



WE'RE HIRING!

Campaigner/Policy officer on Toxic-Free Consumption and Production

About us

The mission of [Zero Waste Europe \(ZWE\)](#) is to **empower communities in order to redesign our relationship with resources**. We campaign for zero waste strategies in Europe and beyond, and support local groups and change agents who have the potential to drive change in their region. Currently, ZWE is the only pan-European organisation specialising in waste issues from prevention to disposal and on local, national and European levels. ZWE is the European chapter of the [Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives \(GAIA\)](#).

ZWE is an independent, nonprofit association created in late 2013 in the Netherlands aiming to:

- Promote zero waste strategies in Europe and elsewhere;
- Act as a catalyst for European good practices in the field of circular economy, waste and resources;
- Empower local groups to develop community-based strategies for the prevention, reduction, separation, recycling, and composting of waste;
- Promote a responsible treatment of waste and prevention of non-sustainable solutions such as landfilling and incineration;
- Increase awareness about the health effects of the current economy of waste disposal, and promote non-toxic alternatives;
- Promote environmental and social justice.

We are a successful and fast-growing NGO where personal development, fairness and inclusiveness are high on the agenda.

About you

You are a purpose driven person, with an interest in and good grip of technical issues and excellent communication skills. You have strong experience working with EU institutions and a good knowledge of EU policies related to sustainable products and the circular economy. You have a naturally collaborative working style, and enjoy evolving in a small, creative team. A good knowledge of EU chemicals related policies would be a significant advantage.



About the role

ZWE is working to ensure that sustainable products and systems, which prevent waste from the design stage, become the norm across Europe. In this context, recently, ZWE has been working increasingly on the presence of hazardous chemicals in products and packaging, and how this impacts human health, the environment and the achievement of a truly circular economy.

ZWE is opening a new position within the organisation with the exciting objective to develop further and implement its work on sustainable products and achieving a zero waste and toxic-free economy.

The toxic-free consumption and production campaigner/policy officer will join a dynamic team of 25 people and closely work with other members of the Consumption & Production programme. The campaigner will also be coordinating closely with other organisations in the context of coalitions on plastics (Rethink Plastic alliance) and on food contact materials.

Their core responsibilities will be to:

Consumption and Production Programme:

- Engage in the development, implementation and enforcement of relevant EU policies to ensure toxic-free products and packaging, including leading the advocacy work on the upcoming Sustainable Product Initiative
- Lead the advocacy work on the revision of the food contact materials legislation for ZWE, undertaking action at the EU level and coordinating the efforts with member organisations and other allies on advocacy work towards national governments
- Collaborate and coordinate with relevant NGOs at the European level, including with the coalition on food contact materials and the Rethink Plastic alliance
- Participation in working groups and NGO events.
- Represent ZWE at conferences, meetings and other relevant forums.
- Respond to requests from journalists and drafting press releases, in coordination with the comms team, aiming at positioning ZWE's messages and stories in the European news channels.
- Articulate ZWE's positioning with regards to a toxic-free circular economy, with the support of the scientific committee and other staff members, in the context of policy, publications, and any other relevant events.
- Collaborate with GAIA team in international collaboration and cross-regional work when needed.



Membership Support:

- Provide timely policy or any other relevant updates from the field of waste to the ZWE and GAIA members.
- Gather inputs from member organisations on the working area and feed them in ZWE's yearly and multiannual strategies.
- Organise capacity-building actions, events and training according to the annual work plan.
- Lead and provide support and organisation for the ZWE working groups.
- Respond daily questions, enquiries and provide general support about chemical recycling and plastic-to-fuels practice and policy in Europe from ZWE and GAIA members.
- Participate in member organisations' events, when relevant.

Fundraising and Operational Planning:

- Engage and actively contribute to planning and strategic discussions to pursue the goals of ZWE, including team retreats and other meeting spaces of the organisation.
- Contribute to grant development and be responsible for the reporting on grants' deliveries, including the LIFE operating grant.
- Explore, identify and share potential funding opportunities for the consumption and production programme.
- Be responsible for the appropriate management of the budget of those activities responsible for, including the appropriate reporting of expenses, the compilation of invoices and the administrative tasks associated with that.

Person specification

Experience

Essential

- At least 3 years of experience in EU or national policy advocacy
- Ability to interact with high level EU and national policymakers' and industry professionals
- Knowledge of European institutions

Desirable

- Experience of the EU co-decision making process
- Experience interacting with industry and media
- Experience working in coalition settings



Knowledge, skills and understanding

Essential

- Master's Degree or advanced technical qualifications relevant to chemicals, sustainable products and/ or circular economy
- Ability to interpret and analyse scientific and technical documents and data and apply it in the context of ZWE's work
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English, and an ability to communicate complicated messages clearly and in an appropriate way to different audiences
- Strong networking and team building skills appropriate for a multicultural and multidisciplinary environment

Desirable

- Experience of working on, and understanding the complexities of EU legislation
- Understanding of chemicals issues and related policies (both from an environmental and human health angle)
- Understanding of the circular economy, and recycling
- Other languages, apart from English
- Solid IT competences with collaborative tools (Google Drive, Slack, Trello)

Personal qualities

Essential

- Great interpersonal skills
- Excellent listener and communicator
- Impact driven, solution oriented and team player
- Commitment to accuracy, efficiency and a high standard of work
- Organised and able to prioritise
- A strong commitment to Zero Waste Europe's ethos and network structures
- Willingness to work with flexible schedule, as required

Location, Compensation and Work Environment

This is a full-time or 80% position (to be discussed) and is based out of our Brussels office*. The initial contract will be closed for a one-year period, with a likelihood to be extended into a long term contract depending on available funding. A valid working permit for Belgium is required.

The gross monthly salary for this position (full time) is between 2400€ and 2800€, depending on experiences of candidates, plus benefits, including lunch vouchers 7 EUR/day, a COVID allowance, a 13th month proportionate to your time worked during the year, 20 vacation days plus 4-10



extra-legal holidays, travel insurance, additional maternity/paternity leave, and other similar employment protections. Further to this we also offer a flexible working environment, including the option to work from home partially*

Salary will be negotiated according to a transparent bandwidth defined by the internal salary policy of the organisation and depending on your experience.

*When permitted again. Under current Covid restrictions, remote working is the standard.

We take pride in our ability to support one another's work in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect, and look forward to introducing the successful candidate to our welcoming and highly motivated team and network members.

Start date: as soon as possible

Equal Employment opportunity

ZWE is committed to the principle of Equal Employment Opportunity for all employees, regardless of sex, marital status, nationality, religion, age, sexual orientation and any other characteristics unrelated to the performance of the job.

TO APPLY:

Please send your CV, motivation letter with two references in English by filling in this form: <https://forms.gle/Q2WuCRBFQM8FC7o19> Please note that only the applications sent via this form will be taken into account. We can only guarantee that short-listed candidates will be contacted. Position remains open until filled.

Deadline to apply: May 2, 2021, at 23:59 CEST.