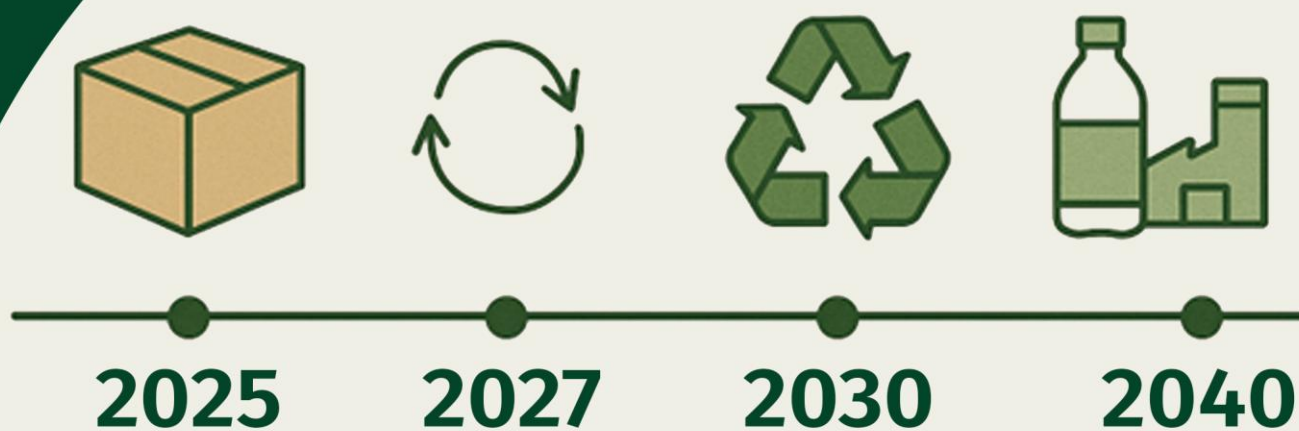




PPWR TIMELINE

**PACKAGING AND PACKAGING
WASTE REGULATION**

2025

PPWR timeline

Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904 and repealing Directive 94/62/EC (hereinafter referred to as "the Regulation") was adopted on 19 December 2024 and entered into force on 11 February 2025. The provisions of the Regulation will apply from 12 August 2026, i.e. after an 18-month transition period, unless otherwise specified in individual provisions.

The timeline provides a systematic overview of the main dates resulting from the Regulation, including legislative, regulatory and administrative milestones relevant to the various groups of entities concerned. It is a tool to help you navigate the dynamic timetable for the introduction of the PPWR and is intended to help you understand the implementation timetable and ensure timely compliance with your obligations.

Explanation of symbols assigned to individual points on the timeline



Commission – delegated and implementing acts

Deadlines by which the European Commission is to adopt delegated and implementing acts. These acts serve to establish the technical criteria, specifications or methodologies necessary for the uniform and effective application of the Regulation throughout the European Union.



Implementation obligations of Member States

Dates setting deadlines for Member States to ensure the application of individual provisions of the Regulation – for example, the introduction of extended producer responsibility schemes, collection and sorting mechanisms, as well as reporting and compliance checks.



Obligations of economic operators

The dates from which the obligations for producers, importers, distributors, retailers and other participants in the supply chain take effect. These include, for example, requirements for packaging design, recyclability, minimum recycled content, labelling and restrictions on certain types of packaging.

2025



By 31 December 2025, Member States shall ensure that a recycling target of at least 65% by weight of all packaging waste generated is achieved on their territory, in accordance with Article 52(1)(a).



By 31 December 2025, Member States shall ensure that the specified minimum weight percentages for recycling specific materials contained in packaging waste are achieved (Article 52(1)(b)).

2026



By 12 February 2026: The Commission shall request European standardisation organisations to prepare or update harmonised standards for compostable packaging and standards for home composting (Article 9(6)).



12 February 2026: The Commission shall adopt implementing acts laying down the format for registration in the register and for reporting to the register.



12 August 2026: Packaging intended to come into contact with food shall not contain PFAS in concentrations above the specified limits.



12 August 2026: The Commission adopts implementing acts for harmonised labelling and specifications for packaging and containers for waste.



12 August 2026: The Commission adopts implementing acts for the methodology for identifying the material composition of packaging using digital labelling technologies.



