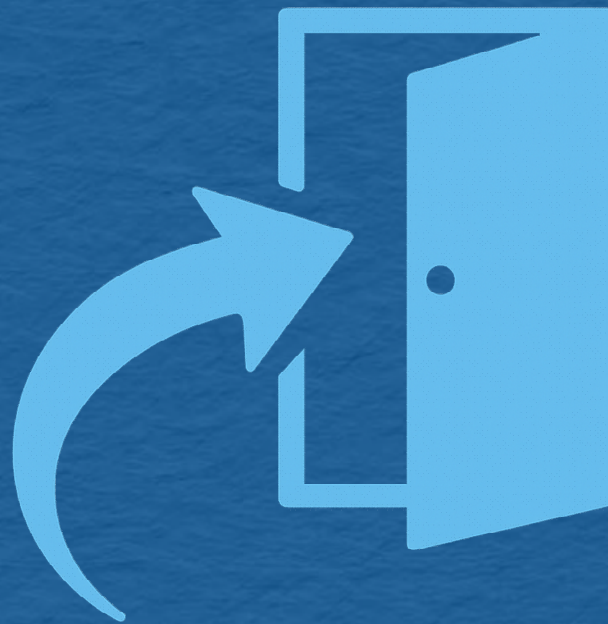


RAUS AUS DER KRISE, REIN IN DIE ZUKUNFT

Ton Emans

President, Plastics Recyclers Europe



Dresden, 24 Juni 2025

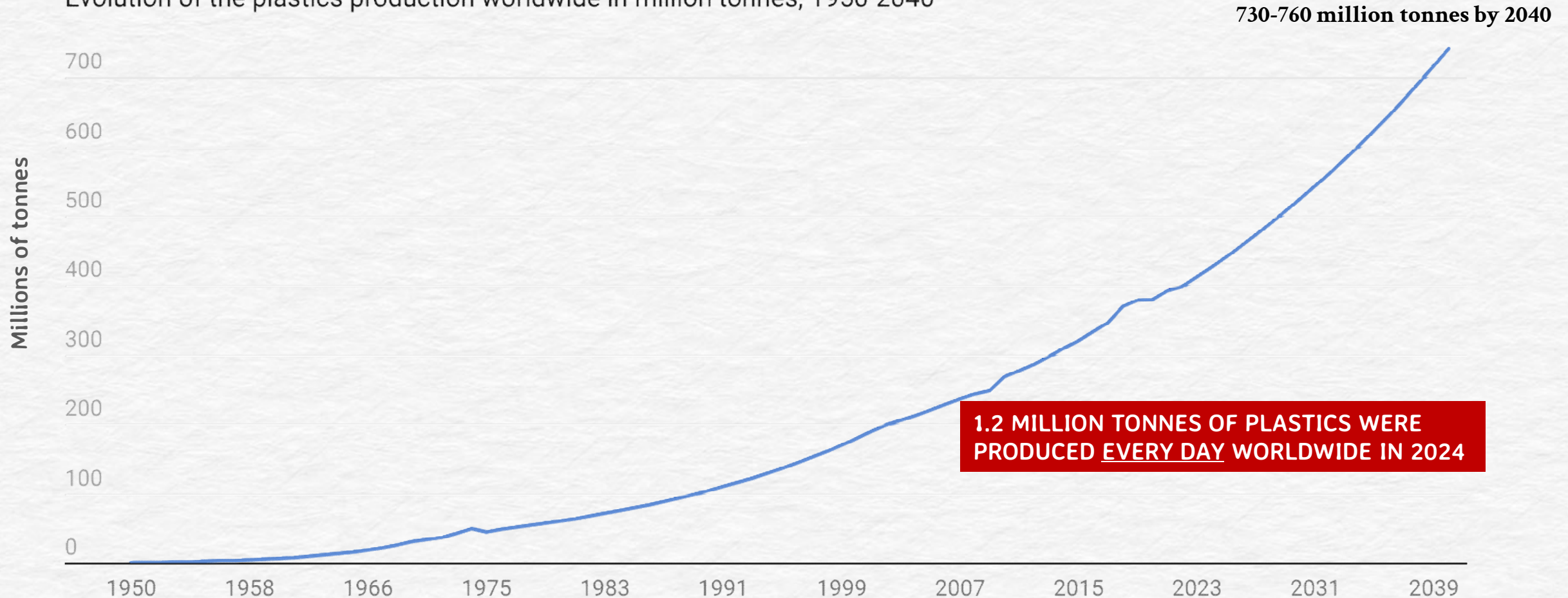
