

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002900/26  
to the Commission**

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(14 July 2026)

**Subject:** PPWR Regulation: simplification or yet another mess of red tape?

While the von der Leyen II Commission has made ‘administrative simplification’ its watchword and is proposing rafts of omnibus initiatives, one major piece of legislation appears to be bucking this trend: the directive on packaging and packaging waste (PPWR) <sup>(1)</sup>.

On 12 August 2026 a first wave of measures will come into force, followed by more far-reaching bans by 2030, including the possible outlawing of plastic film wrapping around packs of water <sup>(2)</sup>.

The industry is having major difficulties finding alternatives that are just as convenient, affordable and as good at protecting goods.

What is more, from 2029 the regulation will impose mandatory deposits for plastic beverage containers, including those larger than 3 litres <sup>(3)</sup>.

Can the Commission therefore say:

1. How much it expects the total cost of compliance with the PPWR to be for European businesses (manufacturing, retail, SMEs)?
2. Whether it is willing, as part of its simplification policy, to propose a revision of the PPWR to streamline it?
3. Whether it can already confirm that packs of water will not be covered by Annex V of the PPWR Regulation?

Submitted: 14.7.2026

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission**  
(1 September 2026)

The Impact Assessment <sup>(1)</sup> accompanying the proposal <sup>(2)</sup> for a Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) <sup>(3)</sup> assessed the expected impacts of the measures, including administrative and compliance costs for businesses and citizens.

It concluded that many measures would entail limited additional costs due to the establishment of harmonised packaging requirements across the EU and that wider uptake of best practices would generate significant efficiency gains over time.

In close cooperation with Member States and stakeholders, the Commission has published a guidance document regarding the pragmatic implementation of the PPWR, as well as extensive Frequently Asked Questions, that is being updated regularly in light of feedback and exchanges with stakeholders <sup>(4)</sup>.

The Commission will also prepare all the necessary implementing measures to provide legal certainty, reduce unnecessary administrative burdens where possible within the existing legal framework, and support the harmonised application of the new requirements.

Most requirements of the regulation enter into application in 2030. Annex V provides for the phasing out of certain formats of single-use plastic grouped packaging used at the point of sale, while excluding grouped packaging necessary to facilitate handling.

<sup>1</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32025R0040>.

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.secoloditalia.it/2026/06/ultima-genialata-green-di-bruxelles-addio-confezioni-dacqua-le-bottiglie-si-compreranno-singole/?utm\\_source=dlvr.it&utm\\_medium=facebook&fbclid=IwRlRTSASxHwxleHRuA2FlbQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAo2NjI4NTY4Mzc5AAEeYabb71UNNAvWM2TF0U8leXGS3MudMZBNVI3iHqmJTEgEOG9-zcphiEqdTlU\\_aem\\_07Un97vQYS2kQBvYPQIEqg](https://www.secoloditalia.it/2026/06/ultima-genialata-green-di-bruxelles-addio-confezioni-dacqua-le-bottiglie-si-compreranno-singole/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=facebook&fbclid=IwRlRTSASxHwxleHRuA2FlbQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAo2NjI4NTY4Mzc5AAEeYabb71UNNAvWM2TF0U8leXGS3MudMZBNVI3iHqmJTEgEOG9-zcphiEqdTlU_aem_07Un97vQYS2kQBvYPQIEqg).

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.techniques-ingenieur.fr/actualite/articles/application-du-reglement-ppwr-des-2026-quels-changements-pour-lindustrie-de-lemballage-159299/amp/>.

<sup>(4)</sup> [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:0567fd10-7165-11ed-9887-01aa75ed71a1.0001.02/DOC\\_1&format=PDF](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:0567fd10-7165-11ed-9887-01aa75ed71a1.0001.02/DOC_1&format=PDF), Section 7.

<sup>(2)</sup> Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC, COM/2022/677 final.

<sup>(3)</sup> 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.

<sup>(4)</sup> [https://green-forum.ec.europa.eu/packaging-and-packaging-waste-regulation-implementation\\_en](https://green-forum.ec.europa.eu/packaging-and-packaging-waste-regulation-implementation_en).

As regards grouped packaging for bottles of water, the Commission is examining how the relevant provisions should be applied in practice, considering the objectives of the regulation, the available evidence and stakeholder input.

In line with Article 25(6) of PPWR, the Commission will provide timely, pragmatic and proportionate guidelines to support the consistent implementation of these provisions and will continue to engage with stakeholders on the PPWR.

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