

## **A deal on the PPWR: Statement by the Roundtable for Reusable Containers Trays and Pallets**

After nearly three years of intense discussion, the European Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR), the regulation which intends to address Europe's ever-growing waste problem caused by single-use packaging, has been approved by the European Parliament and the Council of the EU. For the first time, the PPWR includes legally binding reuse targets for the transport packaging sector. This is a pivotal moment for the sustainability of the European packaging industry and an acknowledgement of fully recyclable reusable transport packaging which for decades has been a proven solution for waste prevention.

However, the number of loopholes and derogations to the reuse targets represent a missed opportunity for the PPWR to fully materialise its potential to prevent waste in transport packaging. The exemption of cardboard packaging from the reuse targets causes the targets to be unnecessarily diluted. In Germany alone, 69% of all transport packaging is cardboard packaging, the majority of which is single-use. The remaining 31% is mainly made of wood and plastic, a large share of which is already reusable (Nabu, 2022).

Reuse is the most sustainable and resource- and energy-efficient solution to eliminate unnecessary packaging waste. The RCTP will continue to advocate for higher waste prevention measures and stronger reuse ambitions to incentivise circularity and resource efficiency.