



EPR Club – Rules of conduct

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1. Introduction

1.1. Extended Producer Responsibility

The concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an important feature of the (European) Waste and Resources Policies and is an important topic continuously debated amongst professionals and politicians around the world.

1.2. The EPR Club

The EPR Club was founded in 2012 with the aim of bringing together stakeholders from all concerned areas and furthering a dialogue on the EU policy developments and technical implementation of EPR schemes throughout Europe. Since its creation, the EPR Club constantly grew in size and scope and forms today a real multi-stakeholder platform, including members from public authorities at all levels, Producer Responsibility Organisations, waste management companies, producers, material federations and NGOs – building a unique opportunity for dialogue.

The principal aim and guiding objective of the EPR Club is to exchange views, to debate, and to improve knowledge about EPR policies and practices - with all stakeholders, including the European Commission and other European institutions. With this the EPR Club intends to contribute to the debate on the European level and to help bringing forward European legislation and policy on EPR.

Objectives

- ➔ Allow dialogue on EU policy developments and strategies regarding EPR schemes and their technical implementation;
- ➔ Build a joint initiative to identify the good practices in the Extended Producer Responsibility field, to disseminate them widely or even reinforce the European legal bases;
- ➔ Clarify the EPR idea towards policy-makers and the civil society;
- ➔ Promote EPR Club activities to the European Institutions
- ➔ Identify and highlight the factors that drive the implementation of EPR schemes;
- ➔ Increase the knowledge and commitment of the obliged industry and identify the social and financial impacts and opportunities for all stakeholders involved;
- ➔ Identify tools to favour waste prevention and eco-design;
- ➔ Identify tools to increase material recycling and to minimise the environmental impact of products and packaging across their entire lifecycle;
- ➔ Strengthen each level of the waste hierarchy and minimise the environmental impact of products across their entire lifecycle.

The main tools to achieve these objectives are

- a) information exchange between EPR Club members via electronic tools such as the website, an online forum, a Virtual Library, mailings, etc.
- b) activities of the EPR Club (see section 2)

2. Activities

Other activities apart from those specifically mentioned below can be implemented in the scope of the EPR Club in the future, on proposition of the EPR Club Secretariat or one of the members and if agreed upon by simple majority vote.

2.1. Events

The main way to promote and stimulate debates within EPR Club members and with external partners is the organization of international events. In line with the objectives of the EPR Club, representatives of the European Union Institutions are invited to all EPR Club events, although those events that are limited to EPR Club members.

Three types of events are organised in the framework of the EPR Club:

- EPR Club lunch debates: organised for the internal debate amongst EPR Club members. In some cases with representatives of the European Commission or other European institutions
- International conferences with a broad audience, open to everyone
- Additional half- or full-day conferences

The EPR Club lunch debates are usually organised by one or two EPR Club members, supported by the EPR Club Secretariat. Unless agreed upon otherwise, the EPR Club member organising the event bears all related costs, suggests a programme, and invites the speakers. The logistics and organisation is done by the EPR Club Secretariat, who also helps on the shaping of the programme and the invitation of speakers, where necessary. Ideally, all EPR Club members should agree with the proposed topics and programme of lunch debates. If one member raises a concern about a certain topic or programme, a simple majority voting will decide if the lunch debate can be held under the umbrella of the EPR Club. Lunch debates are usually open to EPR Club members only but can also be opened to the wide public on proposition of the Organiser and agreement from the EPR Club members (by simple majority vote).

The annual EPR Club International Conference is organised in cooperation with usually one EPR Club member. This member is responsible for financing the event directly or via sponsors. The topic as well as the programme of the International Conference is shaped by the organising member and the EPR Club Secretariat. Ideally, all EPR Club members should agree on the topic and general content of the conference. All EPR Club members can give input to the shaping of the programme. If one member raises a concern about a certain topic or programme, a two-thirds majority voting will decide if the conference can be held under the umbrella of the EPR Club.

In addition to this, EPR Club members are furthermore welcome to organise additional half-day or full-day international conferences in the scope of the EPR Club throughout the year. Their organisation follows the same principle than the organisation of the EPR Club lunch debates.

2.2. Position papers

The EPR Club might furthermore publish position papers. These papers have to be related to the objectives of the EPR Club. All members can propose new position papers. Position papers of the EPR Club have to be agreed upon by EPR Club members by consensus vote. If there is a disagreement



on the topic or content of the position paper, a common agreement with all EPR Club members should be sought. The EPR Club Secretariat will be in charge of mediation.