31 December 2026: The Commission, with the assistance of the European Chemicals Agency, shall prepare a report on the presence of substances of concern in packaging and packaging components in order to determine the extent to which those substances adversely affect the reuse and recycling of materials or have an impact on chemical safety.



31 December 2026: The Commission shall adopt implementing acts laying down the methodology for calculating and verifying the percentage of recycled content in plastic packaging (Article 7(8)), as well as the format of the technical documentation.



31 December 2026: The Commission shall adopt delegated acts to supplement the Regulation on sustainability criteria for plastic recycling technologies (Article 7(9)).



31 December 2026: The Commission adopts implementing acts to establish a methodology for assessing, verifying and certifying the equivalence of rules applied to recycled content in third countries (Article 7(10)).

2027



12 February 2027: The Commission establishes the European Reuse Monitoring Centre.



12 February 2027: The Commission shall request European standardisation organisations to prepare or update, where appropriate, harmonised standards setting out the methodology for calculating and measuring compliance with the packaging minimisation requirements.



12 February 2027: The Commission adopts delegated acts to set the minimum number of cycles for reusable packaging.



12 February 2027: After consulting with Member States and the European Food Safety Authority, the Commission will publish guidelines explaining Annex V in more detail.



12 February 2027: Member States shall notify the Commission of the rules on penalties applicable to infringements of the Regulation.



12 February 2027: Final distributors in the HORECA sector shall provide consumers with systems for bringing their own containers for refilling.



12 February 2027: The Commission publishes guidelines on the types of products covered by the reuse targets.



12 February 2027: The Commission adopts implementing acts laying down rules for the calculation, verification and reporting of data.



12 February 2027: The Commission adopts implementing acts setting out the methodology for calculating the annual consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags per capita.



12 February 2027: The Commission adopts implementing acts laying down a correction factor for packaging waste in tourism.



30 June 2027: The Commission adopts implementing acts setting out the methodology for calculating reuse targets.

2028



1 January 2028: The Commission shall adopt delegated acts, taking into account the standards developed by European standardisation organisations, setting out:

- a) the criteria for recycling design and the recyclability performance classes based on Table 3 in Annex II and the parameters set out in Table 4 in Annex II.
- b) the methods for carrying out the recyclability assessment and expressing its result in terms of recyclability performance classes per unit of packaging by weight.
- c) a description of the conditions for compliance with the relevant recyclability performance classes for each packaging category listed in Table 1 of Annex II.
- d) a framework for modulating the financial contributions to be paid by producers in order to fulfil their extended producer responsibility obligations.



1 January 2028: The Commission shall assess, for specific plastic packaging, the need for exemptions from the minimum recycled content percentages set out or a revision of the list of exemptions.



12 February 2028: The Commission shall review the state of technological development and the environmental performance of bio-based plastic packaging, taking into account the sustainability criteria set out in Article 29 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council.



12 February 2028: Self-adhesive labels affixed to fruit and vegetables shall comply with the standard for composting under industrially controlled conditions in bio-waste treatment facilities.



12 February 2028: Packaging other than that referred to in Article 9(1) and (2) (compostable packaging), including packaging made from biodegradable plastic polymers and other biodegradable materials, shall be designed for material recycling without affecting the recyclability of other waste streams.



12 February 2028: The Commission shall adopt implementing acts laying down a methodology for calculating the void ratio in packaging.



12 February 2028: Final distributors in the HORECA sector must offer consumers the option of obtaining products in reusable packaging under a reuse system.



From 12 August 2028: Packaging placed on the market must bear a harmonised label containing information on its material composition in order to facilitate sorting by consumers. The label shall be based on pictograms and shall be easily understandable, including for persons with disabilities.



By 12 August 2028: Member States shall ensure that harmonised labels are affixed, printed or engraved in a visible, legible and indelible manner on all packaging waste containers, enabling the separate collection of specific material components of packaging waste to be disposed of in separate containers.

2029



By 1 January 2029, Member States shall set mandatory collection targets and take the necessary measures to ensure that materials are collected in accordance with the recycling targets (Article 49).



By 1 January 2029, Member States shall ensure that deposit and return systems comply with the minimum requirements set out in Annex X (Article 50(11)).



