

## A PLEDGE FOR A ZERO WASTE EUROPE

In view of the upcoming 2024 European Parliament elections, we commit to push comprehensive policies which **build a European Union based on the principles of sufficiency, resilience and wellbeing** during the 2024-2029 mandate.

During the mandate that now comes to an end, the EU has unveiled crucial policies. Yet, they still fall short of countering the defects of our existing system, which is still rewarding and facilitating wasteful practices; perpetuating inequalities and our dependence on external resources.

The Europe we want is one that preserves valuable resources whilst generating local jobs, increasing the resilience of our communities and standing up for environmental and resource justice.

**We therefore commit to put in place the measures to make a zero waste Europe become a reality, and we call on all European parties and elected individuals to join the pledge.**

# FOR THIS REASON, WE PLEDGE TO:

## PUT STRATEGIC RESOURCE USE AT THE FOREFRONT OF EU POLICIES BY:

- Upgrading relevant EU policies for them to be compatible with the carbon budget available to achieve the 1.5 degrees warming target.
- Turning the current Waste Framework Directive into a Resources Framework Directive that focuses on reducing material consumption and accelerates society's decarbonisation.
- Supporting resource use reductions and resource justice in global agreements such as the UN Global Plastics Treaty.

## PREVENT WASTE BEFORE IT IS GENERATED, WHILE CLOSING CLEAN MATERIAL AND NUTRIENT CYCLES BY:

- Setting a range of EU-wide waste prevention policies, including waste prevention and reuse targets.
- Enforcing high quality/quantity of separate collection, especially for biowaste, packaging, electronics, and textiles.
- Redefining Ecodesign rules and Extended Producer Responsibility schemes to incentivise producers to design their products for durability, reusability, and end-of-life treatment.
- Designing out toxic chemicals, notably through the long-awaited revision of the Food Contact Material policies.

## REDUCE THE LEAKAGE OF RESOURCES FROM THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY BY:

- Ensuring chemical recycling is not preferred over mechanical recycling; and that the former is only enforced when it makes environmental sense and is fully complementary to the latter.
- Limiting disposal and incineration through:
  - \* Replacing the 10% landfill target with a target to cap residual waste generation; and
  - \* Creating a new legislative framework for managing mixed waste sustainably based on material recovery and biological treatment.
- Redirecting EU subsidies and incentives from disposal and harmful investments to zero waste business models and solutions that create local jobs.

**Signature**

---

**Date**

---