2024





World's plastic production expected to surpass 700 million tonnes by 2040

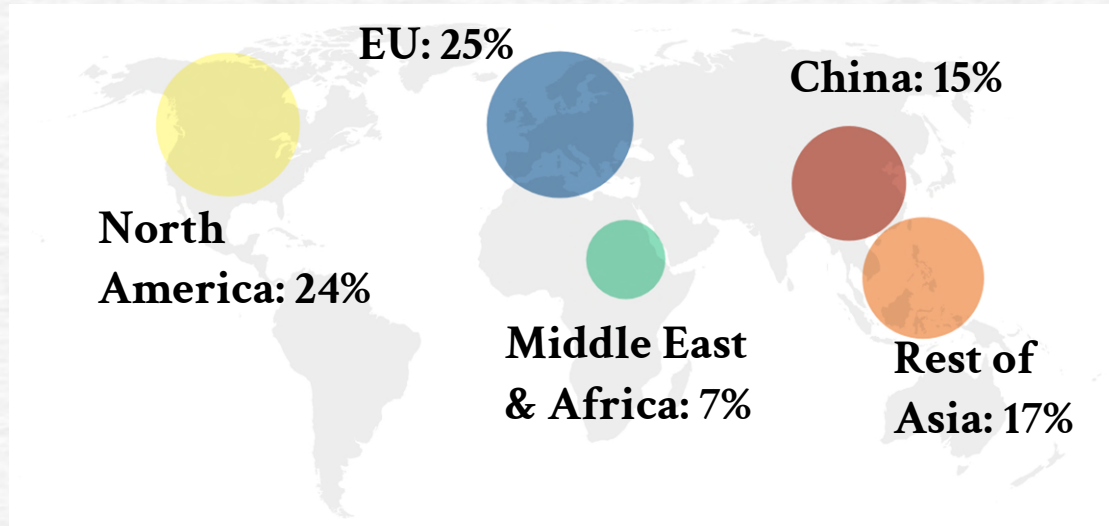
Evolution of the plastics production worldwide in million tonnes, 1950-2040



