



NEWSLETTER N° 162 - 11 MARCH 2024

Hello from Brussels. Looks like the PPWR is stuck in the middle of a game of tug-of-war on the school playground, with the Council and the Parliament pulling in one direction and the Commission trying to find its footing in the sandbox!





Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR): On 04 March, the Council and the European Parliament <u>reached</u> an agreement on PPWR. But the Commission, which was dissatisfied with the compromise on imports of recycled plastic, has not yet agreed on the text.

FEAD, in cooperation with EURIC published a joint statement on the inclusion of the mirroring clause for recycled plastic originating from third countries, and whether this is allowed to account for the European mandatory recycled content in plastics packaging. The statement emphasises that 'the massive imports of low-cost plastics labelled as recycled, already observed in the EU market especially on rPET, have exacerbated the industry

crisis, with recycled plastic prices dropping by up to 50% in 2023.' Read it now.

FEAD PFAS article: The scholarly article titled "The Presence of PFAS in Wastes and Related Implications on the Current and Proposed European Regulatory Framework: A Systematic Critical Review' by Alberto Pivato, Giovanni Beggio, Stefano Maggi, Francesco Marrone, Tiziano Bonato, Federico Peres, Wei Peng, and Maria Cristina Lavagnolo in collaboration with FEAD, has been published in Detritus, a multidisciplinary journal for circular economy and sustainable management of residues.

You can access the article on the journal's **website**, as well as on FEAD's **website**.

Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)

Regulation: On 29 February, the Reach committee <u>voted</u> on a proposal to limit the use of perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA), its salts and related substances.

Urban Wastewater Treatment: On 1 March, COREPER I <u>approved</u> the January agreement on the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive.

Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (WEEE): On 04 March, the Council <u>adopted</u> amendments to the WEEE Directive to clarify who pays for waste management costs.

Industrial Emissions Directive (IED): On 7 March, the political group Identity and Democracy (ID) tabled an **proposal for rejection**, in view of the vote on the agreement on the revision of the IED.

Gas demand reduction Regulation: On 04 March, the Council <u>reached</u> an agreement on a recommendation to continue coordinated demand-reduction.

Report on CO2 Emissions in 2023: On 1 March, the International Energy Agency (IEA) published their <u>report</u> on CO2 Emissions in 2023.

Empowering consumers for the green transition through better protection against unfair practices Directive: On 6 March, the anti-greenwashing directive was <u>published</u> in the EU Official Journal.

EEA briefing on unsold textiles: On 04 March, the European Environment Agency (EEA) published a briefing titled <u>'The destruction of returned and unsold textiles in Europe's circular economy'</u>.

Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP): On 21 February, the Republic of Ireland's Office of Government Procurement published a reference for public procurement practitioners titled 'Opportunities and approaches for Sustainable Public Procurement'.

EFRAG technical explanations on ESRS: On 01 March, EFRAG <u>released</u> the second set of explanations on the ESRS Q&A platform. Find them <u>here</u>.

Interoperable Europe Act (IEA): On 04 March, the Council **adopted** a new law on the topic.

2024 European Elections and the European People's Party (EPP): On 7 March, Ursula von der Leyen was elected as 'Spitzenkandidat' of the EPP, during their congress.

2024 European Elections and the Party of European Socialists (PES): On 2 March, Nicolas Schmit was officially elected as the 'Spitzenkandidat' for the PES during their **Congress** in Rome.

European Parliament plenary session: The draft <u>programme</u> of the plenary session from 10 to 12 April has been published.





ESPP WORKSHOPS ON NUTRIENT RECYCLING POLICY

13-14 March 2024

13th March 2024
Policy tools to support
market pull for
recycled nutrients

14th March 2024
Proposing UWWT
Directive targets for P
and N recovery

The European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform (ESPP) will hold a series of workshops on Nutrient recycling policy in Brussels and online on 12-14 March 2024.

Their objectives are:

- to elaborate ambitious, feasible and consensus proposals for regulatory targets for phosphorus and nitrogen reuse-recycling from municipal wastewater and
- to identify policy tools to support market pull for recycled nutrients which could achieve consensus across industry and users.

More information is available here.



9 - 11 April 2024 Bergamo, Italy

www.wme-expo.com

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Waste Management Europe is a reference event in the trade fair panorama linked to the theme of Circular Economy which brings together political decision-makers, global organizations and innovative solutions to address the challenges of waste management and guide the implementation of the various activities in this area. WME 2024 will connect thousands of professionals united by the common effort to achieve very important goals and ensure a planet fit for future generations. The event, focused for this third edition on the theme "Transforming waste into a resource - Innovate, Collaborate, Support", will once again be set up at the Bergamo Fair, in an area rich in history, traditions and with an entrepreneurial network among the most prosperous in the country, and in an exhibition and conference space of over 4000 m2 where the entire waste management and material recycling industry chain will be well represented.

FEAD will be present at the expo with our President, Claudia Mensi giving a speech on one of the days. We will also be hosting a panel discussion with FEAD members. We can't wait to see you there!

Register now





Landfill tax raised to £126.15 from 2025/26

IMBALLAGGI, DAL 2030 GIRO DI VITE SUL MONOUSO

LEAK: Belgium wants thrift shops to report on discarded and exported clothes

The Belgian presidency has put forward a proposal requiring social enterprises to tally their collection of second-hand textiles and footwear and subsequent rates of re-use, disposals and exports, as sector representatives warn against imposing excessive "administrative burdens" and costs.

Analysis: As deposit return schemes continue sweeping the bloc, have they been a success?

The number of countries incentivising consumers to return bottles for recycling is growing, but how have they fared so far? Catherine Early investigates

FEAD mentions in the Press:

RecyclingPortal: <u>Joint statement calling for the ban of single-use e-cigarettes in the European Union, UK and EEA</u>

POLITICO: **Don't Trash European Recycling**

ENDS: 'Greenwashing alert': Campaigners call for changes to controversial chemical recycling calculation

EUWID: FEAD fordert "Polymers-only"-Ansatz zur Massenbilanzierung

Afvdal: Grote zorgen over kannibalisering in recyclingindustrie

POLITICO: Commission sparks greenwashing fears in row over '100 percent recycled

<u>claims'.</u>

Contexte: Recyclage chimique: la Commission Europeenne revient a sa proposition initiale.

Worldnationnews: <u>The circular economy is the key to achieving the European</u>

<u>Commission's climate goal for 2040.</u>

Mrw: Industry calls for 75% recycling by 2035



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