

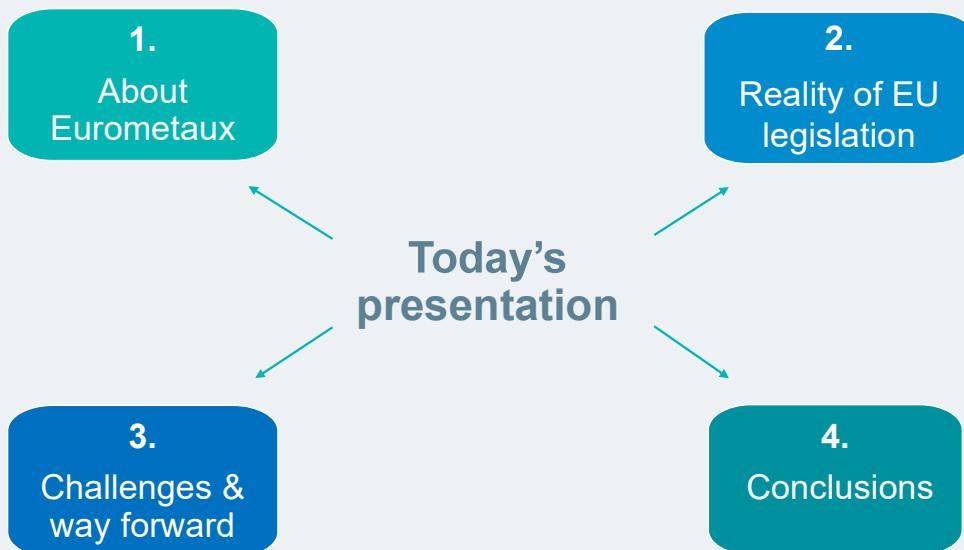


Metals recycling in Europe: regulations & recommendations

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International Metals Study Groups – Joint Seminar: 'The role of recycling in meeting future demand for metals'

Lisbon, 4th Oct. 2023





1. About Eurometaux

Eurometaux membership

28

Company members,
across the full metals
value chain:



8

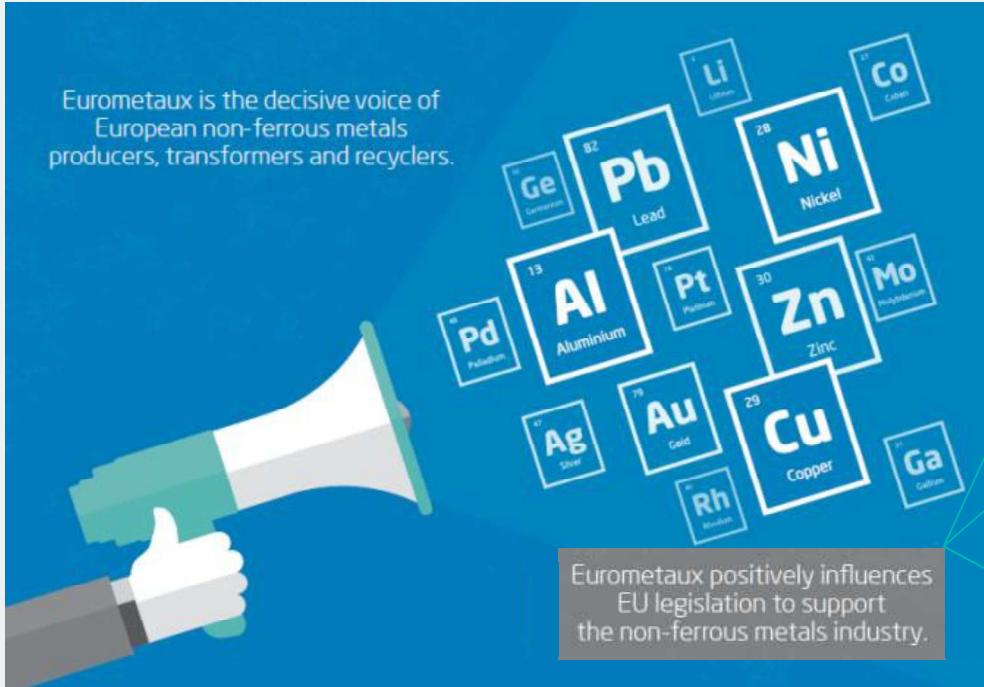
Commodity
associations

13

National associations

23

Associate members



European Commission



European Parliament



European Council



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Pg.5



2. Reality of EU legislation



The EU Green Deal



A set of proposals to transform EU's economy for a sustainable future and reduce greenhouse gas by at least 55% by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels) and to achieve their zero net emissions by 2050

