



# Revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (PPWD) and the Waste Framework Directive (WFD)

December 2022

*European Commission DG Environment  
Mattia Pellegrini  
HoU From Waste to Resources*

*“measures to **reduce** packaging and **packaging waste**, drive design for **reuse** and **recyclability** of packaging, reduce the complexity of packaging materials and introduce requirements for **recycled content in plastic packaging**. Further, it strives in line with the European Strategy for Plastics that “**all packaging**, including plastics, on the EU market is **reusable or recyclable** in an economically viable, cost-effective manner way by 2030”*

#EUGreenDeal

Communication on the Circular Economy Action Plan,  
delivering on the European Green Deal (COM/2019/640 final)

# Problem areas for packaging

## High and growing levels of packaging waste

High levels of avoidable packaging

Increase in the proportion of single-use packaging

## Barriers to packaging circularity

Increased use of packaging design features that inhibit recycling

Cross-contamination of conventional and compostable recycling streams

Presence of hazardous substances

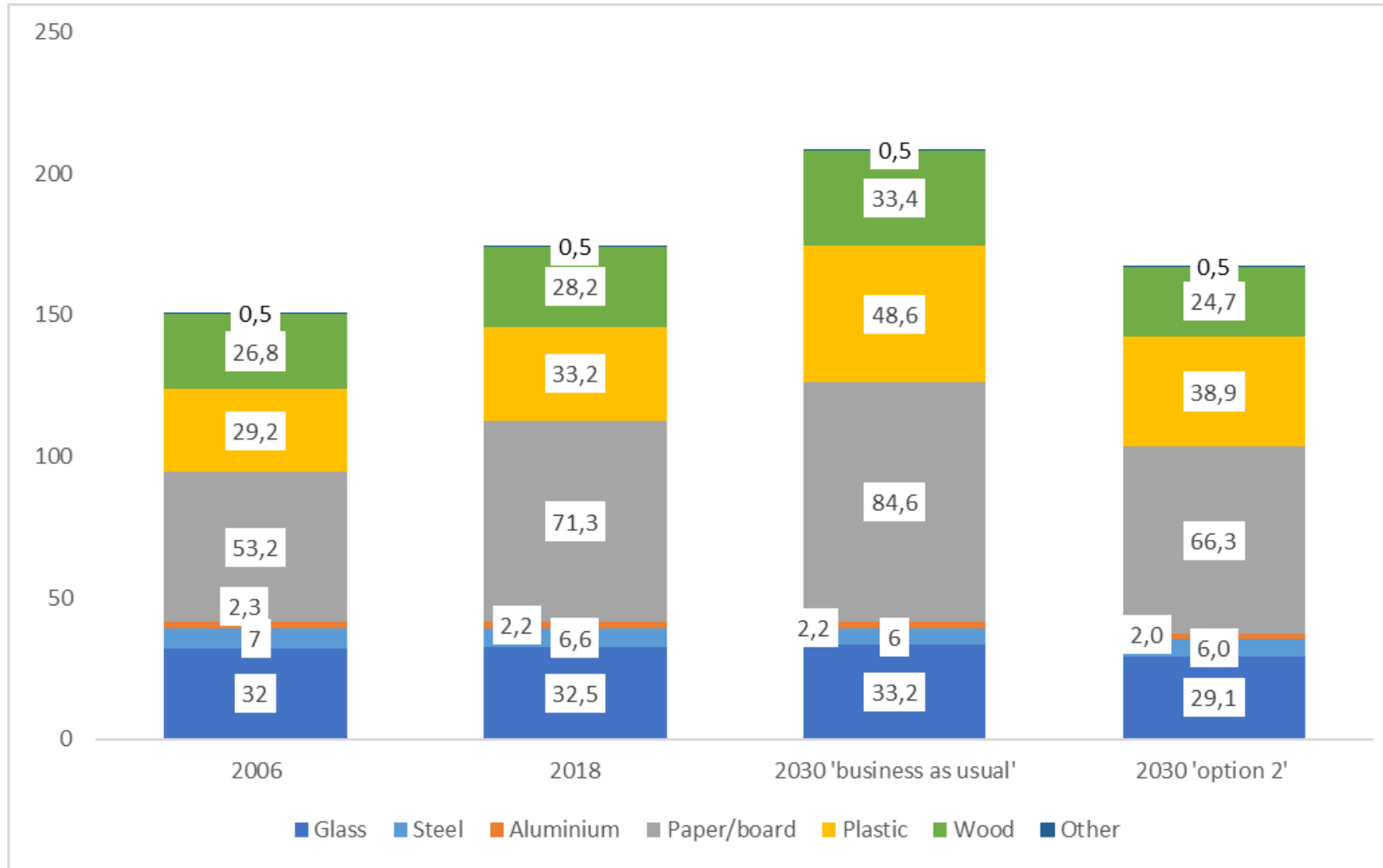
Waste management and reuse are not cost efficient

