

Litter Manifesto

for the European Seas



50% **Reduction** by 2020
Action on Marine Litter **Now**

NO PLACE FOR WASTE

Supported by:



We call on the European Commission and Ministers to:

- End the problem of marine litter within a generation (by 2035).
- Make the reduction of marine litter a priority for all countries.
- Set a 50% reduction target for 2020, as a stepping stone towards achieving Good Environmental Status.
- Urgently develop and implement measures to achieve the 50% reduction target.
- Lead the way in minimising marine litter, both in Europe and internationally, by actively raising the issue with other competent authorities.

We request the Commission and Ministers to support:

- Harmonisation and proper implementation of marine and land-based waste policies.
- Stronger legislation on minimum targets for recycling and reusing plastics and other materials.
- Regulations on extended producer responsibility to promote the "design for life cycle" approach and to incentivise reuse and recycling of plastic and other products e.g. deposit schemes and reverse vending.
- Measures that reduce the use of disposable plastic consumer products e.g. carrier bag levy.
- Proper implementation and enforcement of the 'general prohibition' on waste discharge from ships to the sea (IMO's Annex V of MARPOL 73/78).
- Compulsory discharging of litter in ports for all vessels, including fishing boats, and application of a '100% indirect fee system' for waste reception facilities in all ports.
- Complete prohibition on all waste discharges to Polar waters.
- Enhanced enforcement and higher fines for litter offences on land and at sea.
- Fishing for litter initiatives following the KIMO model.
- Implementation of harmonised monitoring schemes for marine litter and its impact, including further research on the impact of micro-plastics on the food chain.
- Beach clean-ups and educational programs, with adequate duration and follow-up, to increase public's awareness of marine litter.

You know what the problem is... now act to solve it