

PRESS RELEASE

European Bioplastics appoints new Head of EU Affairs in Brussels

Berlin, 23 March 2022 – European Bioplastics, the association, representing the bioplastics industry in Europe, is pleased to announce the appointment of Maria Negut as new Head of EU Affairs. She assumed her position on 14 March 2022 and will be based in Brussels.

European Bioplastics (EUBP) and its members are happy to welcome Maria Negut on board of the EUBP team at this time of crucial importance. With the Green Deal casting its shadow ahead, setting up the path for the European Union's transition to a real resource-efficient economy, bioplastics are poised to play a significant role. "Maria joins a great team of EUBP experts that continuously evaluates the benefits of bio-based as well as biodegradable and compostable products which aim at reducing negative climate impacts", says François de Bie, Chairman of EUBP. "She is the right fit to explain policy makers in Brussels the role bioplastics can play to help achieving the EU sustainability goals", he adds.

Ms Negut, who can look back on several years of working in and with European institutions, is eager to take up the challenge. "I am thrilled to be joining EUBP at such a key moment for the bioplastics industry. With the Green Deal ambitions to transform the EU into a circular, climate neutral, modern, and competitive society, our industry will be playing an essential role in supporting the green transition", says Negut. She will make sure that EUBP continues to play an active part in the discussions impacting the bioplastics sector by engaging with EU policy makers and the broader range of stakeholders.

Prior to joining European Bioplastics, Maria Negut held several positions at the European Parliament and the European Commission. Most recently, she worked with the European Cocoa Association (ECA) where she served as EU Affairs Director Sustainability for over five years. Besides holding a Master's degree in Political Sciences and European Affairs from the Université Libre de Bruxelles as well as a post-graduate degree in International Organizations from the European Academy of Diplomacy (EAD), she is also a recognised Certified Sustainability (CSR) Practitioner. Maria was an active member of the EU Commission's Expert Group/Multi-Stakeholder Platform on Protecting and Restoring the World's Forests, including the EU Timber Regulation and the FLEGT Regulation. In addition, she was a member of the CEN TC415 – tasked with the development of the first international standard ISO 34101 on sustainable and traceable cocoa. On a regular basis, Maria is contributing to think-tank projects and writing on topics linked to sustainability, energy, and EU policies.

About European Bioplastics:

European Bioplastics (EUBP) is the European association representing the interests of the bioplastics industry along the entire value chain. Its members produce, refine and distribute bioplastics i.e. plastics that are bio-based, biodegradable, or both. More information is available at www.european-bioplastics.org

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