

EN

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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.8.2025)

1. Greece is in the process of adopting regional waste management plans, which are expected to supplement the national plan already adopted. The Commission will assess the compatibility of these plans with the Waste Framework Directive¹, including how they support the implementation of the waste hierarchy set out by Article 4 of this Directive prioritising waste prevention, preparing for re-use and recycling².

2. Incineration of mixed waste in installations dedicated to the processing of municipal solid waste is considered as recovery if certain energy efficiency criteria are met³. However, Member States shall in their plans, policies and legislation on waste take into account the above hierarchy and incentivise waste prevention and recycling e.g. by making use of economic instruments such as charges and restrictions for waste incineration, and setting up separate collection to avoid that recyclable waste is incinerated⁴.

3. The Commission will assess the national and regional waste plans of all Member States and may initiate infringement procedures if deemed necessary.

¹ Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives, OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3–30, as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/851 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May, OJ L 150, 14.6.2018, p. 109–140.

² Articles 28 and 30-33.

³ Footnote to R1 in Annex II to Directive 2008/98 on waste. The term ‘recovery’ is defined in Article 3(15) of the directive and means ‘any operation the principal result of which is waste serving a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfil a particular function, or waste being prepared to fulfil that function, in the plant or in the wider economy’.

⁴ E.g. Article 10(4), 11 and 22 of Directive 2008/98/EC on waste.