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## LISBON MUN/EYP

### Committee:

#### U4 CIRCULAR ECONOMY - Improving upcycling networks

#### **RESOLUTION by Crete**

- (1) Fully aware of the urgent need to address the environmental**
  - (2) challenges facing our planet and society,**
- (3) Noting with deep concern the high levels of waste generated in**
  - (4) Greece and the negative impact of this on the environment**
- (5) Believing that the circular economy can provide a solution to**
  - (6) these challenges and contribute to sustainable development,**
- (7) Observing the limited availability of upcycling networks in Greece**
  - (8) and the lack of awareness about their benefits among the public,**
- (9) Expressing its satisfaction for the efforts made by some**
  - (10) organizations in Greece to promote upcycling and increase**
    - (11) access to upcycling networks,**
- (12) Desiring to encourage the wider adoption of upcycling practices**
  - (13) and the expansion of upcycling networks in Greece,**
    - (14) Approves the following measures:**
- (15) 1.Calls on the Greek government to develop policies and**
  - (16) initiatives**
- (17) 2.To promote upcycling and increase access to upcycling**
  - (18) networks, including through financial incentives, education and**
    - (19) awareness-raising campaigns, and collaboration with local**
      - (20) businesses and communities;**
- (21) 3.Urges the Greek government to support the establishment of**
  - (22) upcycling centers in different regions of Greece, where people can**
    - (23) bring their unwanted materials and learn how to transform them**



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(24) into new products;

(25) 4. Encourages Greek businesses to incorporate upcycling practices (26) into their business models and supply chains, and to collaborate (27) with upcycling networks and organizations to promote a circular (28) economy;

(29) 5. Invites educational institutions in Greece to integrate upcycling (30) practices into their curricula and to promote upcycling among (31) students, teachers, and the wider community;

(32) 6. Calls on the Greek government to monitor and report on (33) progress in the adoption and implementation of upcycling policies (34) and initiatives, and to regularly review and update these measures (35) to ensure their effectiveness.

(36) The European Youth Parliament is confident that these measures (37) will contribute to the promotion of upcycling and the transition (38) towards a circular economy in Greece, and calls on all (39) stakeholders to take action towards this goal.

### **RESOLUTION by Czechia**

(01) Acknowledging the importance of upcycling as a way of reducing the consumption of raw materials, reducing waste and promoting sustainable development,

(02) Believing that upcycling has the potential to create new economic opportunities, reduce environmental harm, and promote social cohesion,

(03) Bearing in mind that there is room for improvement in the current upcycling networks in the country,

(04) Noting the current challenges faced by upcycling networks in the Czech Republic, including limited access to funding, insufficient infrastructure, and a lack of awareness among citizens,



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- (05) Commending the efforts of civil society organizations and private sector actors who have initiated upcycling programs and campaigns in the Czech Republic,**
- (06) Viewing with appreciation the collaboration of the Czech Ministry of Environment and the Czech Association of Upcycling to propose the resolution and launch a nationwide campaign to promote upcycling and educate the public about the benefits of upcycling, including workshops, seminars, and social media campaigns to raise awareness of the upcycling process and encourage citizens to adopt upcycling practices,**
- (07) Taking into consideration the effort of the Czech Ministry of Environment and the Czech Association of Upcycling to increase public awareness of upcycling,**
- (08) Noting with satisfaction the investing in the expansion of upcycling infrastructure, including the development of upcycling centers, recycling facilities, and waste management systems of the upcycling infrastructure by the Czech Ministry of Environment and the Czech Association of Upcycling, allowing for the creation of new jobs and promotion of the growth of the upcycling industry in the country,**
- (09) Approving the establishment of upcycling standards such as ensuring the quality of upcycled products and materials, which helps to establish upcycling as a legitimate industry in the Czech Republic and increase consumer confidence in upcycled products,**
- (10) Encouraging the Czech Republic to foster collaboration among upcycling networks and encourage them to share best practices, resources, and knowledge and therefore to create a more cohesive upcycling community and promote the growth of the industry,**
- (11) Calling on the private sector to support the development of upcycling networks by investing in innovative technologies and partnering with civil society organizations,**



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- (12) Calling upon the Czech Republic to establish a monitoring system to track the progress of upcycling initiatives in the country to help identify areas of improvement and ensure that the country is on track to meet its upcycling goals,**
- (13) Emphasizing the need for increased participation of citizens in upcycling initiatives, and encouraging the inclusion of upcycling in educational curricula and public awareness campaigns,**
- (14) Encouraging the Czech Republic to share best practices and experiences with other countries to promote the global upcycling movement and contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,**
- (15) Expecting the Czech Republic to commit to promoting sustainable development and reducing waste through upcycling and create a more sustainable and prosperous future for all.**

