



INVITATION

Plastic waste is increasingly impacting the marine environment and becoming one of the most challenging issues for global and European marine and coastal species and ecosystems. Growing scientific evidence and an increase in public awareness on the sources of plastic waste and their impacts on marine and coastal environments, demonstrate the need for more action at European level.

In December 2015, the European Commission adopted an EU Action Plan for Circular Economy. In an effort to tackle the issue of marine plastic litter, the European Commission has planned to launch its Strategy on Plastics by the end of this year.

The event aims to support an ambitious European Strategy on Plastics that takes action to fulfill the objective of significantly reducing marine litter. Contributing to the objective of greater action on marine plastic waste, IUCN will launch a report on existing national policies tackling the issue in EU Member States.

Relevant decision makers and conservationists, including Commissioner Karmenu Vella and Pierre-Yves Cousteau, will participate and contribute to the discussion.

To register for this event, please follow this [link](#).

For more information, please contact Alberto Arroyo Schnell (alberto.arroyo@iucn.org).

Agenda

18:00 – 18:10 **Welcome and introduction** by MEP Ricardo Serrão Santos

18:10 – 18:20 – **The Rane(c)5na San Rr**
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National perspective

Portugal – Fausto Brito e Abreu; Director General for Maritime Policy

Private sector`s views

Karl Foerster, Executive Director; Plastics Europe

Civil Society`s views

Monika Verbeek, Deputy Director; Seas at Risk

19:50 – 20:00

Concluding remarks

MEP Ricardo Serrão Santos

Luc Bas, IUCN Regional Office