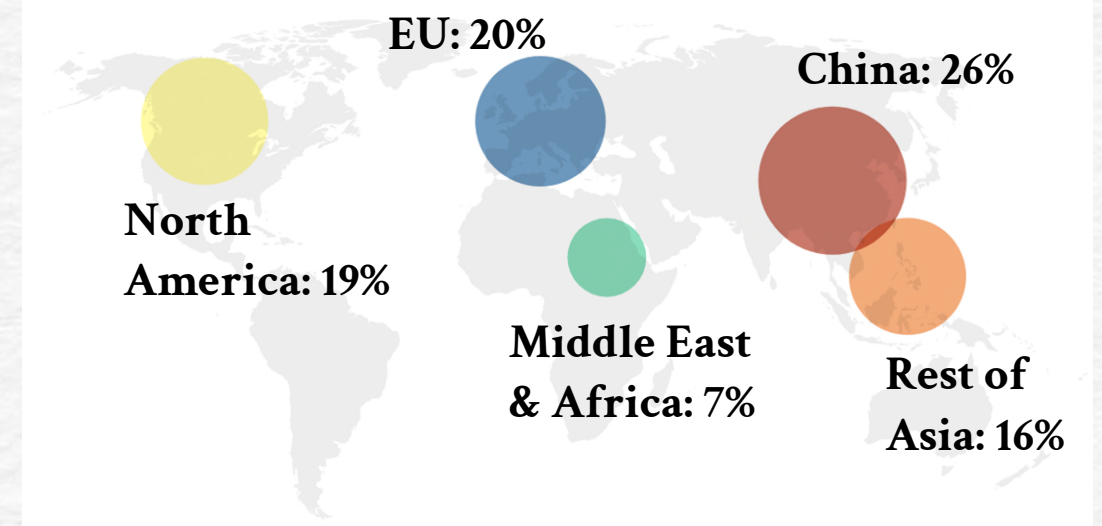
GLOBAL PLASTIC PRODUCTION

Sources: Plastics Europe,
OECD, PRE estimation.