2.3. Issue papers

For topics that are a debated and where no consensus can be reached for a position paper, issue papers can be published by the EPR Club. Issue papers describe the problem and elaborate on different views on potential solutions. Furthermore the different opinions of EPR Club members can be discussed. Such issue papers highlight problems and highly debated topics and thus contribute to furthering the discussion on sensitive issues on a European level.

3. Rules of conduct

3.1. Membership

The EPR Club consists of members that join the Club either as ACR+ members (EPR Club fee covered with ACR+ membership fee) or as non-ACR+ members.

EPR Club members' privileges

- Lunch debates (private)
- Virtual library and event documents of internal events

Several types of EPR Club membership exist:

- **Founding members:** Founders of the EPR Club, special visibility and guarantors of the rules of conduct (see for details below)
- **Gold members:** Additional financial or technical input to the EPR Club, special visibility (see for details below)
- **Standard members:** Standard membership of EPR Club, specific fee associated
- **Associate members:** ACR+ members that pay no additional fee for the EPR Club. These members have full access to all activities of the EPR Club but have no voting rights. ACR+ members can pay the EPR Club fee additionally to be Standard members or they can give some additional financial or technical input to become a Gold member.

Founding members

The founding members of the EPR Club are the Catalan Waste Agency (ARC), Brussels Environment (IBGE-BIM), the International Association for Environmental Communication AICA, the Foundation for Circular Economy (Fundación para la Economía Circular, former Institute for the Sustainability of Resources ISR), ACR+, and Rudologia. The founding members will be mentioned as such on the EPR Club website and act, together with ACR+, as guarantors of the respect of these rules of conduct.

Gold members

All EPR Club members are welcome to provide additional financial or technical support to the EPR Club. Those EPR Club members who do so are considered as "gold members" for the year in which they provide a contribution that goes beyond the regular input as EPR Club member. Gold



members are thus appointed yearly. This is particularly true for those EPR Club members that organise an EPR Club lunch debate or an international conference. Other members can be proposed as gold members by the Secretariat if they are giving a significant additional input for the EPR Club. All members can propose themselves to the EPR Club Secretariat. The decision upon such additional gold members is taken by simple majority vote. The member who hosts the EPR Club Secretariat is also a gold member.

Gold members are given broad visibility on the EPR Club website as well as on EPR Club communication material for the running year. They will furthermore have a direct contact at the EPR Club Secretariat and will be able to set some thematic priorities for the running year, depending on the contribution they provide.

3.2. The EPR Club Secretariat

The EPR Club Secretariat is hosted by ACR+. ACR+ therefore acts as Secretariat of the EPR Club and as moderator between the members of the Club. ACR+ has been appointed by the founding members to host the Secretariat on a neutral basis. The EPR Club Secretariat can be moved to be hosted by another EPR Club member. This has to be agreed upon by a unanimous vote.

3.3. Ownership, decision-making, and representation

The EPR Club is a platform and therefore ownership lies with all its members. Decisions in the EPR Club are either taken unanimously (decisions to change the rules of conduct) or with a simple majority vote (all operational decisions), see § 3.4 for voting rules. Proposals for changes of the rules of conduct can be made by all members with voting right.

The EPR Club Secretariat represents the EPR Club to non-members and on conferences. Other EPR Club members can represent the EPR Club on external conference only with the agreement of all EPR Club members. Agreement is sought for each individual event/representation activity via a simple majority vote.

All active members of the EPR Club meet once yearly, usually in December, to discuss the upcoming year. Furthermore constitutional decisions as well as decisions upon the fee grid are taken at these annual planning meetings. If necessary, the EPR Club Secretariat can call in extraordinary meetings with all members if urgent decisions need to be taken at another moment of the year.

3.4. Voting rules

Voting can be held with online voting tools, via mails, or during meetings. Should a member with a voting right not have executed its voting, his vote will be counted as an agreement to the proposal.

Simple majority vote

Operational decisions of the EPR Club are decided upon via a simple majority voting (50+1).

Two-third majority vote

If a concern regarding the topic and programme of the annual EPR Club International Conference is raised, a two-third majority is needed for the topic and programme to be accepted as it stands.



