

Selected Attitudes of Stakeholders in the Plastics Circulation: The Case of Polish Entrepreneurs

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Abstract

Changes in European waste regulations affect the transformations in the economies of EU member states. A particularly interesting area is the use of plastics, as well as their appropriate collection and subsequent processing. European Union regulations on the introduction of plastics to the market and their recycling are intended to make their management more environmentally friendly (increase the level of recycling of this municipal waste).

For the purposes of analysing and assessing the circulation of plastics in the Polish economy, comprehensive research was carried out, starting from producers of plastic products (including packaging), through producers using plastic packaging, sellers of plastic goods and goods in plastic packaging, consumers, companies collecting and transporting waste, and ending with companies processing plastic waste.

The aim of the research is to assess selected attitudes of entities involved in the circulation of plastics on the example of Poland.

The results of the research conducted in these groups indicate the existence of similarities and differences in the analysed attitudes of stakeholders in the circulation of plastics in the economy. Entrepreneurs are transforming their business activities because, in addition to adapting to legal changes, they themselves analyse market trends and see such a need. Adapting to new conditions is, however, time- and cost-consuming.

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Keywords: waste, plastic waste, reverse logistics, waste management, recycling