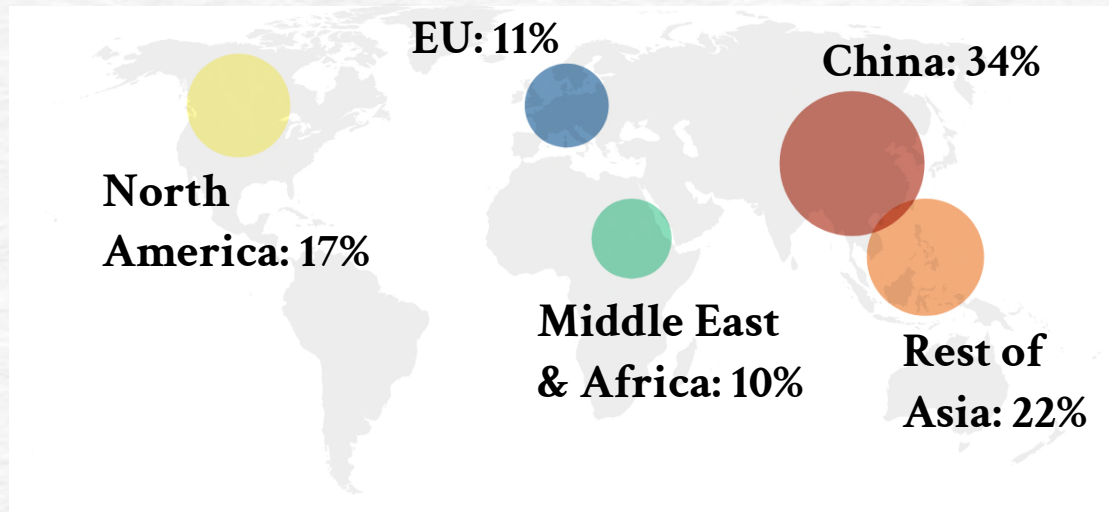
2006



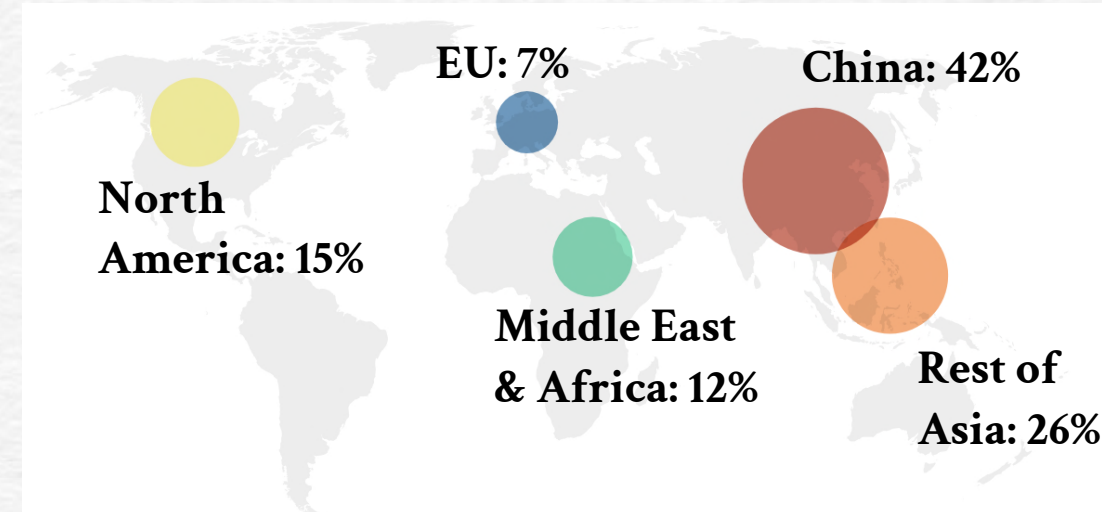
2014



2024



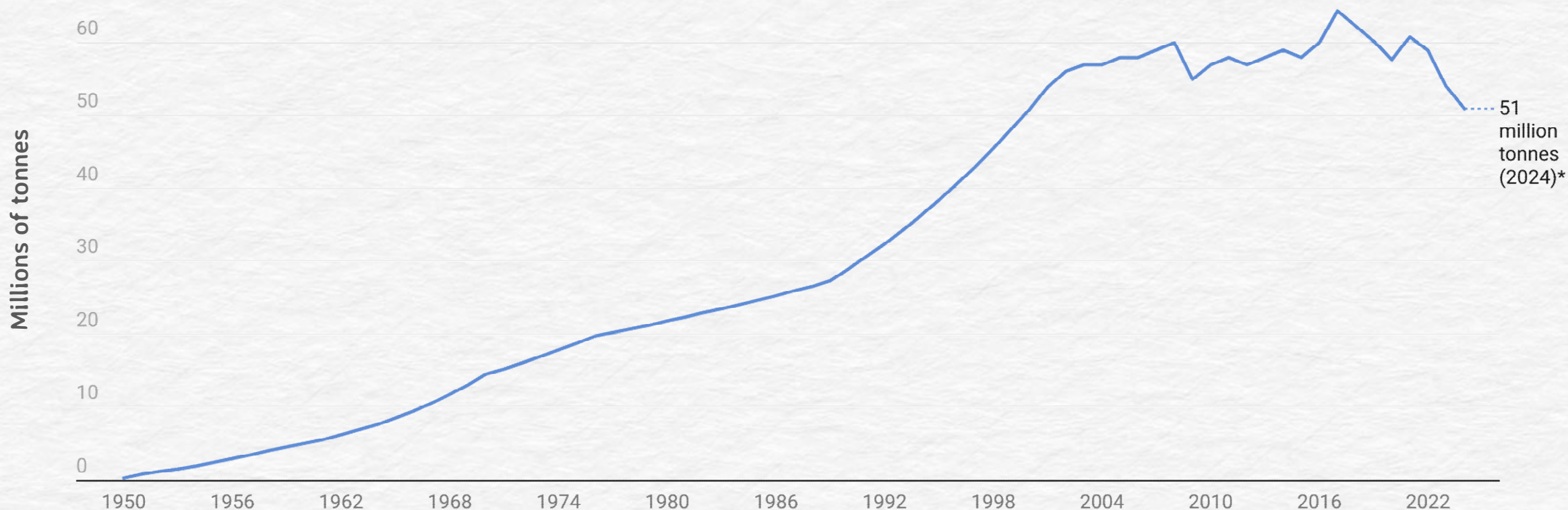
2034



DOWNWARD SHIFT IN EU'S PLASTIC PRODUCTION

EU plastics production expected to be at 2000 level in 2024

Evolution of the plastics production in EU27+3 in million tonnes, 1950-2024



