

# EUROPEN Information note on Regulation (EU) 2024/1157 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 on shipments of waste, amending Regulations (EU) No 1257/2013 and (EU) 2020/1056 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006.

## Background

On 11 April 2024, the European Parliament and the president of the Council signed the final agreement on the Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR), which was published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 30 April 2024.

The Regulation entered into force on 20 May 2024, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day following its publication. The text of the Regulation is available [here](#) and has EEA relevance.

## Main elements

- The Regulation covers intra-EU shipments of waste, imported and exported waste from and to third countries, and waste shipments in transit through the EU.
- The Regulation will introduce stronger rules on waste exports to tackle illegal waste shipments. Under the new Regulation, exports of EU waste to non-OECD countries will only be allowed if these countries inform the European Commission that they are willing to import waste and demonstrate that they have the ability to manage it in a sustainable manner. These new requirements will apply from 21 May 2027.
- In relation to the export of non-hazardous plastic waste to non-OECD countries, those will be prohibited from 21 November 2026 for a period of 2.5 years, after which those countries may start receiving plastic waste subject to strict rules foreseen under the regulation.
- However, the text provides for the possibility by non-OECD countries to submit, five years after the entry into force of the Regulation, a request to the Commission indicating their willingness to import EU plastic waste. In the case of positive outcome of the assessment of such request (i.e. fulfillment of strict waste management standards), the Commission is empowered to adopt a delegated act to lift the ban for these countries.
- The export of non-hazardous plastic waste to OECD countries is allowed subject to the procedure Prior and Informed Consent (PIC).
- All EU companies exporting waste outside the EU will have to ensure that the facilities receiving their waste are subject to an independent audit, therefore demonstrating that such facilities manage waste in line with the principle of environmentally sound management of waste.
- The new Regulation also sets out digitalised procedures to facilitate and better track the shipments of waste within the Union. Under the new Regulation, the procedures for shipping waste will become digital from 21 May 2026. The Regulation also aims at simplifying the PIC procedure through the establishment of a central electronic system for the collection of all notifications and documents required by the Regulation. The system will be operated by the Commission and all notifications will have to be processed according.
- Fast track procedures for certain eligible facilities designated by the Member States (“pre-consented facilities”) will also be made easier.

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