



Annual Report 2023

Making the Circular Economy a Reality for Lighting Products



Fabrizio D'Amico
EucoLight Chairman

The positive role of EucoLight as the voice of the lighting WEEE compliance organisations towards the EU institutions has been acknowledged by our members in a round of interviews I had the honour to carry out.

Reflecting on members' experience, EucoLight made recommendations for future legislation in the context of the public consultation on the evaluation of the WEEE Directive. In collaboration with partner stakeholders, EucoLight co-organised events and co-signed statements advocating for the enforcement of the rules and for a level playing field.

Thanks to the expertise on lamps and lighting within the association, we conducted exchanges of best practices on operational topics in the field of collection and logistics such as sorting of lamps, including LEDs, destination of recovered material and smart containers. Our members collectively achieve high collection rates for lamps through constant efforts on the ground and innovation.

EucoLight also monitored policies affecting lighting products beyond the use phase in the framework of the Green Deal. We are committed to continuously sharing information and mapping potential projects in circular economy and sustainability reporting.

Our outgoing Board members, Stephan Riemann from Lightcycle (Germany), Tomáš Rychetský from Ekolamp S.r.o (Czech Republic) and Ekolamp Slovakia, and Ourania Georgoutsakou from LightingEurope deserve our gratitude for their work.



Marc Guiraud
EucoLight Secretary General

This year, we defined our main priorities for a revised WEEE legislation, advocating for realistic collection targets that consider waste available for collection, clarification categories and subcategories for lighting products, extended WEEE requirements for all actors, and a plea addressing the non-compliance with WEEE requirements for products sold through online marketplaces.

Furthermore, we contributed to stakeholder consultations for the evaluation of the WEEE Directive.

In the field of collection and recycling, we pulled together:

- An inventory report on circular economy
- A survey on the handling of special purpose lamps
- Updated statistics on the quantity of LED lamps collected in the waste stream

We co-signed joint statements pleading for a strong enforcement framework for the implementation of the Green Deal for sustainable products, gapping the online sales loophole.

The 2023 EucoLight Conference in Bucharest in May, hosted by our Romanian member, Recolamp with 65 delegates covering expectations for the new Directive, circularity and sustainability, collection and recycling topics with speakers from the European Commission, and Extended Producer Responsibility experts.

We released two videos to show the institutional value of EucoLight as an association and to raise awareness of the important work carried out by EucoLight members in the management of lighting WEEE.

EucoLight priorities

Harmonise the interpretation of European Regulations and Directives

- Encourage harmonised solutions to EU single market issue.
- Seek to harmonise product and waste definitions and classification for lighting products.
- Cooperate with producers' associations for a common understanding of the impact of circular economy on EucoLight members, including durability, repairability, upgradeability, design for disassembly, ease of re-use and recyclability.

Ensure a level playing field

- Encourage the early adoption of mandatory consistent requirements, including operational and financial requirements, for all EPR organisations, that reflect the professionalism and integrity of EucoLight members.
- Seek consistent reporting of all EEE and WEEE in the national registers.
- Seek solutions to tackle freeriding when products are placed on the market notably through online marketplaces.

Define achievable collection and recycling objectives

- Reliable data for setting adequate collection targets.
- Explain the importance of collecting gas discharge lamps and LED in the same waste stream.
- Identify efficient LED recycling technologies and addressing the challenges of LED material recovery.

Encouraging Producer Responsibility Organisations to adopt eco-friendly lighting WEEE practices

- Monitor the recyclability of waste products, as the material composition impacts the recycling rate performance.
- Monitor the review of the CENELEC WEEE treatment standards follow up all issues relating to the quality of the treatment outputs.
- Share knowledge and develop guidelines about the collection of lamps and luminaires with the least possible environmental impact.

Achievements 2023

EU Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive Sharing EucoLight recommendations for the WEEE Directive revision with our members priorities in mind

Open public consultation - September 2023: EucoLight responded to the open public consultation questionnaire and complemented its response with a position paper pointing out several issues to be addressed in the WEEE directive Revision along with a series of recommendations:

- Overall, the Directive has been effective to reach its objectives but more harmonisation in some areas is required.
- Ambiguities on (W)EEE definitions for lighting must be addressed.
- Subcategories for lighting must be harmonised in the EU.
- Extended producer responsibly: same rules for all actors and for a level playing field.
- The non-compliance of EEE sold through online marketplaces must be tackled.
- WEEE collection: ensure that collection target methodology takes into account the product life span, hence consideration for waste available for collection.
- The benefit of eco-modulation of the fees is questionable.
- Linked EU legislation should be aligned and non-contradict themselves. The WEEE Directive should only focus on the collection, transport, and treatment of the WEEE.