EXODUS

EUROPA 2025

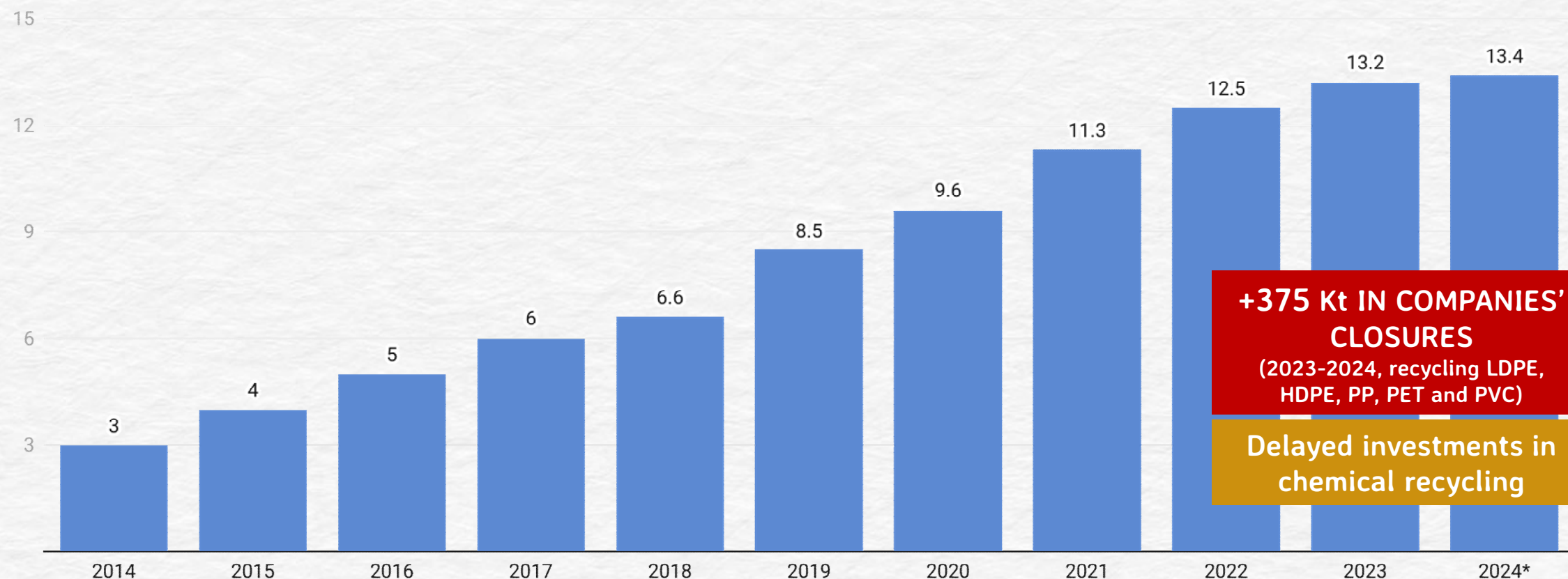
POLYMER PRODUCERS



CURRENT SITUATION IS ALARMING

The installed recycling capacity grew by 6% in 2023, with negligible growth expected in 2024

Evolution of the installed plastics recycling capacity in million tonnes in EU27+3 countries, 2014-2024

