

## The PET industry in the circular economy: Best practices for harmonised collection and sorting

**Tuesday 19 February 2019 | 08:00 to 09:30**  
**European Parliament Member Salon | Parliamentary Breakfast Discussion**  
**Hosted by Maria Spyraiki MEP**

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**Petcore Europe** [1], in association with the Parliament Magazine, are holding an event on the **PET industry's role in the circular economy**, kindly hosted by **Maria Spyraiki MEP** [2] and taking place in the European Parliament on **Tuesday 19 February 2019**.

PET (PolyEthylene Terephthalate) is a strong but lightweight form of polyester. It is used to make containers for soft drinks, juices, drinks, water, edible oil, fresh food and dairy as well as household cleaners and other non-food applications. PET bottles and food containers, such as sheets and trays are perfectly recyclable while they help to reduce CO2 emissions and food waste. The entire PET industry has set itself ambitious targets and is committed to increase its role in the circular economy.

While it set itself the objective to **recycle 100% of all collected PET packaging material by 2030**, this commitment is undermined by proposed reduction targets for PET food containers in the Single Use Plastics Directive. European PET recyclers currently lack material to reprocess, to an extent that there is an unused capacity of 296.400 tonnes which can be caused by numerous reasons, one of them being the quality of the collected PET. Moreover, insufficient quantity of collection can be observed - a lack of 115.000 tonnes in 2017. Increased collection and sorting of PET bottles and trays would therefore ensure sustainability and circularity of plastics.

The discussion will present the PET industry best practices and aims to bring together EU policymakers, NGOs and stakeholders alike to discuss the PET recyclers' annual overcapacity of 180.000 tonnes.

Our confirmed speakers are:

- **Maria Spyraiki MEP**, EPP, Greece
- **Theresa Griffin MEP**, S&D, UK
- **Grzegorz Radziejewski**, Member of Cabinet of Jyrki Katainen, Vice President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness
- **Sarah Nelen**, Head of Unit, Waste Management & Secondary materials (B3) at DG Environment, European Commission
- **Christian Crépet**, Executive Director, Petcore Europe
- **Gian De Belder**, Principal Scientist Sustainable packaging development, Procter & Gamble
- **Patricia Fosselard**, Secretary General, European Federation of Bottled Waters

The event will be moderated by **Robin Latchem**.

*This event will be followed in March 2019 with a policy-led discussion on how to organise EU-wide harmonised collection and sorting systems.*

To register your interest, please contact [events@theparliamentmagazine.eu](mailto:events@theparliamentmagazine.eu) [3] | 0044 207 593 5560 | 0032 2 741 82 14.

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**This event is supported by Petcore Europe**



Petcore Europe has been representing the entire value chain of the European PET industry since 1993. In its working groups the association works continuously with all stakeholders to improve recyclability, the uptake of recycled content in PET packaging as well as harmonised collection and sorting to make PET circular.

For further information, please visit: [www.petcore-europe.org](http://www.petcore-europe.org) [1]

Join the conversation: [@Parlimag](https://twitter.com/Parlimag) [4] | [@petcoreeurope](https://twitter.com/petcoreeurope) [5] | #CircularPET

#### **Dates**

Tuesday, 19 February, 2019 - 08:00 to 09:30

#### **Location**

European Parliament, Brussels

Belgium

#### **Tags**

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#### **Categories**

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[2] [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/125064/MARIA\\_SPYRAKI/home](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meps/en/125064/MARIA_SPYRAKI/home)

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