### **RESOLUTION by Estonia**

- (01) *Recognizing* the urgency of the problem, as global waste generation is  
(02) projected to increase by 70% by 2050, with only 9% of plastics being recycled,  
(03) and acknowledging the limited access to proper upcycling networks in many  
(04) regions of the world, particularly in developing countries,
- (05) *Noting with concern* that the lack of effective upcycling networks contributes to  
(06) environmental degradation, climate change, public health hazards and  
(07) recognizing the need for collective action at all levels,
- (08) *Emphasising* the importance of encouraging public-private partnerships and  
(09) international cooperation to address the issue, and recognizing the valuable role  
(10) played by non-governmental organisations and civil society in promoting  
(11) upcycling practices and awareness-raising,
- (12) *Welcoming* the commitments made by various countries to promote upcycling  
(13) and reduce waste, such as the European Green Deal and the United Nations  
(14) Sustainable Development Goals,
- (15) *Reaffirming* the commitment of Estonia to the United Nations Sustainable



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- (16) Development Goals, particularly SDG 12 on responsible consumption and  
(17) production,
- (18) *Taking into consideration* the importance of reducing waste and increasing  
(19) resource efficiency in achieving sustainable development,
- (20) *Affirming* the importance of international cooperation and support to  
(21) developing countries in building their capacity to address waste management  
(22) challenges,
- (23) 1. Urges all member states to prioritise the development and implementation of  
(24) effective upcycling networks in their respective countries, particularly in  
(25) developing regions, in order to reduce waste and promote resource efficiency;
- (26) 2. Encourages member states to collaborate with non-governmental  
(27) organisations and civil society in promoting upcycling practices and raising  
(28) awareness about the importance of responsible waste management;
- (29) 3. Calls upon member states to establish public-private partnerships to facilitate  
(30) the development and operation of upcycling networks, with the aim of reducing  
(31) waste and promoting sustainable production and consumption;
- (32) 4. Supports international cooperation that assists developing countries in  
(33) building their capacity to address waste management challenges, and  
(34) encourages member states to provide technical and financial aid to these  
(35) countries;
- (36) 5. Requests member states to report on their progress in promoting upcycling  
(37) and reducing waste, in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable  
(38) Development Goals and the European Green Deal, and to share best practices  
(39) and lessons learned with other member states.

### **RESOLUTION by Lithuania**

- (01) Believing that, the circular economy is an economic system that is designed to be regenerative, where resources are kept in use for as long as possible, and waste is minimised.
- (02) Taking into consideration that, the goal of a circular economy is to create a closed-loop system, where resources are continually reused, and there is no waste.
- (03) Additionally, the circular economy is built on seven principles: redesign, reduce, reuse, repair, renovate, recycle and recover. They are called the seven pillars of the circular economy.



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- (04) Recognising that, circular economy is achieved through strategies such as: designing for sustainability: Products are designed with sustainability in mind, taking into account their entire lifecycle, from sourcing raw materials to end-of-life disposal.
- (05) Furthermore, the circular economy aims to achieve resource efficiency: The goal is to use resources efficiently, reducing waste and minimising the use of non-renewable resources.
- (06) Moreover, extending the life of products: Products are designed to last as long as possible, and are maintained and repaired when necessary to extend their useful life. This reduces the need for new products.
- (07) Reminding of the fact that, the collaboration and partnerships between businesses, governments, and consumers are essential for creating a circular economy. This includes partnerships to promote recycling and reusing products and working together to develop sustainable business models.
- (08) Therefore, we can all individually contribute to the circular economy by choosing sustainable products, using renewable energy, supporting businesses that implement circular economy and advocating for change.
- (09) In addition, many countries have made efforts to contribute to the transition towards a circular economy for example, The EU and its members.
- (10) Lithuania is also progressing to achieve a sustainable circular economy. Here are some examples of progress in different areas: waste management, sustainable production, innovation and consumer awareness.
- (11) Moreover, we have advanced in waste management: Lithuania has one of the highest recycling rates in Europe, with over 60% of municipal waste being recycled. The country has implemented a waste management system that includes recycling and composting and has set targets to further reduce waste and increase recycling rates.
- (12) Reminding of the fact that, Lithuanian businesses are increasingly adopting sustainable practices in their production processes. For instance, the textile industry is exploring ways to use recycled materials and reduce waste in production.
- (13) Due to the fact that innovation is one of the main accelerators of a circular economy. Lithuania is investing in circular innovation, with a focus on developing new technologies and solutions to support the transition to a circular economy. For example, the Lithuanian company "InScript" is using waste from the paper industry to create biodegradable packaging.
- (14) In addition, the Policy framework is another example of progress in different areas. Lithuania has developed a circular economy action plan that outlines the country's goals and strategies for transitioning to a circular economy. The plan includes targets for reducing waste, promoting sustainable production and consumption, and increasing the use of renewable energy.
- (15) Believing that, consumer awareness and engagement are important for a successful transition to a circular economy. Lithuania is implementing educational campaigns to raise awareness about the benefits of a circular economy and encourage consumers to adopt more sustainable consumption habits.
- (16) There are several organisations that have made a significant impact on Lithuania's circular economy. Here are some examples: "Circular Economy Centre", JSC "Eco Baltia" and "Circular Hub".