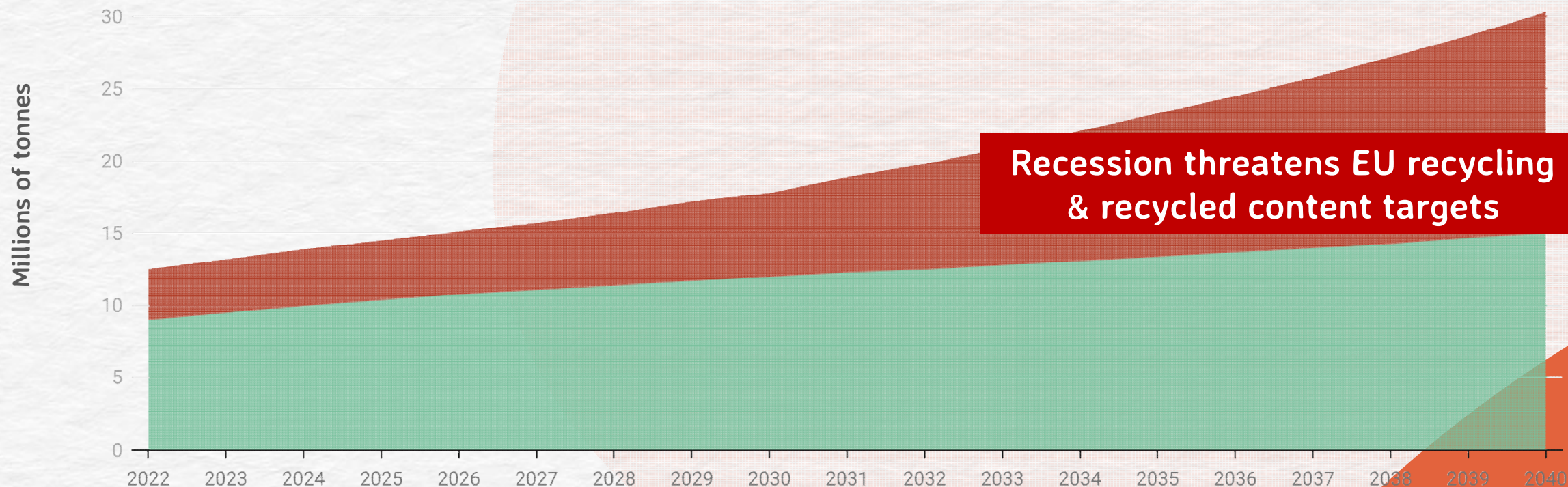


IF THE CURRENT TREND CONTINUES, 2030 PPWR TARGETS WILL BE MISSED

Current capacity projections vs PPWR targets

Installed plastics recycling capacity in EU27+3 