

## European Parliament sets most ambitious recycling rates for paper and cardboard

### New waste rules will make EU global front-runner in waste management and recycling

On 18 April, the European Parliament approved a package to update current waste management rules, including new targets for recycling, packaging and land-filling. The new ambitious recycling and landfilling targets are meant to boost the re-use of valuable material in waste and improve the way municipal and packaging waste is managed.

The targets further strengthens the "waste hierarchy" by placing prevention, re-use and recycling clearly above landfilling and incineration. The recycling targets for all municipal waste are 55% by 2025, to be increased to 60% by 2030, and 65% by 2035.



Higher recycling rates require separate collection for paper and cardboard, glass, metals, and plastic.

Stricter rules for calculating recycling rates will help to better monitor real progress towards the circular economy. The rates for paper and cardboard, already the highest among the recyclable materials, will be increased further:

#### New recycling targets for different waste streams

	By 2025	By 2030
All packaging	65%	70%
Plastic	50%	55%
Wood	20%	30%
Ferrous metals	70%	80%
Aluminium	50%	60%
Glas	70%	75%
Paper and cardboard	75%	85%

#### Extended Producer Responsibility schemes

The new legislation foresees more use of effective economic instruments and other measures in support of the waste hierarchy. Producers are given an important role in this transition through extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes – meaning a producer's responsibility for a product is **extended to the post-consumer stage of a product's life cycle**. The new extended producer responsibility requirements will lead to better performance and governance of these schemes. A mandatory extended producer responsibility scheme **has to be established for all packaging** by 2025.

Following the vote by the Plenary of the European Parliament, the package will be submitted to the Council for final adoption.

[More background on the European Commission's website.](#)

*European Commission/Axel Fischer*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

14–18 May 2018

**IFAT**  
Munich, Germany

16–17 May 2018

**Paper & Biorefinery - Österreichische Papierfachtagung**  
Graz, Austria

1 June 2018

**Intergraf Print Matters for the Future**  
Milano, Italy

25–26 June 2018

**World Congress and Expo on Recycling**  
Berlin, Germany

26–27 June 2018

**DOXNET**  
Baden-Baden, Germany

26–28 June 2018

**Zellcheming Expo**  
Frankfurt, Germany

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