By 1 January 2029, Member States shall ensure that at least 90% by weight of specified packaging formats are collected separately under deposit-refund schemes each year (Article 50(1)).



By 1 January 2029, the calculation and verification of the recycled content percentage must comply with the rules laid down (Article 7(11)).



From 12 February 2029, reusable packaging must be labelled to inform users that it is reusable (Article 12(2)). Further information on the reusability of the packaging, including the availability of local, national or EU-wide reuse systems and information on collection points, shall be made available via a QR code or other type of standardised open digital data carrier.

2030



By 1 January 2030: The Commission shall adopt implementing acts establishing a methodology for identifying substances of concern in packaging through standardised open digital labelling technologies.



By 1 January 2030, the Commission shall adopt implementing acts establishing:

- a methodology for assessing large-scale recycling by packaging category;
- a processing chain mechanism ensuring large-scale recycling of packaging.



From 1 January 2030, packaging must be recyclable under classes A, B or C (Article 6(3)).



From 1 January 2030, innovative packaging that does not meet the recyclability requirements may be made available on the market for a maximum of 5 years (Article 6(10)).



By 1 January 2030, each plastic part of packaging must contain a specified minimum percentage of recycled content (Article 7(1)).



By 1 January 2030, the manufacturer or importer shall ensure that packaging placed on the market is designed to minimise its weight and volume to the extent necessary to ensure its functionality, taking into account the shape and material of the packaging.



By 1 January 2030, economic operators filling group packaging, transport packaging or e-commerce packaging shall ensure that the maximum void ratio, expressed as a percentage, is 50 %.



From 1 January 2030, economic operators shall not place on the market packaging in the formats and for the uses listed in Annex V.



By 1 January 2030, economic operators shall ensure that at least 40% of transport packaging or consumer packaging used for the transport of products, including products distributed through e-commerce, is reusable (Article 29(1)).



By 1 January 2030, economic operators shall ensure that transport packaging or consumer packaging used for the transport of products, including products distributed through e-commerce, for delivery to another economic operator within the Union between different locations, is reusable (Article 29(3)).



By 1 January 2030, economic operators shall ensure that at least 10 % of group packaging in the form of boxes, excluding cardboard, in addition to consumer packaging for grouping a certain number of products to form a storage or distribution unit, be reusable within a reuse system (Article 29(5)).



By 1 January 2030, final distributors who make alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages available to consumers in consumer packaging on the territory of a Member State shall ensure that at least 10% are available in reusable packaging (Article 29(6)).



By 1 January 2030, final distributors in the HORECA sector must offer 10% of products for sale in reusable packaging (Article 33(5)).



By 2030, each Member State shall reduce the amount of packaging waste generated per capita by 5% (compared to 2018).



By 31 December 2030, Member States shall ensure that a recycling target of at least 70% by weight of all packaging waste generated is achieved on their territory, in accordance with Article 52(1)(c).



By 31 December 2030, Member States are required to ensure that the specified minimum weight percentages of recycling of specific materials contained in packaging waste are achieved (Article 52(1)(d)).

2032



By 12 February 2032, the Commission shall review the implementation of the minimum recycled content percentages by 2030 and assess the possibility of achieving minimum percentages by 2040 (Article 7(14)).



By 12 February 2032, the Commission shall review the situation regarding the use of recycled packaging materials in non-plastic packaging and, on that basis, assess the appropriateness of introducing measures or setting targets to increase the use of recycled content in such other packaging.

2038



From 1 January 2038, packaging shall not be placed on the market unless it is recyclable in class A or B.

2040



Waste prevention targets:

By 2040, each Member State shall reduce the amount of packaging waste generated per capita by at least 15 % compared to the packaging waste generated per capita in 2018.



Reuse targets:

From 1 January 2040, economic operators must endeavour to ensure that:

- Transport packaging: at least 70% of transport packaging can be reused within a reuse system.
- Group packaging: at least 25% of group packaging is reusable within a reuse system.
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages in consumer packaging: At least 40% of beverages are available in reusable packaging within a reuse system.



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This document is intended to serve as an aid in fulfilling the relevant legal obligation. It contains a selection of relevant legislative obligations and individual supporting documents. It is not legally binding, is of a recommendatory nature and does not constitute a binding legal interpretation of the legislation.