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Circular Economy Newsletter



We are pleased to share the **November - December 2022** edition of the **EuRIC Newsletter** featuring the latest updates from us as well as regulatory & policy developments of interest to the recycling sector.



Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year!

As the holiday period fast approaches, the EuRIC team would like to wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Holidays and best wishes for 2023!

This is the last edition of our newsletter in 2022. We would like to thank you for continuing to be an active reader and we look forward to providing you with even more engaging content in the year ahead.

We would also like to kindly inform you that the EuRIC office will be closed from **26th December 2022 - 3 January 2023**. During that period, you may reach us at **+32 (0) 485 97 08 71** for urgent enquiries.



EuRIC EVENTS



Recyclers' Talks webinar series is back!

Have you registered yet for the next edition of our Recyclers' Talks webinar series? This time we will be discussing everything **e-waste** including how to tackle the growing challenge of recycling > 57 million tons of e-waste produced annually.

We have an exciting lineup of speakers confirmed:

- Giuseppe Piardi - Stena Recycling Srl
- Ben Storer - Samsung Electronics
- Tess Pozzi - DERICHEBOURG Environnement
- Maria Banti - European Commission
- Mathieu Rama - ECOS
- Emmanuel KATRAKIS - EuRIC - the European recycling industries

You can **register** now by clicking on the button below.

[Register now >>>](#)



SAVE THE DATE – EuRIC event in Brussels

Beyond Circular: Boosting recycling through future-fit policies

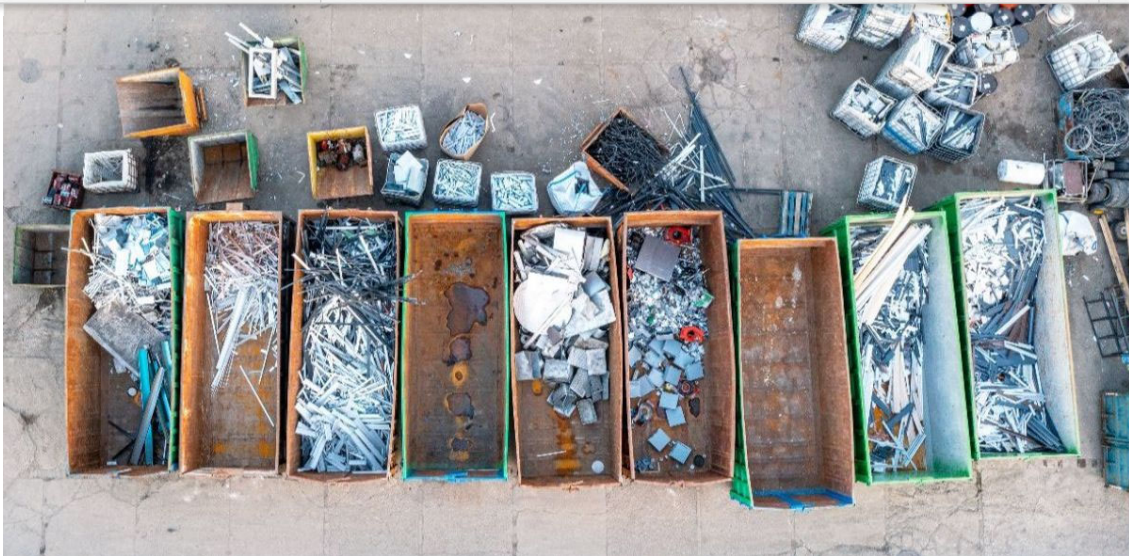
We are delighted to invite EuRIC members to our first in-person event in 2023 that will take place on the day after the **EuRIC General Assembly**. Our event **Beyond Circular: boosting recycling through future-fit policies** will take place at the **BluePoint** in Brussels (same building as EuRIC's office) on 30 March.

We kindly invite you to join us for our high-level conference that will unite European policymakers and EuRIC members from across the circular economy value chain. Together, we will discuss how Europe can go beyond circular through future-fit policies that not only accelerate the transition towards a climate-neutral economy but stimulate sustainable growth, investment and local green jobs in Europe. The **registration** link will soon be communicated to members. In the meantime, we encourage you to click on the button below to add the event to your calendar.

[Add to calendar >>>](#)



EuRIC UPDATES



Key vote on Waste Shipment Regulation

The European Parliament's Environment Committee (ENVI) has voted on the draft Waste Shipment Regulation text. Significant measures for the recycling industries include, amongst others:

- Ban of plastic waste exports to OECD and non-OECD countries;
- Stricter measures on environmentally sound management (ESM) in third countries;
- Mandatory recycled content targets for plastics to ensure ESM.

All members of the European Parliament are now expected to vote on the ENVI text in January 2023.

You can consult below **EuRIC's joint letter with FEAD** (European Waste Management Association) sent to policymakers calling for unhampered trade and EuRIC's **press release** reacting to the vote.



[Consult the joint letter with FEAD >>>](#)



[Consult the press release >>>](#)



EuRIC calls for tougher scrutiny of EPR Schemes

EuRIC has urged policymakers to exercise greater scrutiny before establishing new **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Schemes**.

Often portrayed as a silver bullet to improve waste management, EPR Schemes have significantly multiplied in recent years. In its latest position paper, EuRIC warned that prior to establishing new schemes sufficient assessment of whether a waste stream has a positive or negative value must be made. Moreover, it should also be considered whether alternative policy instruments could be implemented. EuRIC also argues that recyclers or their representatives should be included in the governance bodies of new Schemes.

You can consult EuRIC's **position paper** and **press release** by clicking on the buttons below.