countries in plastics packaging, 2022-2040

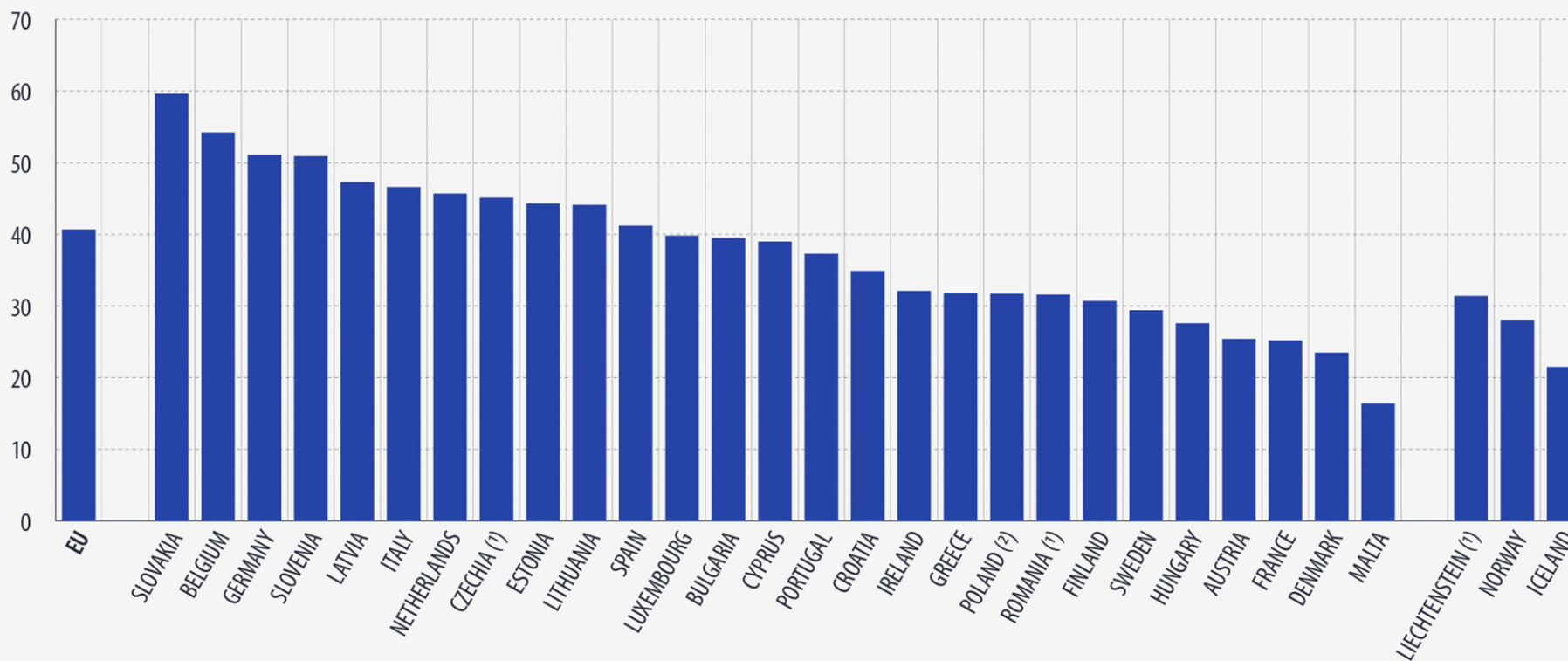
■ EU's installed recycling capacity (plastics packaging) ■ Extra capacity needed or imports of recycled material