Study supporting the evaluation of the WEEE Directive: Participation at the targeted consultations of stakeholders and final stakeholder workshop organised by the EU Commission's consultants, Rambøll Management Consulting, Umweltbundesamt GmbH (UBA), and Oeko-Institut.

Online free riding

Continue raising awareness of the alarming quantities of non-compliant products supplied through online marketplaces in the EU market and advocating to ensure all sellers of products contribute to WEEE fees and register with Producer Responsibility Organisations.

Press release on Updated EucoLight study shows high level of EPR non-compliance through online marketplaces: The study undertaken in 9 countries has shown a persistent high level of non-compliance across various product groups. In the case of LED lightbulbs, the non-compliance was in the range of 65%-100% in 8 of the participating countries.

Hybrid Event: Sustainable Products in a Digital Age – E-commerce Compliance in the ESPR and the Green Deal - May 2023: EucoLight co-organised a European Parliament Event hosted by MEP Alessandra Moretti which aimed at addressing with various stakeholders, ways forward to sustainable products in a digital age.

Joint statements:

- [Green Deal ambition for sustainable products threatened by gaping online sales loophole- March 2023](#)
- [There cannot be a Green Deal without a strong enforcement framework- September 2023](#)

Best practices in field of collection, logistics and recycling of lighting WEEE:

Collection and treatment of Special Purpose Lamps: member survey (12 contributions) aiming at analysing the opportunities and challenges by offering take back of Special Purpose Lamps. Results were presented at the EucoLight Conference in May 2023.

Monitor the quantity of LED lamps in the waste stream: to understand the progression of the lamp waste flow in Europe based on the compilation of sampling from EucoLight members. At the end of 2023, the European average by waste reported was 7,96% compared to the 0,96% in 2017 when EucoLight first started this exercise. This reflects the gradual increase of this types of lamps on the market and subsequently in the waste flow.

Inventory on circular economy: this internal project aimed at mapping lighting in national circularity laws, in best practises on repair and reuse, and challenges to implement circularity projects. Following an extensive questionnaire dispatched amongst EucoLight members in December 2022, an internal extenso-report was shared with EucoLight members in June 2023 including survey results overview, reference to legislation, national action plans, and best practices.

Partner associations



LIGHTINGEUROPE
THE VOICE OF THE LIGHTING INDUSTRY

APPLiA
Home Appliance Europe

AIM®
EUROPEAN
BRANDS
ASSOCIATION

PV CYCLE

Expra

weeeforum

T O E
Toy Industries of Europe

EWRN european weee registers network

EE RA
EUROPEAN ELECTRONICS
RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION

EuRIC

EUCOBAT

CENELEC

EPRClub
Extended Producer Responsibility

EucoLight in the Public

EucoLight Conference in Bucharest - May 2023



65 delegates from 18 lighting WEEE compliance schemes, representatives of lighting producers, and stakeholders discussed EU policies impacting end-of-life lighting products, experience from stakeholders with regards to the extended producer responsibility model, operational topics in the field of collection and logistics, circular economy and sustainability reporting, evolution of marketing, and best practice sharing from EucoLight members.

Stakeholder dialogue

- **WEEE legislation:** contribution to stakeholder consultations organised by the European Commission and its consultants (June, October); exchanges of view with key stakeholders in field of WEEE, including producers' associations e.g. LIGHTINGEUROPE, producer responsibly organisations e.g. the WEEE FORUM, the recycling sector, national registers and competent authorities.
- **Enforcement of rules:** bilateral and collective dialogue with the European Commission (notably DG Environment, and DG Grow) and co-organisation of an event at the European Parliament with industry and NGOs in May.
- **Extended Producer Responsibility and Sustainability:** we invited several stakeholders e.g. EUCOBAT, EXPRA, PV CYCLE to present their views about EU specific legislation to discuss points of attention in future legislation as part of EucoLight conference in May.

New Institutional Videos- October 2023



Social Media Presence

EucoLight increased its presence on social media e.g. sharing our position for the WEEE Directive revision, communicating on the need to tackle online free riding, and creating awareness on environmental days.



