

**Dear Sir/Madam,**

I am pleased to write you on behalf of the Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament in order to formally invite you to take part as speaker in the upcoming conference 'Towards Zero Waste' jointly organised with Zero Waste Europe, taking place the next 7th March in the European Parliament (Brussels).

The aim of the whole event is putting on the table the challenges of a sector that in nowadays' mainstream practices reflects clearly the limits of the current paradigm, in terms of environmental, economic and social sustainability. However, fully inserted in the Green New Deal logic, a comprehensive change of approach in waste management can be a relevant source of qualified jobs, affordable resources and lead to decreased environmental damage.

Therefore, beyond assessing the current deficiencies in the implementation of waste-related EU directives, this event intends to take an optimistic approach, focusing on the existing successful experiences even in complex contexts, which show that a sensible waste management is above all a matter of political will.

The event consists of a morning conference, with the presence of the EU Commissioner for Environment Janez Potocnik, an afternoon seminar encompassing best practices in different fields, and the evening screening of the film 'Trashed', recently produced by Jeremy Irons and present in Cannes festival.

We count on your contribution to make it a politically relevant event, which is able to raise awareness within the different EU institutions about the relevance of the sector for the future competitiveness of European economy, namely in terms of resource efficiency. At the same time, presenting successful experiences in municipalities and regions can offer guidance to local authorities on feasible waste management practices that provide both local jobs and improve the environmental quality of the area.

To end up, let us thank you still for your availability for this event and we hope it will be a useful initiative to you overall. We look forward to see you next Thursday 7th March in Brussels.

Sincerely,

**Marc Giménez Villahoz**  
Advisor on Petitions  
Greens/EFA group  
European Parliament