[Consult the position paper >>>](#)



[Consult the press release >>>](#)



EU proposes new regulation on Packaging and Packaging Waste

The European Commission has published a proposed Regulation on Packaging and Packaging Waste (PPWR). EuRIC reacted in a press release supporting proposed rules that will mandate the use of recycled materials in new packaging, while expressing its regret over the lack of ambition on recyclability targets.



[Consult the press release >>>](#)



[Read article in EURACTIV >>>](#)



BASEL CONVENTION

*the world environmental
agreement on wastes*

EuRIC supports Japan's objection to proposed OECD rules on e-waste trade

In its latest position paper, European recyclers have united in support of an objection raised by Japan to new international rules that risk subjecting shipments of non-hazardous e-waste to burdensome administrative requirements.



[Consult the position paper >>>](#)



[Consult the press release >>>](#)



ECHA

EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY

EuRIC counteracting ECHA's concerns on REACH-compliance by recyclers

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) has raised concerns over recyclers' compliance with REACH. Results from an [ECHA pilot project](#) indicate that **26% of checked substances are in breach of REACH**.

EuRIC recently met with ECHA to address these concerns. EuRIC emphasised the efforts of recyclers of all waste streams to produce high-quality recycled materials and presented a solution for EU-wide REACH enforcement of rubber granules and powders derived from waste tyres.

Together with our members from the EuRIC Mechanical Tyre branch (MTR), we are continuing to actively engage with ECHA to help REACH enforcement, which also links with end-of-waste (EoW). You can learn more about EuRIC's engagement with ECHA [here](#).



E-waste Directive EuRIC submission to public consultation

The European Commission is seeking to evaluate the current e-waste Directive. While EuRIC believes the Directive has been a positive step, it believes that there is room for improvement. You can consult our input to the public consultation [here](#).



ETS & CBAM

EuRIC joined forces with Sandbag, a non-profit climate change think-tank, to address a **joint letter** urging senior EU leaders to not discourage circularity in the revision of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and the Carbon Board Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) rules. You can consult the [letter](#) here and also read media coverage from Euractiv [here](#).



EU POLICY UPDATES



Sweden to take over the presidency of the EU Council

Sweden is preparing to take over the helm of the Presidency of the EU Council from Czechia on 1 January 2023. The Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson recently presented his government's priorities and work programme for their presidency. Kristersson noted that Sweden will "prioritise efforts to hasten the electrification of the EU," mentioning the Batteries Regulation — approved by negotiators last week — arguing that Sweden will continue "the negotiations on increasing fossil-free energy production."

[Learn more >>>](#)

Eco-design for sustainable products (ESPR)

The European Parliament's Environment Committee (ENVI) has published its draft opinion on a proposal for a Regulation on Eco-design for Sustainable Products (ESPR). The opinion can be consulted [here >>>](#).

Chemicals

The European Commission adopted a [recommendation](#) to promote a framework to assess the safety and sustainability of chemicals and materials.

Batteries

A provisional agreement on an EU

Chemicals

The European Chemical Agency (ECHA) has published the draft Community Rolling Action Plan (CoRAP) where 24 substances are listed for evaluation by EU Member States for 2023-2025. Five are planned to be evaluated in 2023, with 19 listed for evaluation in 2024 and 2025. [More >>>](#)

POPs

The European Parliament has published a [consolidated position](#) on the adoption of a Regulation on persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

Textiles

The European Parliament rapporteur has

reached. The legislation will regulate the entire life cycle of a battery – from production to reuse and recycling – and ensure that they are safe, sustainable and competitive. You can read more on the agreement [here](#).

Plastics

The European Commission has published a [Communication](#) and [Q&A](#) on a policy framework for bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics.

E-waste

EU rules mandating a common USB-C charging port have now been [published](#). Manufacturers will have to abide by the rules by 27 December 2024. By that date, Apple will have to make sure its iPhones can be charged via USB-C.

report argues that producing clothes from recycled bottles isn't "consistent with the circular model for PET bottles." The report also calls for EPR schemes and other measures to "incentivise investment in fibre-to-fibre recycling."

Plastics

The European Environment Agency (EEA) [publishes](#) briefing on managing non-packaging plastics in European waste streams.

Right to repair

Members of the European Parliament's Green political group have [tabled questions](#) on the delay in the publication of the Commission's proposal on the right to repair.



EU PROJECTS & FUNDING

Horizon Europe

THE NEXT EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME (2021 – 2027)



New funding opportunities for recyclers available under Horizon Europe 2023 - 2024

The EU has adopted the main Horizon Europe work programme 2023-24, with around €13.5 billion to support researchers and innovators in Europe to pursue breakthrough

solutions for environmental, energy, digital and geopolitical challenges. There are plenty of opportunities for recycling projects, covering most waste streams. Topics include:

- Circular economy solutions for the valorisation of low-quality scrap streams, materials recirculation with a high recycling rate, and residue valorisation towards zero waste;
- Circular economy in process industries: Upcycling large volumes of secondary resources (open to all materials, except plastic waste & composites);
- Recycling technologies for critical raw materials from end-of-life (EoL) products;
- New processes for upcoming recycling feeds (batteries);
- sustainable and safe pre-processing technologies for EOL battery recycling;
- Circular solutions for textile value chains based on extended producer responsibility;
- Increasing the circularity in plastics value chains.

Further information will be made available soon. You can also reach out to Maria Vera Duran, responsible for EU-funded projects at EuRIC, by email at mveraduran@euric-aisbl.eu.

Learn more >>>



PROMOTED EVENTS



ITMA 2023

08 — 14
JUNE 2023

FIERA MILANO RHO
MILAN . ITALY

Visitor Registration Opens
30 November 2022

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International Electronics Recycling Congress
January 18 — 20, Salzburg, Austria



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