Inconsistent and confusing labelling

## Downcycling

Low levels of recycled content in plastic packaging

# Waste generation, kg per capita



# Regulation with internal market legal basis

- **Directive** 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste
  - Article 114 TFEU
  - Unenforceable and weakly formulated essential requirements
  - Obligations on the MS have lead to market failures
  - Early Warning Report
- **Regulation** on packaging and packaging waste
  - Article 114 TFEU: no change
  - Modernise and reinforce requirements
  - Detailed and directly applicable requirements on packaging and on economic operators
  - Minimum requirements on extended producer responsibility as well as rules on collection and targets for reuse and recycling
  - Avoid issues due to delayed or incorrect transpositions by the MS

# Core measures on prevention and re-use

- Target of 5% reduction of packaging waste by 2030 compared to the baseline of 2018 (10% by 2035 and 15% by 2040)
- put on Member States & complemented by other measures:

## Waste Prevention

- Requirement to minimise packaging volume and weight
- Limiting void space:
  - In sales packaging (obligation of manufacturer)
  - In grouped, transport and e-commerce packaging (obligation of economic operators supplying goods using such packaging)
- Avoiding unnecessary packaging

## Re-use

- Addressing reusable packaging formats and reuse systems
- **Sector specific re-use targets on economic operators; exemptions based on:**
  - Micro-company status
  - sales area and
  - amount of packaging placed on the market

## Part 1: Reuse/refill targets on economic operators (Art 26)

Sector	Packaging type -	Packaging groups and products // obligated economic operator	Target for 2030 [2040]
Food and beverage-HoReCa	Primary - B2C	<b>Beverage (cold and hot)</b> filled into a container at the point of sale <b>for take-away</b> , to be sold in packaging within a system for re-use or refill = final distributor	20% [80%]
	Primary-B2C	<b>Food for take-away</b> , to be sold in packaging within a system for re-use or refill = final distributor	10% [40%]
Food and beverage-Retail	Primary-B2C	<b>Alcoholic beverages other than wine, aromatised wine products, fruit wine and spirits</b> , and products based on wine, spirits or other fermented beverages mixed with non-alcoholic beverages, to be sold in packaging within a system for re-use or refill = manufacturer and final distributor	10% [25%]
	Primary B2C	<b>Wine other than sparkling wine</b> to be sold in packaging within a system for re-use or refill = = manufacturer and final distributor	5% [15%]
	Primary-B2C	Non-alcoholic beverages, such as <b>water, soft drinks, juices</b> , to be sold in packaging within a system for re-use or refill = = manufacturer and final distributor	10% [25%]
	Tertiary-B2B	<b>Large household appliances</b> e.g., washing machines or fridges, to be sold in reusable packaging = ec. operator	90% [90%]
Commercial and Industrial	Tertiary-B2B	<b>Goods sold using pallets, crates, foldable boxes, pails and drums</b> for the conveyance or packaging of the goods, to be sold in reusable packaging = ec. operator using transport packaging	30% [90%]
	Tertiary-B2B	<b>Non-food goods sold via e-commerce</b> using packaging for transport and delivery, to be sold in reusable packaging = ec. operator using transport packaging	10% [50%]
	Tertiary-B2B	<b>Pallet wrappings and straps for stabilization and protection of goods during transport</b> , to be sold in reusable packaging = ec. operator using transport packaging	10% [30%]
	Tertiary-B2B	<b>Grouped packaging boxes</b> (excl cardboard) e.g., pack of larger quantities of packaging units used, to be sold in reusable packaging = ec. operator using transport packaging	10% [25%]

## Part 2: Reuse and refill targets: Art. 26, 27 and 28

- **General exemption** for:
  - micro-companies
  - EO placing less than 1000 kg of packaging on the market
  - For EO with a sales area less than 1000 m<sup>2</sup> (this exemption applies only for beverages and food targets)
- **Empowerment on the COM** to **adopt DAs** to establish:
  - Targets for other products
  - Exemptions for other EOs
  - Exemptions for specific packaging formats covered by the targets
- **Specific review clause** in 8 years after the entry into force
- **Calculation of the targets**
  - based on the number of sales or equivalent units in calendar year (Art. 27, 28) => Implementing act by 2028