WHAT IS THE ACTUAL RECYCLING RATE?

Recycling rate of plastic packaging waste in the EU, 2022

(%)

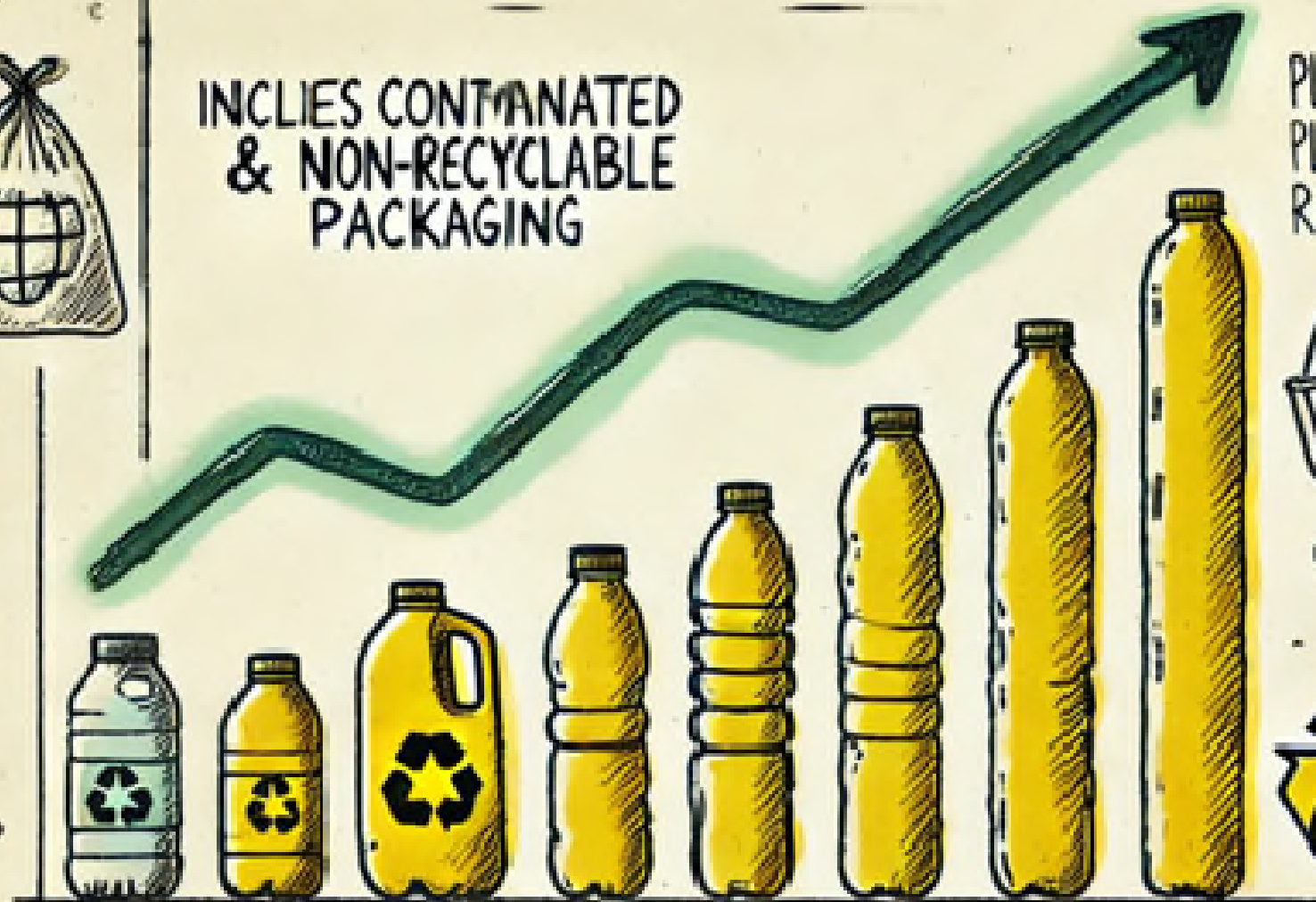


(1) 2021 data.

(2) 2019 data.

**INCLUDES CONTAMINATED
& NON-RECYCLABLE
PACKAGING**

INCLUDES CONTAMINATED
& NON-RECYCLABLE
PACKAGING



— RECORD HIGH —

PLASTIC
PLASTIC
RAGE







SOUP POUCH
SOUP SOUP SOUP

Crackers
CRACKERS

DISHWASHER
TABLETS





**CHEAP IMP
RECYCLED PLASTIC**



**CHEAP
IMPORTED
PLASTIC**

**CHEAP
IMPORTED**

**NEW
PLASTICS**

PLASTIC

**CHEAP
PLASTIC**

**NEW
PLASTIC**

**CLASTIC
PLASTIC**



**OLD
OIL
REFINERY**


**CHEMICAL
RECYCLING**


RECYCLING

Kunststoff ist nicht das Problem.



Das Problem ist das Marktsystem, das Neuware belohnt und Rezyklat bestraft.



LIEVEN BAUWENS SMUGGLING MACHINES FROM THE UK TO BELGIUM



FIRST STEAM LOCOMOTIVES ON THE CONTINENT



**LOCAL
FOR
EUROPE**







WE NEED
URGENT
MEASURES

IMMEDIATE MEASURES TO SAVE THE PLASTIC RECYCLING INDUSTRY

⌚ Short-term measures:

- **Stricter control on virgin & recycled plastic imports** with lesser production standards
- Provide temporary **financial support** for recyclers
- **Creates a fair level playing field** between **recyclates** and **virgin plastics**
- **Incentives for using recyclates** (for brands, converters)

📅 1 Long-term measures:

- Recognition of the **industry as a key actor** in the circular economy
- **Coordinated EU investment** in sorting and recycling infrastructure
- **Mandatory minimum recycled content** by product category
- Develop a **design for recycling** ecosystem
- Regional recycling first: prioritize circular economy and champion "**Made in EU**"

**WE HAVE STARTED THE CHANGE – BUT WE
CAN'T SUCCEED ALONE.**

**POLICY, THE MARKET –AND YOU –
NEED TO STEP UP.**

DO WE LEAD, OR FALL BACK?



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