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- (17)The "Circular Economy Centre" is a non-governmental organisation that promotes the circular economy in Lithuania. The organisation provides training, consulting, and advocacy services to businesses, government institutions, and civil society organisations.
- (18)The "Eco Baltia" is a waste management company that operates in Lithuania and other Baltic countries. The company provides waste collection, sorting, and recycling services, and has invested in modern technologies and infrastructure to support a circular economy.
- (19)The "Circular Hub" is an innovation hub that brings together businesses, researchers, and policymakers to develop and promote circular economy solutions in Lithuania. The organisation provides mentoring, networking, and funding opportunities to support circular economy startups and projects.
- (20)The "Lithuanian Innovation Centre" is a public institution that promotes innovation and entrepreneurship in Lithuania. The centre has launched several initiatives to support the circular economy, such as the Circular Vilnius project, which aims to transform Vilnius into a circular city.
- (21)These organisations have contributed to the development of Lithuania's circular economy by promoting awareness, providing practical solutions, and fostering innovation and collaboration among stakeholders.
- (22)The European Union (EU) has played a significant role in supporting Lithuania's transition to a circular economy. Here are some examples.
- (23)Funding from the EU has made a huge impact for the country. For example, the country has received funding through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for projects related to waste management, sustainable production, and circular innovation.
- (24)In addition, The EU has provided guidance and support to Lithuania in developing its circular economy action plan. The EU's Circular Economy Package provides a framework for Member States to transition to a more circular economy, and Lithuania has used this guidance to inform its own policy development.
- (25)Furthermore, The EU has established standards and regulations that support the transition to a circular economy. For example, the EU's Waste Framework Directive sets out rules for waste management, including the waste hierarchy, which prioritises waste prevention, reuse, and recycling over disposal.
- (26)The EU has launched several circular economy initiatives that Lithuania has been able to benefit from. For example, the EU's Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform provides a forum for sharing best practices and exchanging ideas, and Lithuania has been able to participate in this platform.
- (27)Overall, the EU has provided funding, policy guidance, standards and regulations, and circular economy initiatives to support Lithuania's transition to a circular economy. These efforts have helped Lithuania make progress in areas such as waste management, sustainable production, circular innovation, and consumer awareness.
- (28)In conclusion, Lithuania has made significant progress in transitioning to a more circular economy, with initiatives focused on waste management, sustainable production, innovation, policy, and consumer awareness. However, there is still work to be done to fully transition to a circular economy, and ongoing efforts will be necessary to achieve this goal.



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## RESOLUTION by Portugal

(01) *Alarmed* by the lack of coordination between different departments and agencies to ensure  
(02) that different policies and strategies are aligned and working towards a common goal,  
(03) and by the lack of expertise both within companies and within state bodies responsible  
(04) for developing and implementing policies that promote a holistic approach to the  
(05) circular economy;

(06) *Aware* of the issue surrounding the Regulatory-related bureaucracy and associated costs  
(07) and delays when it comes to the implementation of the CE regulations, preventing the  
(08) effective functioning of Portugal's' upcycling networks;

(09) *Noting with deep concern* the difficulty in scaling up eco-innovations to global markets,  
(10) as many eco-innovations in Portugal remain confined to niche markets, struggling to  
(11) scale up to global innovations due to a lack of investment by the portuguese  
(12) government in promoting sustainable approaches, expertise, and market demand;

(13) *Understanding* the lack of support from the government, which does not provide  
(14) adequate funding or resources for upcycling initiatives. This lack of support also extends  
(15) to the education system, as there are few educational programs or courses that focus  
(16) on upcycling.