Metals' regulatory path for sustainability: 2023 & beyond



BR – Batteries Regulation
– final text published → work on the secondary acts



WSR – Waste Shipment Regulation
– review on-going



CRM – Critical Raw Materials Act – new law proposed & under discussion



ELV – End-of-Life Vehicles Directive
– review has started



WEEE – Electrical & Electronic Equipment Waste Directive
– review expected 2024



PPWD – Packaging & Packaging Waste Dir.
– review on-going

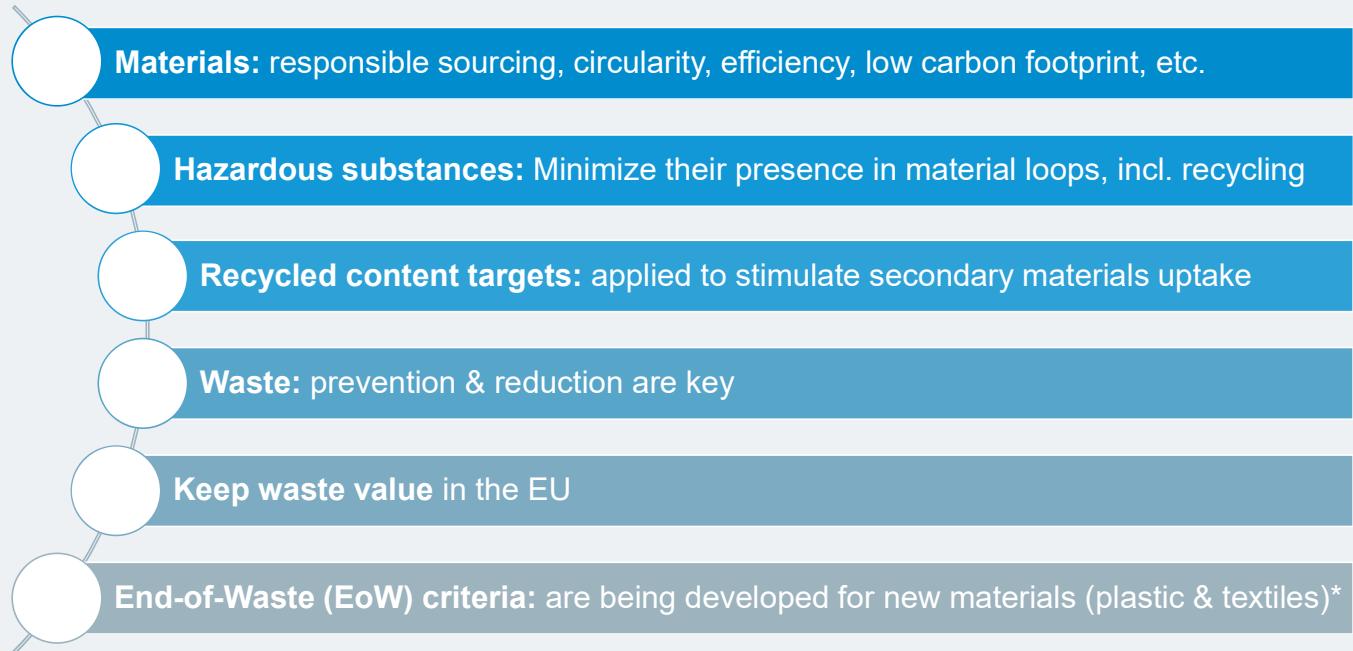


ESPR – Ecodesign for Sust. Products Reg. – new law proposed & under discussion



Provisions on chemicals in various EU regulations (e.g. REACH, RoHS)

EU product & waste regulations – main trends observed



* Existing EU EoW criteria cover already: aluminium, copper, iron & steel scrap, glass cullet

Key aspects for metals' recycling embedded in the EU regulation

	Collection	Recycling and/or recovery	Recycled content	Substances restrictions
Batteries Regulation – final law	X	X	X (Targets for: Co, Pb, Li, Ni)	X Specific procedure to restrict use of substances
End-of-Live (ELV) Directive – legislative proposal	X	X	X (The legislative proposal has it for plastic. For other materials feasibility assessment is needed first.)	X Pb, Hg, Cd and Cr(VI) are prohibited in new cars except in defined exemptions
WEEE Directive – current text	X	X		X via RoHS Directive
Packaging & Packaging Waste (PPWD) Directive – legislative proposal	X	X	X	X No restrictions but minimisation of hazardous subst. presence
Ecodesign for Sust. Products Regulation (ESPR) – legislative proposal		X Product recycling & recovery of materials as product's aspect	X Recycled content as product's aspect	X Proposal to include definition of Substances of Concern (SoC)
Critical Raw Materials (CRM) Act – legislative proposal		X	X Proposal for permanent magnets (e.g. Nd, Dy, Pr, Tb)	



3. Challenges & way forward

Recycling limits & solutions

- **Metals long average lifetime** in the economy (e.g. 30 years for copper) may create a gap between available secondary material and demand
- **Product design becomes increasingly complex** → *design for recycling*
- **Product 2nd life** (via repair, reuse, remanufacturing, repurposing, etc.) → *careful considerations whether to extend product lifetime or to recycle it*
- **Collection** is still too low vis-à-vis the official targets (e.g. WEEE, batteries, ELV) → *improve separate collection of certain waste streams, raise consumer awareness*
- **Sorting** → *investments into the state-of-the-art technologies*
- **Recycling infrastructure** → *needs to get ready for new, complex waste streams of meaningful volumes expected in 10-15 yrs time (e.g. EVs & its batteries, PV panels)*
- **Shipment of waste within the EU** → *must be facilitated combined with a fast-track shipment procedure to pre-consented facilities and supported by the e-system to exchange documents*
- **Scrap leakage** → *has to be prevented by reinforcing controls at the EU borders*

On-going & future revisions of the EU waste & product legislation must address these factors



4. Conclusions

Conclusions

Collection, sorting & recycling

- Direct waste to the right collection channels (e.g. separate collection for e-waste, batteries, etc.)
- Maximum collection & sorting of all metal-containing waste is key
- Recycling must be:
 - Done according state-of-the-art technologies & be ready for the new waste streams
 - Maximised to deliver metals for 2050 EU Green Deal objectives

Coherent legislative framework

- Many dossiers are at the legislative proposal stage, either as a newly proposed law or scheduled/undergoing revision

→ *The best moment to call for coherence of all sustainability aspects (Circularity, Criticality, Climate contribution, Chemicals) across EU policies*

2024 – Elections to the EU institutions: the EU Parliament (June) and the EU Commission (Q3-4)

THANK YOU

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