



Future of Plastics Conference

New EU rules on packaging: a plastics outlook

Athens, 06 March 2024

EUROPEN IN NUMBERS



75

Members representing the
entire packaging value chain




Founded in

1993



5

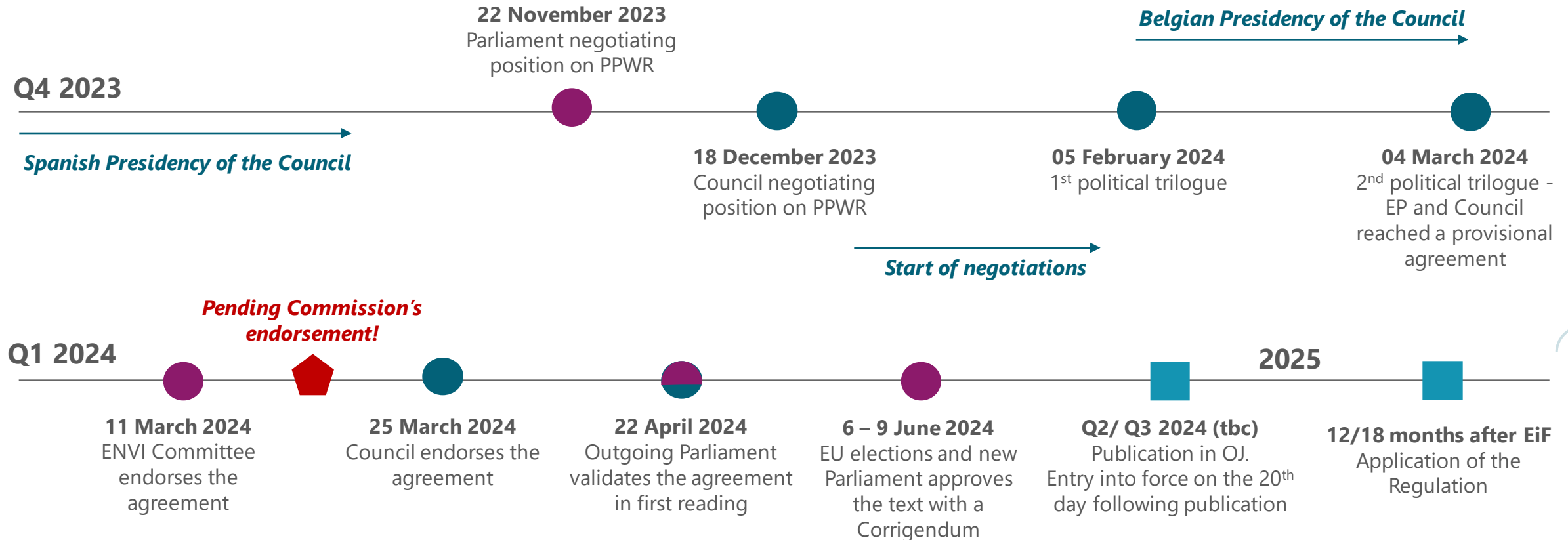
Packaging materials: glass,
metal, paper and cardboard,
plastics and wood



New EU rules on packaging

The Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)

PPWR CO-DECISION PROCESS - TIMELINE*



!Should the EC veto to the text, the Council will have to endorse by unanimity the provisional agreement

INTERVENTION AREA

PLASTIC PACKAGING - KEY MEASURES

WASTE PREVENTION

- New: Each Member State shall endeavour to reduce the amount of plastic packaging waste generated.
- Packaging brought to minimum weight/ volume & max empty space ratio of 50%
- Bans on SUP packaging formats (grouped packaging, packaging for fresh fruit & vegetables, packaging of food & beverages in HORECA etc.) from 1st January 2030

RECYCLABILITY

- Packaging to be designed for recycling by 2030 and recycled in practice and at scale by 2035
- Packaging in grade E banned as of 2030. Possible additional bans of grades C and D packaging by 2040 (recyclability higher or equal to 70 % or higher).
- New: possible definition of recycled at scale with link to recycling rates

RECYCLED CONTENT

- Targets on any plastic part in packaging, per packaging type & format and calculated as an average per manufacturing plant and year.
- New 25% for contact sensitive packaging made from plastic materials other than PET.
- New derogations: for compostable plastic packaging; for plastic parts representing less than 5% of the total weight of the packaging unit
- New: the Commission can, after assessment, present a legislative proposal with sustainability requirements and targets for bio-based feedstock in plastic packaging

REUSE & REFILL

- Binding 2030 reuse targets and indicative targets for 2040 for e.g. alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, for industrial packaging (incl. possible 100% reuse for pallets wraps and straps)
- New: targeted derogations (milk, perishable products, transport flexible packaging in contact with food)
- New: Horizontal derogation for 5 renewable years subject to fulfillment of cumulative conditions

SUBSTANCES OF CONCERN

- New: ban on food contact packaging containing PFASs above certain thresholds

PPWR: A GAME CHANGER FOR PACKAGING CIRCULARITY?

IMPACTS

Redesign of packaging
formats across different
sectors

Ban of incompliant packaging across
different sectors & value chains

Flat bans on different
single use packaging
formats

Risk of competition between recycling and reuse
investments

Risk of non-compliance with the recycled content
targets for difficulties in sourcing recycled
materials

What about framework conditions?

A TWIN TRANSITION: ENVIRONMENT AND COMPETITIVENESS



NEW POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

INFLATION

Food affordability is a key concern for food security

Food inflation was named as the main current driver for the level of food security. Respondents linked the prospects of lower domestic supply of certain food products and high level of input costs to the increasing pressure on EU agricultural prices. This fuels high levels of food prices in turn. The vulnerability of certain income groups of consumers to food price increases was highlighted, characterised by their inability to buy food and in particular healthy or more sustainable food.

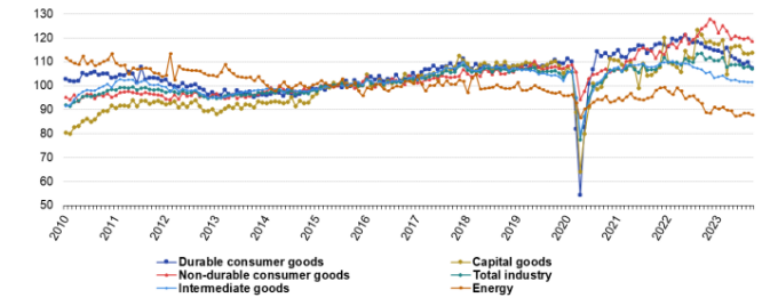


Single Market

European industry

Green transition

EU, Industrial production for total industry and main industrial groupings, 2010-2023



Note: y-axis does not start at 0
Source: Eurostat (online data code: sts inpr_m)

eurostat

Figure 1: EU Industrial production for total industry and main industrial groupings, monthly data.

DEINDUSTRIALISATION

GEOPOLITICAL TURMOIL & 'GREEN PROTECTIONISM'

At this time when we are seeking to diversify our supplies, the fear of deindustrialisation in Europe has been further fuelled by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) adopted last summer in the United States. The European Union welcomes of course that the United States, which is still a major emitter of greenhouse gases, is adopting a very ambitious green transition policy.

A NEW MOMENTUM FOR INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND SINGLE MARKET?



The EU's plan to regain its competitive edge

REPORT ON THE FUTURE OF EU COMPETITIVENESS



HIGH-LEVEL REPORT ON THE FUTURE OF THE SINGLE MARKET



THE ANTWERP DECLARATION

Thank you!

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