(17) *Deeply concerned* about the lack of specific policies to promote eco-innovation in  
(18) Portugal, which inhibits the needed encouragement for companies to adopt more  
(19) sustainable practises;

(20) *Fully alarmed* by the lack of private-sector leadership and investment in eco-innovation  
(21) efforts in Portugal, and the consequent implication that companies are not willing to  
(22) invest in sustainable practices and innovations due to a lack of awareness of the  
(23) long-term benefits of eco-innovation and inflexible focus on short-term profit rather than  
(24) on sustainability levels;

(25) *Deeply disturbed* by the incapability of different companies and stakeholders to develop  
(26) and engage in collaborative approaches to achieve shared aims and further develop CE  
(27) principles within their work ethics, and procedure methods due to short-term visioning of  
(28) benefit, speculation, and fear of their intellectual property being compromised;





(29) *Noting with regret* the inefficiency of portuguese state action to achieve the entirety of  
(30) the guidelines planned by the PAEC, 2018–2020, the goals that were not achieved  
(31) include:

- a) the establishment of partnerships with municipalities to train and disseminate repair and reuse networks,
- b) the development of tools to communicate the benefits of extending the useful life of goods/equipment to consumer,
- c) the promotion of analysis of the impact of a transition from taxes on work to raw materials in Portugal,
- d) the analysis of barriers to adopting accredited certification that promotes efficient resource use with a view to its promotion,
- e) the reviewing of tax instruments that incentivise or discourage circularity,
- f) the promotion of solutions to challenges related to extending the useful life of resources developed by citizens and applied at the local level,
- g) the reviewing of legislation associated with donating/redistributing food products, in line with European guidelines,
- h) the development of an information registration system to monitor the by-product classification process, available to stakeholders and the promotion of voluntary agreements to overcome obstacles to promoting water reuse,
- i) the use of extracted materials and the production/use of compost as fertilizer;

(32) *Observing* the incapacity of the state and its agencies to address and foster innovation  
(33) adequately as well as to quickly respond to new issues and legal frameworks that  
(34) prevent the emergence or maintenance of creativity relative to the implementation of the  
(35) CE guidelines,

(36) At the same time *expressing* its appreciation for the commitment of the Portuguese  
(37) Government to perform a revision of the PAEC 2018-2020 that is currently being  
(38) prepared to adapt it to the new upcoming challenges of adhering to the CE model;

(39) *Taking into consideration* the lack of citizen participation in the transition process to a  
(40) circular economy , and of awareness among the general public about the benefits of  
(41) upcycling and how it can help reduce waste and promote sustainability, mainly due to



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(42) the common mindset and behavior/procedure from all stakeholders due to the persistent  
(43) skepticism and resistance to change in the network;

(44) *Accepting* that because citizens are skeptical and resistant to change, there has been a  
(45) lack of participation and a shift in mindset and behavior from all stakeholders during the  
(46) transition to a circular economy. This lack of awareness also makes it difficult for  
(47) upcycling businesses to attract customers and generate revenue

(48) *Fully Alarmed* by the lack of infrastructure for upcycling, such as specialized recycling  
(49) centers or collection points, which makes it difficult for individuals and businesses to  
(50) properly dispose of materials that could be upcycled.

(51) 1. Calls upon the Portuguese Government to improve the monitoring system to measure  
(52) the progress of the transition to a circular economy;

(53) 2. Further invites the government of Portugal to create or leverage or at least study how to  
(54) use economic instruments that enhance CE, guided by the waste management fee,  
(55) PAYT, VAT reductions, eco-fee modulation;

(56) 3. Further recommends the Government of Portugal to simplify legislation and  
(57) processes with an impact on circularity, including licensing, declassification of waste,  
(58) waste shipments, water reuse, and food donations;

(59) 4. Emphasizes the need to make inspection measures more effective with regards to  
(60) greenwashing and product imports. The next action plan for the circular economy in  
(61) Portugal, at an early stage of preparation, should seek to overcome the identified  
(62) barriers and challenges in the articulation with other policies initiatives, making it crucial  
(63) for the Portuguese government to take into consideration;

(64) 5. Recommends the government of Portugal to encourage the involvement of  
(65) stakeholders in new legislative processes, avoiding additional barriers;

(66) 6. Requests to the Portuguese Government the definition of mandatory minimum rates  
(66) of incorporation of recycled materials in all new materials or products;;



