabling EU policy framework that facilitates sustainable resource use from a full lifecycle perspective, incentivises economies of scale and takes into account value chains at all levels with each of their different needs, supply and demand realities. To further enable our industries to transition towards a resource-efficient and competitive Circular Economy, our associations have the following recommendations for the European Parliament and Council to ensure EU legislation is relevant, achievable and proportionate for packaging and packaged goods.

1. **LIFE-CYCLE APPROACH:** In addition to end-of-life considerations, measures must also take into account the key functionalities of packaging, such as preserving the entirety of resources invested in the packaged product along the entire value



ACE – The Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment



AGVU - Arbeitsgemeinschaft Verpackung und Umwelt e.V., Germany



AIM – European Brands Association



A.I.S.E. – The International Association for Soaps, Detergents and Maintenance Products



ARA – Allstoff Recycling Austria AG Packaging Compliance Scheme, Austria



ARAM – Romanian Association for Packaging and the Environment



BIHPAK – Bosnia and Herzegovina Association for Packaging & Packaging Waste Management



CEPI – Confederation of European Papers Industries



CICPEN – Czech Industrial Coalition on Packaging and the Environment



CITPA – International Confederation of Paper and Board Converters



Cosmetics Europe – The Personal Care Association



DSD - Der Grüne Punkt Dual System for Packaging Recycling, Germany



Eco-Emballages – Packaging Recovery Association, France



EuPC – European Plastics Converters



EPBA – European Portable Battery Association



EUROCOMMERCE – The voice of retail and wholesale in Europe



European Aluminium



EUROPEN – The European Organization for Packaging and the Environment



FEA – European Aerosol Federation



FEFCO – European Corrugated Packaging Association



FEVE – The European Container Glass Federation



Flexible Packaging Europe



FoodDrinkEurope



IK - Industrievereinigung Kunststoffverpackungen e.V., Germany



INTERGRAF – European Federation for Print and Digital Communication



INCPEN - The Industry Council for Research on Packaging and the Environment, UK



MPE - Metal Packaging Europe



Miljöpack – Trade Industry Group, Sweden



Pack2Go Europe - Europe's Convenience Food Packaging Association



Pakkaus – Finnish Packaging Association



REKOPOL - Recovery Organisation S.A., Poland



REPAK - Packaging Recovery Organisation, Ireland



Serving Europe - Branded Food and Beverage Service Chains Association



SLICPEN – Slovak Industrial Coalition on Packaging and the Environment



Sociedade Ponto Verde, S.A. – Packaging Recovery Organisation, Portugal



TIE – Toy Industries of Europe



UNESDA – Union of European Soft Drinks Associations



Valpak - Environmental Compliance, Recycling and Sustainability Solutions, UK

Thank you for the attention



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sustainable **future**

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