Unanimous vote

Proposals that ask for a decision on a potential change of the rules of conduct need to be decided unanimously. The same applies for EPR Club position papers. Such proposals have to be distributed via a mailing to all EPR Club members, with a reminder after 10 working days. Members need to execute their vote at the latest 20 working days after the proposal has been originally disseminated.

3.5. Treasury

The treasury lies with the EPR Club Secretariat. It receives the membership fees and uses them to pay the administrative costs for the Secretariat. Costs for the hosting of the EPR Club Secretariat include mainly staff costs, but also costs for communication tools (website, leaflets, roll-up), and administrative costs (accounting).

The EPR Club Secretariat presents an overview of costs and incomes at the yearly planning meeting. Based on this the Secretariat can propose changes in the fee grid. Changes in the fee grid are decided with a simple majority vote.



Annex I: Fee grid 2016

Type of membership	Fee 2016 (€)
Standard membership	500
Standard membership, reduced (non-profit: NGOs, research institutes, associations)	150
Associated membership for ACR+ Members	Free
Gold membership	Standard membership + lunch debate or similar additional input



Annex II: EPR Club members 2016

Founding members

- [ACR+ \(EU+\)](#)
- [Agència de Residus de Catalunya – Catalan Waste Agency \(ES\)](#)
- [AICA \(IT\)](#)
- [Brussels-Capital Region \(Brussels Environment\) \(BE\)](#)
- [Fundación para la Economía Circular \(ES\)](#) , former [Instituto para la Sostenibilidad de los Recursos \(ISR\) \(ES\)](#)
- [Rudologia \(FR\)](#)

Gold members 2016

This is a preliminary list. Other gold members will be added once confirmed.

- [ACR+](#)
- [Der Grüne Punkt - Duales System Deutschland GmbH \(DE\)](#)
- [EXPRA - Extended Producers Responsibility Alliance \(BE\)](#)
- [Reloop Platform \(EU\)](#)
- [Suez Environnement \(FR\)/ SITA \(BE\)](#)

Standard members

Private Sector

- [Coca-Cola Hellenics \(AT\)](#)
- [Der Grüne Punkt - Duales System Deutschland GmbH \(DE\)](#)
- [Eco-Emballages \(FR\)](#)
- [Eco-systèmes \(FR\)](#)
- [EFBW \(European Federation of Bottled Waters\) \(EU\)](#)
- [EucoLight \(EU\)](#)
- [EUROMETREC \(European Metal Trade and Recycling Federation\) \(EU\)](#)
- [EUROPEN \(The European Organization for Packaging and the Environment\) \(EU\)](#)
- [EXPRA \(Extended Producers Responsibility Alliance\) \(EU\)](#)
- [FEAD \(European Federation of Waste Management and Environmental Services\) \(EU\)](#)
- [FEVE \(European Container Glass Federation\) \(EU\)](#)
- [IKEA \(SE\)](#)
- [NatureWorks \(USA\)](#)
- [Reclay Group \(DE\)](#)
- [Sociedade Ponto Verde \(PT\)](#)
- [WEEE Forum \(BE\)](#)

NGOs / Associations / Academics

- [ACR+](#)



- [Municipal Waste Europe \(BE\)](#)
- [ReLoop Platform \(EU\)](#)
- [Rudologia \(FR\)](#)
- [RREUSE \(EU\)](#)

City and regional networks, national authorities

- [IVCIE - Interregional Packaging Commission \(BE\)](#)

Associate members

Private Sector

- [Ecofolio \(FR\)](#)
- [Suez Environnement \(FR\)/ SITA \(BE\)](#)

Local and Regional Authorities (LRAs)

- [Aalborg \(DK\)](#)
- [Agència de residus de Catalunya \(ES\)](#)
- [AMIU \(Genova IT\)](#)
- [Barcelona \(Ayuntamiento - ES\)](#)
- [Barcelona \(Area Metropolitana - ES\)](#)
- [Belfast \(UK\)](#)
- [Benslimane \(MA\)](#)
- [Bouches du Rhône \(FR\)](#)
- [Brussels \(ABP\) \(BE\)](#)
- [Brussels-Capital Region \(Brussels Environment\) \(BE\)](#)
- [Cascais \(EMAC\) \(PT\)](#)
- [Charente \(FR\)](#)
- [Contarina \(IT\)](#)
- [Consorci per a la Gestió de Residus del Vallès Occidental \(ES\)](#)
- [Diputación de Castellón \(ES\)](#)
- [Dublin City Council \(IE\)](#)
- [Genoa municipality \(IT\)](#)
- [Gipuzkoa province \(ES\)](#)
- [Hasselt \(BE\)](#)
- [Houmt Souk - Djerba \(TN\)](#)
- [Irbid Governorate \(JO\)](#)
- [Ile de France \(FR\)](#)
- [INTRADEL \(Liège province, BE\)](#)
- [IPALLE \(BE\)](#)
- [KS Bedrift \(NO\)](#)
- [Lausanne \(CH\)](#)

