



## Beyond recycling: Best European practices on Resource and Waste Management European Parliament, Brussels 7-8 March 2013

With the participation of –among others-:

**Janez Potocnik**, European Commissioner for the Environment

**Jeremy Irons**, actor and producer of the movie TRASHED

MEPs from biggest groups in the European Parliament.

Mayor of Capannori, first town to declare the Zero Waste goal for 2020

The Environment Minister of Gipuzkoa, Spanish Basque Country

The Cradle to Cradle Foundation

And other prominent speakers.

To register: <http://www.greens-efa.eu/index.php?id=350>

Event organised and sponsored by:



### ABOUT ZERO WASTE EUROPE

*Zero Waste Europe is an umbrella organisation bringing together international organisations, local Zero Waste groups and European municipalities working to free Europe from waste. Beyond recycling, the Zero Waste network aims at reducing waste generation, close the material loop whilst increasing employment and rethink and redesign waste out of the system.*



[www.zerowasteurope.eu](http://www.zerowasteurope.eu)



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### **OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE**

#### **NO time to WASTE**

- European topsoils suffer increasing erosion when most organic waste is still landfilled or incinerated,
- 90 million tons of food is wasted annually in Europe when 80 million of Europeans live under the poverty line,
- European unemployment continues to grow when 400,000 jobs could be created only with implementation of current waste legislation,
- Europe is increasingly dependent on land and raw materials from abroad when most electric and electronic waste is not recycled,
- Still 60% of EU's waste is landfilled or incinerated...

The European Resource Efficiency Roadmap puts Europe on the road to Zero Waste to incineration and landfill; *aiming at phasing out landfills and incineration of recyclable waste by 2020.*

Yet, still today market incentives reward disposal, recovery and waste export before recycling and prevention, investments go to oversized disposal infrastructures when upper levels of the hierarchy such as prevention or reuse are underfunded.

#### **HOW to pave the road to Zero Waste**

Creating a low-carbon, resource efficient economy whilst respecting biodiversity and increasing the social cohesion is one of the main challenges of the EU of today. The Zero Waste strategy is an essential part of this enterprise for it can provide jobs, bring nutrients back to the soils, help close the material loop and reduce European dependency on imports, reduce the environmental impact associated to waste disposal, drive innovation in product design and last but not least involve the citizens in designing a better Europe.

On one hand Zero Waste requires community responsibility to reduce, separate, collect and treat the waste. On the other hand it also requires industrial responsibility to design and produce better, more durable, recyclable, energy efficient products. Policy-making at EU level is crucial in influencing both and this is why this conference has been organised.

The aim of the Zero Waste conference: *Beyond Recycling: Best practices on Resource and Waste management* is to bring in front of decision-makers practical examples of how it is possible to transition from a wasteful society to a resource efficient economy in only a few years. Proving that it is possible to achieve high recycling rates and reduce waste generation provided the political will and the right policies are in place.

**If you are not for Zero Waste... how much waste are you for?**





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### PROGRAMME CONFERENCE

7th March

European Parliament - Room A1G3 - 60 rue Wiertz - 1047 Brussels  
Translation available

#### **9h30 Welcoming and introduction**

MEP Raül Romeva (Greens/EFA)

#### **9h45 Paving the road towards Zero Waste in Europe**

**Chair:** MEP Andrea Zanoni (ALDE)

Joan Marc Simon Executive Director Zero Waste Europe,

Enzo Favoino, Chair of Scientific Committee of Zero Waste Europe / Scuola Agraria del Parco di Monza

#### **10h30 Local experiences on Zero Waste municipalities**

**Chair:** MEP Judith Merkies (S&D)

Janez Potocnik, European Commissioner for Environment

Giorgio del Ghingaro, Mayor of Capannori, first European town to declare Zero Waste for 2020

Iñaki Errazkin, Environment minister of Gipuzkoa province in Spanish Basque Country

#### **11h45 Designing the transition towards a Zero Waste society**

**Chair:** MEP Bas Eickhout (Greens/EFA)

Roy Vercoulen, Vice-president of Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute

Ariadna Rodrigo, Natural Resources campaigner, Friends of the Earth Europe

#### **12h45 Conclusions**

MEP Philippe Lamberts (Greens/EFA)



**Afternoon session - 15h00 to 18h00 - (room A5E1)**

**Seminar** – Presentation and exchange of Zero Waste experiences and best practices in society  
(in English only)

15h Presentation by MEP Nikos Chrysogelos (Greens/EFA)

15h15 Zero Waste Office – Astrid Severin, Greenovate, REH, Brussels

15h40 Zero Waste Shop – Pietro Angelini, Effecorta, Italy

16h15 Zero Waste

MEP Ana Miranda (Greens/EFA)

16h30 Zero Waste Fashion – Markus Vihma, Upcycling Design, Estonia

16h50 Zero Waste Family – Karen Cannard, UK

17h15 Zero Waste Reuse Center – Pal Martensson, Kretslopp Reuse and Resource Recovery in Goteborg, Sweden

17h40 Debate

18h Closing

**Evening**

**18h30** Screening of the film '**Trashed**' and debate, in presence of:

- Janez Potocnik, European Commissioner for Environment
- Jeremy Irons, producer of the film
- Candida Brady, director of the film

**8<sup>th</sup> of March**

**Morning (8-13h) Study tour Flanders best practice, OVAM**

8h45 Arrival & Short presentation of Ecowerf, Aarschotsesteenweg 210, 3012 LEUVEN

9h15 Visit to the plant:

- transport site
- PAYT-system
- transfer station
- composting plant
- recycling yard

11h15 Lunch at the plant & Q/A

11h45 Departure to Re-use centre [SPIT](#)

12h Visit to Re-use centre SPIT, Ijzerenmolenstraat 10-12, 3001 HEVERLEE

13h End of visit

