



PPWR

ELIPSO WARNS AGAINST SHIFTING PPWR COMPLIANCE BURDENS TO SUPPLIERS

Packaging trade association ELIPSO has urged retailers and brand owners not to transfer their future Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) reporting obligations onto suppliers. As companies prepare for the upcoming Declaration of Conformity (DoC) requirements, ELIPSO says some brands are requesting detailed information, including substance inventories and recyclability assessments, that goes beyond suppliers' legal responsibilities. The association stresses that compliance with DoC requirements remains the responsibility of the brand owner, while suppliers are only required to provide relevant information when requested. ELIPSO also highlights that many PPWR obligations will not become applicable until 2030 and that several technical elements still depend on implementing acts from the European Commission. Warning against regulatory overreach, the association argues that premature or excessive compliance demands create unnecessary pressure across the supply chain and undermine legal certainty. ELIPSO is calling for a pragmatic, phased implementation of the PPWR in line with the timelines established by EU lawmakers. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: PACKAGING EUROPE 23/07/2026

COMMISSION TO PUBLISH FIRST PPWR GUIDANCE DRAFT IN LATE 2026

The European Commission has announced that the first draft of its guidance on the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) is expected by the end of 2026, aiming to provide greater clarity on key provisions of the legislation. The move follows concerns from several Members of the European Parliament and industry stakeholders over the undefined concept of packaging that is "necessary to facilitate handling," a term that could determine whether certain grouped packaging formats qualify for exemptions from future restrictions. The Commission acknowledged the need for additional clarification and has commissioned external experts to prepare guidance, including illustrative examples and interpretations of key concepts. While formal guidance is not required before 2027, the Commission said it is working to avoid unnecessary delays and will present initial findings from the preparatory work during 2026, helping businesses better understand future compliance requirements and reducing legal uncertainty ahead of implementation. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 31/07/2026

EUROPEAN AGENDA

EU RIGHT TO REPAIR TAKES EFFECT ACROSS EUROPE

The EU's Right to Repair Directive officially comes into force today, giving consumers greater access to affordable repairs for products such as smartphones, washing machines, refrigerators, and electric bikes. The legislation requires manufacturers to offer repairs, provide spare parts, and inform consumers about repair options, aiming to extend product lifespans and reduce waste. However, its scope remains limited to products covered by existing EU ecodesign rules, excluding items such as toasters, microwaves, and headphones. While member states were required to transpose the Directive into national law by today, implementation remains uneven across the EU. Consumer organizations have welcomed the measure as a win for both sustainability and household budgets but stress that the real test will be ensuring repairs remain accessible and affordable. Looking ahead, the European Commission plans to launch a European Repair Platform by January 2028 to help citizens find repair services and refurbished products more easily. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: POLITICO PRO 31/07/2026

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

CIRCULAR ECONOMY REGULATION FACES POTENTIAL DELAY AFTER IMPACT ASSESSMENT REJECTION

The European Commission's proposed Circular Economy Regulation may face delays after the Regulatory Scrutiny Board (RSB) reportedly rejected its impact assessment on 17 July. The negative opinion came shortly after discussions between RSB members and Commission officials and confirms concerns previously raised by Aurel Ciobanu-Dordea, Director for Circular Economy at DG Environment, who had warned that such an outcome was possible. The rejection means Commission services must revise the assessment before moving forward, a process that often postpones the publication of legislative proposals. The regulation had been expected on 30 September, but its absence from the Commission's indicative agenda of meetings through that date suggests the timeline could slip further. The setback highlights the challenges facing one of the EU's key upcoming initiatives to advance circular economy objectives and resource efficiency. [Read more](#)

SOURCE: EC PRESS CORNER 27/06/2026

JRC SEES POTENTIAL FOR CHEMICAL RECYCLING BUT WARNS OF HIGH COSTS AND MARKET UNCERTAINTY

A new report from the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) concludes that chemical recycling technologies, particularly pyrolysis and solvolysis, can play an important role in processing certain plastic waste streams that are difficult to recycle mechanically while maintaining high material quality. However, the JRC cautions that these technologies face structurally high costs and significant uncertainty regarding future demand for chemically recycled plastics, especially those produced in Europe. The report notes that it remains unclear whether upcoming recycled content requirements under the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) and the Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUPD) will generate sufficient market demand to justify the higher costs of these materials. It also highlights competition from potentially more cost-effective alternatives, including advanced mechanical recycling, plastic reduction strategies, and bio-based materials. As a result, the JRC calls for further assessment before introducing any mandatory requirements that would drive market uptake of chemical recycling. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: JRC PUBLICATION 22/07/2026

CLIMATE POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FLAGS CONCERNS OVER ITALY'S HUNTING LAW REFORM

The European Commission has signaled concerns over Italy's proposed reform of its hunting legislation, citing potential incompatibilities with the EU Birds and Habitats Directives. The reform, put forward by the Meloni government, would expand hunting areas and seasons, increase the number of huntable species, and formally recognize hunters' role in biodiversity protection. Responding to questions from Italian Members of the European Parliament, the Commission confirmed it had received multiple complaints about the proposal and carried out an assessment of the draft legislation. It has raised concerns with Italy's environment ministry regarding provisions that may conflict with EU nature protection laws and reiterated its ability to take appropriate measures to ensure compliance with EU legislation. The issue comes as Italy is also participating in the European Commission's ongoing stress test of the Birds and Habitats Directives. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 30/07/2026
