













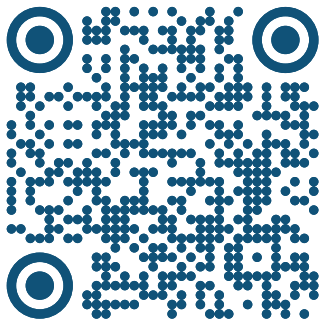


RECENT CHANGES IN LEGISLATION, ONGOING REVISIONS AND PROPOSALS UNDER DISCUSSION

FIELD	LEGISLATION	HIGHLIGHTS	STATUS
PLASTICS	Directive (EU) 2019/904 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment/Single-Use Plastics Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bans throwaway plastic items such as cutlery, plates, straws, beverage stirrers, as well as beverage cups and containers made of EPS, including their covers and lids. • Biodegradable, compostable plastics and bio-based plastics are considered plastic and thus fall under the scope of the SUPD. • Restrictions on so-called 'oxo-degradable' plastics introduced. • Fully enforceable from 2024; revision planned for 2027. 	 In force July 2021
	REACH restriction addressing intentionally added microplastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The adopted restriction uses a broad definition of microplastics – it covers all synthetic polymer particles below five millimetres that are organic, insoluble and resist degradation. • Prohibits the sale of microplastics as such, and of products to which microplastics have been added on purpose and that release those microplastics when used. 	 In force
	Communication – EU Policy framework on bio-based, biodegradable and compostable plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides definitions and informs and provides guidance for policy makers. • Priority should be to reduce resource consumption, to keep raw materials in the loop for as long as possible, and to use secondary raw materials instead of primary raw materials. 	 Published Nov. 2022
	Microplastics initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims to close the gaps in scientific knowledge related to the risk and presence of microplastics in the environment, drinking water and food, and related to biodegradability, especially in the marine environment. 	 Ongoing

FIELD	LEGISLATION	HIGHLIGHTS	STATUS
FOOD CONTACT	Commission Regulation (EU) 2022/1616 on recycled plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Streamlines existing regulations on the development, certification, and use of food contact materials (FCMs). •Covers all existing new recycling technologies since 2008 and future innovative novel plastic recycling technologies under development. 	 In force Sept. 2022
	Commission Regulation (EU) No 10/2011 of 14 January 2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Current specific requirements for the manufacture and marketing of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food; or already in contact with food; or which can reasonably be expected to come into contact with food. 	 In force
	Revision of EU rules on food contact materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Consultation closed in Jan. 2023. •Adoption planned in 2nd quarter 2023. 	 Ongoing
WASTE	Directive 2008/98/EC on Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Known as Waste Framework Directive. 	 In force
	Proposal for a targeted revision of the Waste framework Directive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Proposing to introduce mandatory and harmonised Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes for textiles in all EU Member States. 	 Published July 2023
PACKAGING & PACKAGING WASTE	Proposal for an EU Regulation on Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Will repeal Directive 2008/98/EC on Waste •Introduces key elements obligations on: sustainability requirements; packaging Design for Recyclability; recyclability standards; design-for-recycling criteria; labelling that indicates whether it is reusable, recyclable, or compostable; recycled content targets; recyclability at scale; innovative packaging; compostable packaging •Will launch a series of secondary legislation on the elements on the previous point. 	 Adopted In corrigendum phase
SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS	Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Revision of EcoDesign Directive. •Aims at building in sustainability throughout the entire product lifecycle, starting at the design phase. •Proposed “Digital Product Passport” plans to contain information on each product’s composition, including material and chemical properties, as well as information on their circularity, such as guidance for reuse and repair operators. •Proposal under discussion EP and Council. 	 Under discussion

FIELD	LEGISLATION	HIGHLIGHTS	STATUS
SUSTAINABLE FINANCE	Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/852 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment /Taxonomy Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Classification system that establishes a list of environmentally sustainable economic activities, providing guidance for companies, investors, and policymakers. 	 In force
ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT	Substantiating claims on environmental performance of products and businesses Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Upcoming proposal for a regulation •It would propose for companies having to substantiate their environmental claims using EU Product and Organisation Environmental Footprint (PEF / OEF) methods. These methods measure the environmental performance of a product or organisation throughout the value chain, from the extraction of raw materials to the end of life, using 16 environmental impact categories. 	 Ongoing
BIOTECHNOLOGY & BIOMANUFACTURING	Communication from the European Commission: Building the future with nature: Boosting Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing in the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Proposes a series of targeted actions to boost biotechnology and biomanufacturing in the EU such as leveraging research and boosting innovation, stimulating market demand, streamlining regulatory pathways, elaborating and updating standards, supporting collaboration and synergies, or fostering public and private investments. 	 Published March 2024



Discover how EU-funded research projects are revolutionizing food and drinks packaging through upcycling. Our White Paper on Upcycling Food and Drinks Packaging explores innovative solutions and presents recommendations to minimize waste and enhance sustainability.

Scan the QR code to download the White Paper!



PRESERVE has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 952983. The content of this document only reflects the view of its authors. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.