EucoLight Board



Fabrizio D'Amico
Chairman
Managing Director
Ecolamp (IT)



Tomáš Rychetský
Vice Chairman until
May 2023
Managing Director
EKOLAMP s.r.o (CZ)



**Juan Carlos
Enrique Moreno**
Vice Chairman as
of May 2023
Managing Director
Ambilamp (ES)



Stephan Riemann
Treasurer until May
2023 Managing
Director Lightcycle
(DE)



Gied Van Hoorn
Board Secretary
until June 2023 and
Treasurer as of May
2023 Managing
Director LightRec
Nederland (NL)



**Ourania
Georgoutsakou**
Board Member until
June 2023
Secretary General
LightingEurope (EU)



Andreas Adams
Board Member as
of June 2023
Representative of
LightingEurope
(EU)

Working Group Chairs and Team

Working Group Chairs:



Natalia Sierra
Policy working group
Institutional and
Public Affairs
Director Ambilamp
(ES)



David Horcajada
Marketing and
Communications
working group
Director of Marketing
and Communications
Ambilamp (ES)



Marc Guiraud
Interim Chairman of
the Logistics and
Treatment working
group

EucoLight Team:

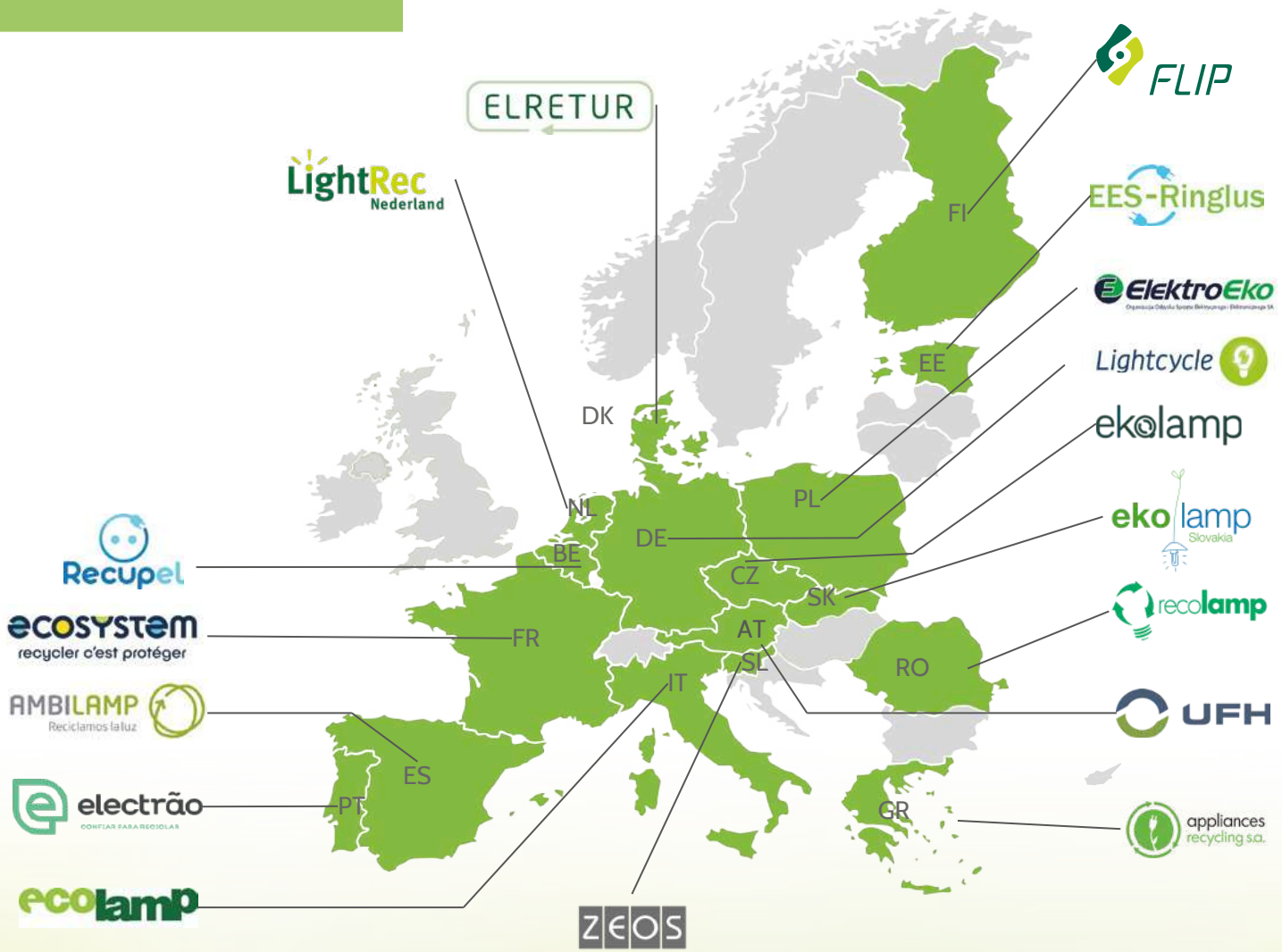


Marc Guiraud
Secretary General



**Maria Sanchez
Rodriguez**
Junior Officer for
Public Affairs and
Communications

EucoLight Members



Affiliate Member:



LIGHTINGEUROPE
THE VOICE OF THE LIGHTING INDUSTRY

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