ADDRESS WASTE PREVENTION DIRECTLY, by including targets to reduce waste generation for 2030 compared with 2013 and on the maximum residual waste in kilograms per capita for 2030.

INTRODUCE A BINDING FOOD WASTE REDUCTION TARGET BY 2018 OF AT LEAST 30%, and mandate the Commission to establish a common measurement methodology by 2017, ensuring food waste over the full supply chain is accounted for.

SET A BINDING MARINE LITTER REDUCTION TARGET OF 50% BY 2025, to be reached in part by a phase out of unnecessary, non-reusable packaging, and single-use plastic items.

STRENGTHEN RECYCLING AND RE-USE TARGETS: increase recycling targets to 70 percent overall and 80 percent for packaging by 2030 and include a separate target for preparing for re-use; similar targets exist in Flanders, France and Spain helping extend product lifetimes and creating thousands of local jobs.

GRANT DEROGATIONS ON THE RECYCLING TARGETS ONLY TO MEMBER STATES WHO MEET STAGED TARGETS CAPPING RESIDUAL WASTE PER CAPITA PER YEAR in 2023 and 2028. Such an approach would incentivise waste prevention and separate collection while allowing for the different starting points of Member States, in terms of both recycling and waste generation.

CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF ‘PREPARATION FOR RE-USE’; opening the preparing for re-use definition to re-use activities focusing on non-waste risks placing unnecessary burdens on many second-hand operators working outside of the waste regime. The definition provided in the current Waste Framework Directive should be retained to assure legal clarity.

DEFINE ‘FINAL RECYCLING’ AS THE POINT AT WHICH WASTE MATERIALS ARE EFFECTIVELY REPROCESSED INTO SECONDARY RAW MATERIAL which can be directly re-integrated in new products, to reflect true recycling rates, and ensure comparability of statistics between Member States.

ENSURE EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS SUPPORT WASTE PREVENTION AS A PRIORITY and that fees are modulated based on the environmental impact of products, including durability, reparability, non-toxicity, recyclability, ensuring the higher levels of the waste hierarchy are prioritised. Producer fees should cover the full net costs of collection, treatment and related activities to prevent waste and littering of products covered by EPR schemes.

OBLIGE MEMBER STATES TO SEPARATELY COLLECT ALL RECYCLABLE WASTE AND ENSURE SEPARATION OF BIOWASTE AT SOURCE, by eliminating wording on technical, economic and environmental practicality.

INTRODUCE A BAN ON THE INCINERATION OF UNTREATED WASTE, as exists for landfill under the Malagrotta judgement, and strengthen enforcement of both bans.
EUROPE’S WASTE IS A PROBLEM...

IN 2014 EUROPE SENT OVER 55% OF ITS WASTE TO LANDFILL AND INCINERATORS, GENERATING TOXIC AND CLIMATE-DAMAGING EMISSIONS, POLLUTING EUROPE’S FRESH AND MARINE WATERS, DESTROYING VALUABLE RESOURCES AND RESULTING IN A HUGE MISSED OPPORTUNITY FOR JOB CREATION IN REPAIR AND RE-USE.

2014

55%

...AND IT’S TIME TO BRING IT FULL CIRCLE

MOVING TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY COULD CREATE 870,000 NEW JOBS ACROSS THE EU BY 2030

CIRCULAR ECONOMY POLICIES COULD SAVE 415 MEGA TONNES OF CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2030

Keeping resources in the material cycle, and reducing waste generation through reducing resource consumption, smarter design and prevention would create more jobs and reduce harmful emissions. Moving to a circular economy could create 870,000 new jobs across the EU and save 414 Mt of carbon emissions by 2030.

Strengthening the EU circular economy package, with stronger targets and more emphasis on waste prevention could improve Europe’s resource efficiency and quality of life, as well as reducing marine litter and protecting the environment, moving Europe beyond just a recycling society, towards a true circular economy.

Beasley & Georgeson (2014): Advancing Resource Efficiency in Europe