# Full recyclability of packaging by 2030 (1/2)

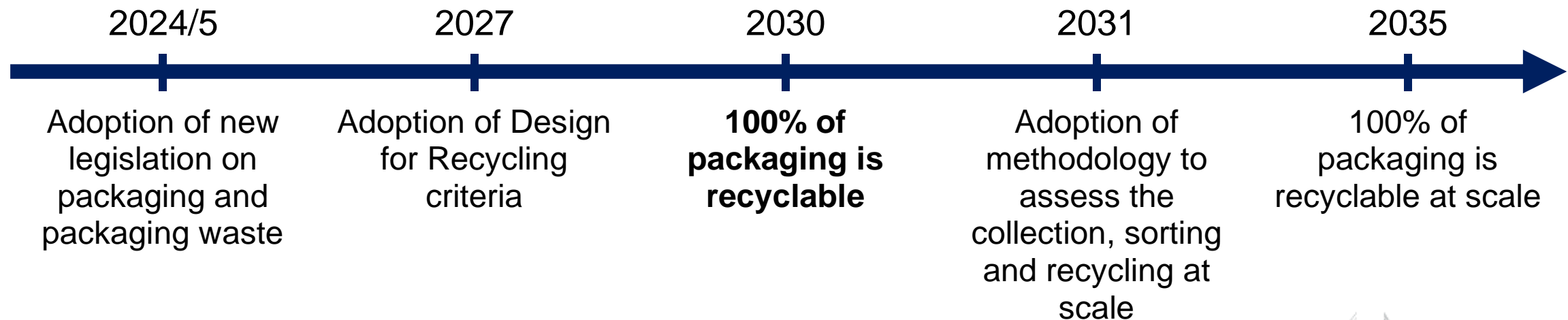
- All packaging items have to undergo a recyclability assessment procedure for the category to which it belongs, to assure they meet the **design for recycling (DfR)** criteria established in a Delegated Act. The recycling performance in practice is verified by means of a methodology developed subsequently to the DfR criteria. Packaging is assigned a grade from A to E.
- As from 2030 only packaging scoring grades A-D can be placed on the market.
- Exception for innovative packaging (max 5 years), for certain packaging of pharmaceuticals and medical devices (max. up to 2035)
- EPR fees to be based on the performance grades A to D

Grade	Score of compliance with DfR criteria of a unit of packaging *
A	95%
B	90%
C	80%
D	70%
E	Less than 70%

\* in terms of weight of the unit of packaging

# Full recyclability of packaging by 2030 (2/2)

- The recycling performance in practice ('at scale') will be verified as of 2035 by means of a methodology to be developed subsequently to the DfR criteria; the delegated act with DfR criteria and performance grades will, where necessary, be amended accordingly;
- As from 2035 only packaging scoring grades A-D (then including recyclable 'at scale') can be placed on the market.



- **4 packaging formats** (tea and coffee bags, tea and coffee single-serve systems, fruit and vegetable sticky labels and **very** light plastic carrier bags) must be **compostable** so that this packaging can go together with the product into the biowaste stream.
- All other plastic containing packaging should go into material recycling.
- Opening for light plastic carrier bags, a significant market item, to be compostable in Member States where there is the respective infrastructure that they go into composting.



# Recycled content targets for packaging containing plastic part

- Ambitious targets for 2030 and 2040 for post-consumer **recycled content in packaging containing plastic part** (not for other packaging materials: glass, metal, paper)
- Requirement with respect to packaging placed on the EU market
- Different targets for different packaging categories – exemptions for medicinal products and medical devices:

Targets for recycled content in packaging containing plastic part		
Packaging	2030	2040
SUP Beverage bottles	30%	65%
Contact sensitive packaging:		50%
PET as major component	30%	
PET is not as major component	10%	
Other plastic packaging	35%	65%

# Enabling measures: Labelling & Deposit and Return Systems



- EU harmonised mandatory labelling of for **products and waste receptacles** to facilitate consumer **sorting**, inspired by Nordic pictogram system
- Harmonised mandatory labelling of **reusable** packaging including QR code
- Harmonised criteria for (voluntary) labelling of **recycled content**
- Abandonment of the current, alphanumeric material-based labelling
- Setting up of **mandatory Deposit Return Systems (DRS) for plastic bottles and metal cans** with opt out for MS achieving 90% recovery by other means
- Minimum requirements for all DRS