



Towards circular plastics - How to bridge existing gaps?

22 November 2017

P1C047

10:00-12:30

European Parliament, Brussels

Co-chaired by:

Pavel Poc MEP

Chair of the EP Intergroup on *“Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Sustainable Development”*

Fredrick Federley MEP

Chair of the *“Circular Economy & Raw Materials”* Working Group

In collaboration with the EPR Club

The transition to more circularity is key to a sustainable, resource-efficient and competitive economy, actively pursued and supported by institutions and decision-makers in the European Union (EU). Being an important material in today's economy, plastics is one of the five key priority areas addressed in the “EU action plan for the Circular economy”.

Plastic has specific characteristics that make it a critical component in many different applications. With growing production and consumption, the plastics industry plays an important role in the EU economy, generating employment and economic opportunities. At the same time, the widespread use of plastics poses a number of challenges in terms of end-of-life management as today, less than one third of plastics waste is being recycled.

In the wake of the release of the European Commission's communication on the plastics strategy, this conference aims to consolidate discussions on the current challenges to circularity of plastics and how to bridge the existing gaps, keeping in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all solution and that a combination of different measures – policy, market, technological – is needed.

This event is hosted under the Intergroup on “Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development” and organised on initiative of ACR+, CITEO, DSD and SUEZ, members of the EPR Club – a multi-stakeholder platform for exchange of information and debate about Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) issues in Europe. The event takes place during the European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR) which aims to promote sustainable resource and waste management on a European scale.



- 09:45-10:00** **Registration**
- 10.00-10.30** **Networking coffee will be served inside the meeting room**
- 10.30-10.40** **Welcome and opening**
Pavel Poc MEP
Françoise Bonnet, EPR Club Secretariat
- 10:40-10:50** **Keynote speech**
Hugo Schally, Head of Sustainable Production, Products & Consumption, DG ENV,
European Commission
- 10:50** **Different phases of the plastics circle**
Moderated by the Chairs
- 10:50-11:15** **1. Production Phase: How to create circular-friendly plastic products and packaging?**
Moderated by Fredrick Federley MEP
- CITEO (Carlos de Los Llanos, Scientific Director)
 - DOW (Peter Heydasch, Director Sustainability and Advocacy, Packaging and Specialty Plastics EMEA)
 - IKEA (Stina Wallström, Project Leader, Public Affairs)
- Questions and discussion with the audience**
- 11:15-11:40** **2. (Post-) Consumption Phase: How to set the right incentives for a circular-friendly behaviour?**
Moderated by Pavel Poc MEP
- Association of Cities and Regions for sustainable Resource management (ACR+) (Françoise Bonnet, Secretary General)
 - ReLoop (Clarissa Morawski, Managing Director)
 - Rethink Plastic Alliance (Ariadna Rodrigo, Product Policy, Zero Waste Europe)
- Questions and discussion with the audience**
- 11:40-12:20** **3. Recovery Phase: How to create value out of plastic “waste”?**
Moderated by Fredrick Federley MEP
- Danone (Philippe Diercxsens, Packaging and Environment Manager)
 - Systec Plastics (Helmut Schmitz replacing Michael Wiener, CEO of DSD)
 - SUEZ (Andreas Kessler, Director Business Unit Plastics Benelux and Germany)
- Questions and discussion with the audience**
- 12:20-12:25** **Concluding remarks** by Fredrick Federley MEP