

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003289/25
to the Commission
César Luena (S&D)
(25 August 2025)**

Subject: Failure of negotiations for global plastics treaty

August 2025 saw the sixth round of UN negotiations to deliver the first legally binding global treaty on plastic pollution conclude in Geneva with no agreement, owing to some oil- and gas-producing countries opposing the inclusion of limits on virgin plastic production. This roadblock jeopardises the possibility of adopting an ambitious treaty in 2025, which is in contrast with the EU's commitments on the circular economy, biodiversity, public health and climate leadership.

In view of this:

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the impact of this failure on the EU's strategy for combating plastic pollution and on the objectives of the European Green Deal?
2. What specific action will the Commission propose to both strengthen the EU's common position in upcoming rounds of negotiations and ensure that the future treaty includes effective limits on plastic production and on the use of harmful chemicals?
3. What action will the Commission take to ensure that the temporary failure of the negotiations does not slow progress towards achieving the EU's internal targets on plastic reduction and on the transition to a circular economy, as well as on pollution and the climate?

Submitted: 25.8.2025

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(28 October 2025)**

Despite the temporary setback in negotiations, the EU remains steadfast in achieving its internal targets concerning plastic pollution reduction and the transition to a circular economy.

It will be important to progress with the implementation of existing EU legislation, including those related to single-use plastics ⁽¹⁾, packaging waste ⁽²⁾, plastic pellets ⁽³⁾ and quality of the marine environment ⁽⁴⁾.

These measures already deliver results, such as reduction of beach litter abundance by almost 30% at the EU level ⁽⁵⁾. Strengthening the implementation both of the EU legislation and pollution-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements ⁽⁶⁾ is critical, as well as bilateral cooperation to reduce plastic pollution.

The EU's position is clear on the need for a global agreement that addresses the full lifecycle, to effectively tackle the crisis of plastic pollution.

A majority of the United Nations' Member States, businesses and civil society are aligned in their commitment to finalise a global binding treaty for a clean, competitive, circular economy and public health and well-being. The Commission will continue active engagement with all the stakeholders with this objective.

The Commission remains committed to the achievement of climate neutrality by 2050 and 'Zero pollution' 2030 reduction targets, such as for plastic litter at sea (by 50%) and for microplastics released into the environment (by 30%) ⁽⁷⁾, *inter alia*, through the above-mentioned legislation and overall EU environmental and climate policies.

⁽¹⁾ Directive (EU) 2019/904 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, OJ L 155, 12.6.2019, p. 1-19.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC, OJ L, 2025/40, 22.1.2025.

⁽³⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/proposal-regulation-preventing-pellet-losses_en.

⁽⁴⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-evaluates-sea-protection-and-bathing-water-quality-laws-2025-03-06_en.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC138907>.

⁽⁶⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/international-cooperation/multilateral-environmental-agreements-meas_en.

⁽⁷⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/zero-pollution-action-plan/zero-pollution-targets_en.