- [Lille Métropole \(FR\)](#)
- [Limerick \(IE\)](#)
- [Lisbon \(PT\)](#)
- [Luxemboug \(LU\)](#)
- [Lyon \(FR\)](#)
- [Maastricht \(NL\)](#)
- [Mahdia \(TN\)](#)
- [Madrid \(ES\)](#)
- [Malta \(MT\)](#)
- [Milano \(AMSA, IT\)](#)
- [Milton Keynes \(GB\)](#)
- [Nantes Métropole \(FR\)](#)
- [Nicosia \(CY\)](#)
- [North London \(UK\)](#)
- Observatoire Régional de l'Environnement et de Développement Durable (MA)
- [Odense \(DK\)](#)
- [Oporto \(Lipor\) \(PT\)](#)
- [OVAM \(BE\)](#)
- [Pamplona \(ES\)](#)
- [Paris \(FR\)](#)
- [Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaer \(MA\)](#)
- [Rennes Métropole \(FR\)](#)
- [SEMARDEL \(Essonne, FR\)](#)
- [Settimo Torinese \(IT\)](#)
- [SITOM 93 \(FR\)](#)
- [Sofia \(BG\)](#)
- [Sousse \(TN\)](#)
- [Sybert - Besançon \(FR\)](#)
- [Sykies \(EL\)](#)
- [Wallonia \(BE\)](#)
- [Warsaw \(PL\)](#)
- [Zagreb \(HR\)](#)
- [Zadar \(HR\)](#)

City and regional networks, national authorities

- [AMORCE \(FR\)](#)
- [AVPU \(FR\)](#)
- [Cercle National du Recyclage \(FR\)](#)
- [COPIDEC \(BE\)](#)
- [Dutch Solid Association \(NVRD\) \(NL\)](#)
- [Egyptian Ministry of Scientific research \(EG\)](#)
- [Empresa Geral do Fomento, SA \(PT\)](#)



- [FEDERAMBIENTE \(IT\)](#)
- [Zero Waste Scotland \(UK\)](#)

NGOs / Associations / Academics

- [ADSS \(Association de Développement Solidaire de Sfax\) \(TN\)](#)
- [Agència d'Ecologia Urbana de Barcelona \(ES\)](#)
- [AICA \(IT\)](#)
- [ARGE \(AT\)](#)
- [ARNIKA Association \(CZ\)](#)
- [BAMEE \(BG\)](#)
- [CRIOC \(BE\)](#)
- [Cultural Committee of Skiathos \(EL\)](#)
- [Ecological Recycling Society \(EL\)](#)
- [Economia e sostenibilità \(IT\)](#)
- [ENT Environment & Management \(ES\)](#)
- [Espace Environnement \(BE\)](#)
- [Fundació Catalana per la Prevenció dels Residus i el Consum Responsable \(FPRC\) \(ES\)](#)
- [Foundation for Circular Economy \(HU\)](#)
- [Green Planet Association \(RO\)](#)
- [Green Steps for Environmental Literacy \(TR\)](#)
- [Israël Union for Environmental Defense \(IL\)](#)
- [NABU \(DE\)](#)
- [ORDIF \(Observatoire Régional des déchets d'Ile-de-France\) \(FR\)](#)
- [Passerelles.info \(FR\)](#)
- [Ressources \(BE\)](#)
- [Retorna \(ES\)](#)
- [SviMed \(IT\)](#)
- [Swansea Institute \(UK\)](#)
- [ZeroWasteMena \(PS\)](#)

Consultancies

- [Ambiente Italia \(IT\)](#)
- [Fundación para la Economía Circular \(ES\)](#)
- [Intertek-RDC \(BE\)](#)
- [Lavola \(ES\)](#)
- [SuperDrecksKëscht \(LU\)](#)
- [WRAP \(UK\)](#)