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## PPWR

### NGO PUSHES BACK AGAINST PACKAGING REGULATION CHANGES

Zero Waste Europe has opposed industry calls to partially revise the EU packaging regulation and delay new rules on PFAS in food packaging, currently set to apply from August 2026. The organization argues that the legislation is the result of a thorough process and warns that reopening it or postponing measures would set a dangerous precedent. It believes the main challenge lies in implementation rather than the regulatory framework itself.

On PFAS, the NGO highlights potential continued risks to human health and the environment if restrictions are delayed. It also rejects industry concerns about costs, technical barriers and lack of alternatives, pointing to existing solutions such as glass and metal. More broadly, Zero Waste Europe stresses that recycling alone will not be sufficient to meet targets and calls for greater development of reusable packaging systems. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 04/05/2026

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## EUROPEAN AGENDA

### LEATHER AND REFURBISHED TIRES TO BE EXCLUDED FROM EU DEFORESTATION LAW

The European Commission has proposed updates to its anti-deforestation law to simplify compliance, including excluding leather products and refurbished tires from its scope. The move reflects industry concerns about the difficulty of meeting due diligence and traceability requirements, despite acknowledging leather's link to deforestation. At the same time, the Commission is considering adding products such as instant coffee and certain palm oil derivatives like soap. The core legal framework and country risk classifications will remain unchanged, with a focus on providing stability and predictability. The package also introduces updated guidance, FAQs, and improvements to the IT system supporting implementation. Proposed changes will undergo a four-week public consultation and discussions with member states. Overall, simplification measures introduced since 2023 have reduced estimated compliance costs for companies by around 75%. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: POLITICO, 04/05/2026

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### EU WATER LAW REVISION FACES POLITICAL PUSHBACK AND WEAK EVIDENCE FOR CHANGE

Lawmakers from Renew, S&D and the Greens are pushing back against the European Commission's plans to revise the Water Framework Directive, warning that reopening this key legislation could send the wrong signal amid growing water scarcity, declining water quality and rising climate risks. In a joint letter, MEPs stressed the need for regulatory stability to encourage investment and warned that altering the non-deterioration principle could have broad economic consequences, particularly for sectors reliant on water resources. They argue that the priority should be implementing existing rules and urge the Commission to take into account strong public opposition to any revision.

At the same time, preliminary results from a recent Commission consultation do not support the rationale for reform. The findings show no concrete evidence that the directive delays permits or imposes excessive costs on businesses. Instead, obstacles appear mainly at national level, linked to overly strict transposition of EU rules or limited administrative capacity. The consultation also confirms strong overall

opposition to weakening the directive, with only a small number of stakeholders, mainly from mining, metallurgy and some industrial sectors, supporting changes, especially to relax the non-deterioration principle. [Read more](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 07/05/2026

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## CIRCULAR ECONOMY

### BUSINESSEUROPE CALLS FOR HARMONISED FRAMEWORK IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY LAW

BusinessEurope has outlined its priorities for the upcoming EU circular economy regulation, calling for a harmonised European framework for extended producer responsibility schemes, including common definitions, indicators and reporting obligations. The organisation also urges a ban on state-managed schemes, currently used in some member states.

It supports measures to boost demand for secondary raw materials, such as tailored public procurement criteria, targeted tax incentives and requirements for recycled content, but only where technically feasible, environmentally justified and economically viable. Finally, BusinessEurope calls for stronger enforcement, particularly for online sales, to ensure fair competition with non-EU operators. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 07/05/2026

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### LIMITED PROGRESS IN COMMISSION CONSULTATIONS ON CIRCULAR ECONOMY LAW

Recent consultations on the upcoming EU circular economy regulation have drawn lukewarm reactions from stakeholders, who described the discussions as offering little new insight and limited genuine dialogue. Participants indicated that the Commission's technical work is already largely finalised, leaving little room for political debate.

Both the high-level dialogue and stakeholder workshop held on 30 April confirmed that few new elements are emerging in the draft regulation. Discussions mainly focused on options for harmonising the regulatory framework. The high-level meeting brought together industry representatives alongside senior Commission officials, with only limited participation from civil society organisations.

The larger workshop, attended by around one thousand participants, focused primarily on technical aspects of the impact assessment, presented by external consultants. Overall, stakeholders see the process as largely confirmatory rather than exploratory, with key decisions already shaped. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 07/05/2026

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## CLIMATE POLICY

### BROAD COALITION URGES EU TO PRESERVE LIFE PROGRAMME

More than 700 organisations have called on EU leaders to safeguard and strengthen the LIFE Programme as a standalone funding instrument in the next EU budget for 2028–2034. In a joint letter, they highlight LIFE's role in delivering environmental and climate action on the ground, including ecosystem restoration, biodiversity protection, emissions reduction and support for local authorities and farmers.

The signatories warn that integrating LIFE into larger funding frameworks could dilute its impact and undermine how the EU delivers its environmental objectives. They advocate maintaining a dedicated programme with its own legal basis, governance and visibility, alongside a reinforced budget and

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continued direct management by the European Commission. The organisations also stress the importance of preserving LIFE's bottom-up, multi-stakeholder approach and strengthening financial support for a wide range of beneficiaries. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: DEHAVILLAND 06/06/2026

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## CONSULTATION OPEN ON EU CHEMICAL CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING

The EU is inviting stakeholders to provide input on hazard classifications under ongoing consultations for the Harmonised Classification and Labelling framework. The process allows comments on proposed hazard classes identified by dossier submitters, even in cases where no classification has been recommended. Each consultation typically remains open for 60 days.

Participants may submit general feedback, comments on specific hazard classes and supporting evidence, including additional relevant data. Contributions received after the deadline will not be considered in the formal review process. All feedback is published during the consultation period, ensuring transparency.

This process forms part of the EU system for establishing consistent classification of chemical substances, with consultations playing a key role before final decisions are made. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: ECHA 06/05/2026

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