(68) 7. Draws the attention of the government of Portugal to the need of promoting industrial  
(69) symbioses and chain approach;

(70) 8. Considers essential the implementation of regulatory guidelines or tax incentives to  
(71) support the use of waste, by-products, recycled and reused materials, enabling the use  
(72) of secondary raw materials given the price of virgin raw materials, by act of the  
(73) portuguese government;

(74) 9. Further proclaims the need of officialising Extended producer responsibility (EPR) for  
(75) new products, within Portugal, requesting this procedure to be performed with urgency  
(76) by the portuguese government,

(77) 10. Further requests a holistic approach, by the Portuguese Government, relatively to  
(78) the need of enhancing the role of green public procurement in the transition to a more  
(79) circular economy;

(80) 11. Encourages the European Commission to ensure the harmonization of legislation  
(81) between Member States, including targets, regulations, technical standards,  
(82) certification, and labeling systems;

(83) 12. Designates as crucial the establishment of circular agreements to address  
(84) regulatory barriers by the portuguese government,

(85) 13. Reminds the Government of Portugal of the necessity to finance circularity, including  
(86) R&D (Research and Development), innovation and investment support for production;

(87) 14. Trusts the Government of Portugal to support companies in identifying and  
(88) accessing relevant financing opportunities;

(89) 15. Expresses its hope for the increase of consumer and companies' awareness about  
(90) the circular transition. ETC CE Report 2022/5;

(91) 16. Incentivize the Portuguese Government to build or give easier permissions for the  
(92) private sector to develop, new specialized recycling centers and collection points, that



(93) will make it easier for businesses and individuals to properly dispose of materials to be  
(94) upcycled;

## **RESOLUTION by Thessaloniki**

**(1) Alarmed by the problems the environment is facing, many countries ,  
(2) one of them being Greece, have decided that going for a closed-loop  
(3) system, when it comes to resources and waste management, is the  
(4) best way to proceed,**

**(5) Keeping in mind Greece's main source of waste and income is  
(6) tourism and environmental issues arise when human activities bring  
(7) impact exceeding the limits of the physical environment and are  
(8) harmful to the species and population of the surrounding ecosystem,**

**(9) Acknowledging climate change, tourism can cause the same forms of  
(10) pollution as any other industry: air emissions, noise, solid waste  
(11) and littering, releases of sewage, oil and chemicals, even  
(12) architectural/visual pollution,**

**(13) Having adopted the need for a healthier environment in 2018, the  
(14) Greek government launched a National Action Plan for the Circular  
(15) Economy, which aims to promote circularity in key sectors such as  
(16) tourism, construction, agriculture, and waste management. The  
(17) plan includes measures to reduce waste generation, increase  
(18) recycling rates, and promote the use of renewable energy sources,**

**(19) In recognition, one example of a circular economy initiative in  
(20) Greece is the "Zero Waste Greece" project, which aims to reduce  
(21) waste and promote sustainable consumption and production  
(22) practices. The project includes initiatives such as composting,  
(23) recycling, and waste reduction campaigns, as well as education and  
(24) awareness-raising activities,**

**1. Requests the Greek government help promote circular economy and the  
increase of volunteers with the aim to prevent tourists from  
polluting and in doing so assisting the cause,**



**2.Demands penalties and fines for polluting or disobeying environmental laws in places of touristic importance,**

**3.Encourages the Greek community to take action against pollution, help by volunteering, recycle and follow the laws made to help the environment,**

**4.Invites the Greek government to adopt and promote products beneficial to the environment, -e.x.the Greek company, Biodent, which produces biodegradable and compostable toothbrushes made from bamboo,**

**5.Further invites The Greek ministry of Education and Religious Affairs to take action by implementing lessons and educational activities into their curriculum,**

**6.Further requests Universities all over greece take advantage of young people's initiatives and form groups that aim for a better environmental outcome through maximizing circular economy processes,**

**7.Calling upon the greek community to increase reuse of unneeded items, such us clothing food and old electronics, through donations, recycling e.t.c,**

## **COMMON RESOLUTION**

**Committee:** U4 CIRCULAR ECONOMY

**Issue concerning:** Question on Improving upcycling networks

**Presented by:** The EU Erasmus+ ACT U4 CIRCULAR ECONOMY team

**Supported by:** Francisca Dias (PT), Irena Nováková (CZ), Mavridaki Maria (CR/GR), Derek Kadu (EST), Matas Pociunas (LIT), Anastasios Amperiadis(THES/GR)