



# Recycling of Trays

## EU vision and policies

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*Improving the economics  
and quality of recycling &  
curbing plastic waste &  
littering*

## To improve:

- Design for circularity: lasting longer, reuse & repair, recycle
- Reuse & repair
- Separate waste collection
  - Recycling
  - Recycled content

# A focus on Sustainable Prosperity & competitiveness in EU

New European Commission (2024-2029) and new Political guidelines

"A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness" 18 July 2024

- Competitiveness Compass – January 2025
- New **Clean Industrial Deal** for energy-intensive industries and clean tech sector - February 2025



# Clean Industrial Deal

- Access to affordable energy
- Lead markets: boosting clean supply and demand
- Public and private investments
- **Powering CE: a secure access to materials and resources**
  - Fast implementation of CRM act (first list of strategic projects Q1 2025)
  - EU CRM Centre for joint purchases and management of strategic stockpiles (Q4 2026)
  - **Circular Economy Act (Q4 2026)**
- Global markets and international partnerships
- Skills and quality jobs for social fairness and a just transition

# Towards a New Circular Economy Act 2026

- Enhance **free movement** of circular products, secondary raw materials and waste
- Harmonise ‘**end of waste criteria**’
- Simplify, digitalise and expand **Extended Producer Responsibility** schemes
- **Public procurement**
- Roll out of the work plan for the **Ecodesign for Sustainable Products**
- **Trans-regional Circularity Hubs** for smart specialisation and economies of scale for recycling
- Moving away from fossil-materials, use of **new material sources** like recycled and biobased plastics

# *Single use plastics directive (SUPD)*

## Transposition & evaluation



# SUP measures on PET trays

- Some PET trays are **food containers**
- **Consumption reduction** (art 4), some MS have targets
- **Extended producer responsibility** (art 8), including clean-up costs
- **Awareness raising** (art 10)

# Way forward

- Finalise the transposition of SUPD
  - Conformity check of Member States, first procedures started
  - EPR guidelines for litter clean-up
  - Rules on recycled content and chemical recycling
- Evaluate SUPD (by 3/7/27) and follow-up with *possible* revision



# *Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)*

Entered into  
force 11 Feb

# Key measures on plastics

- All packaging recyclable by 2030
  - **Designed for recycling**
  - Separately collected
  - Well sorted
  - Results in secondary materials of good quality



# Key measures on plastics

- Waste prevention - reuse targets - **fostering reuse and refill**
- **Bans** on the use of certain packaging (SUP for food & beverages consumed in situ in HORECA)
- **Targets** for recycled content (2030, rising in 2040) of packaging formats at production site level for
  - Contact sensitive: **PET 30%**, non-PET: 10%
  - Non-contact sensitive: 35%
  - Beverage bottles: 30%
  - Exemptions: medicinal products, medical devices & compostables

# Secondary legislation under PPWR

- **Methodology on recyclability**
  - Design for recycling criteria (Jan 28)
  - As of 2035, “recycling at scale”
  - Modulation EPR fees ~ recyclability & MS ~ recycled content
- **Methodology for calculation & verification of % RC (end 26)**
  - + Sustainability criteria for plastic recycling technologies
  - + Biobased content

# Proposal for a pellets regulation

**Provisional agreement in  
April 2025**



Photo: Eunomia

- **Prevent – Contain – Clean-up:**  
best handling practices & risk assessment plan  
**+ Certification**
- **Lighter requirements** for micro and small enterprises  
and for enterprises handling less than < 1500 t/year
- Expected to be adopted in late 2025



refuse



share



reuse



return  
&  
collect



sort



recycle



*Learn more about the SUPD and PPWR:*

[Single-use plastics - European Commission](#) & [Packaging waste - European Commission](#)



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