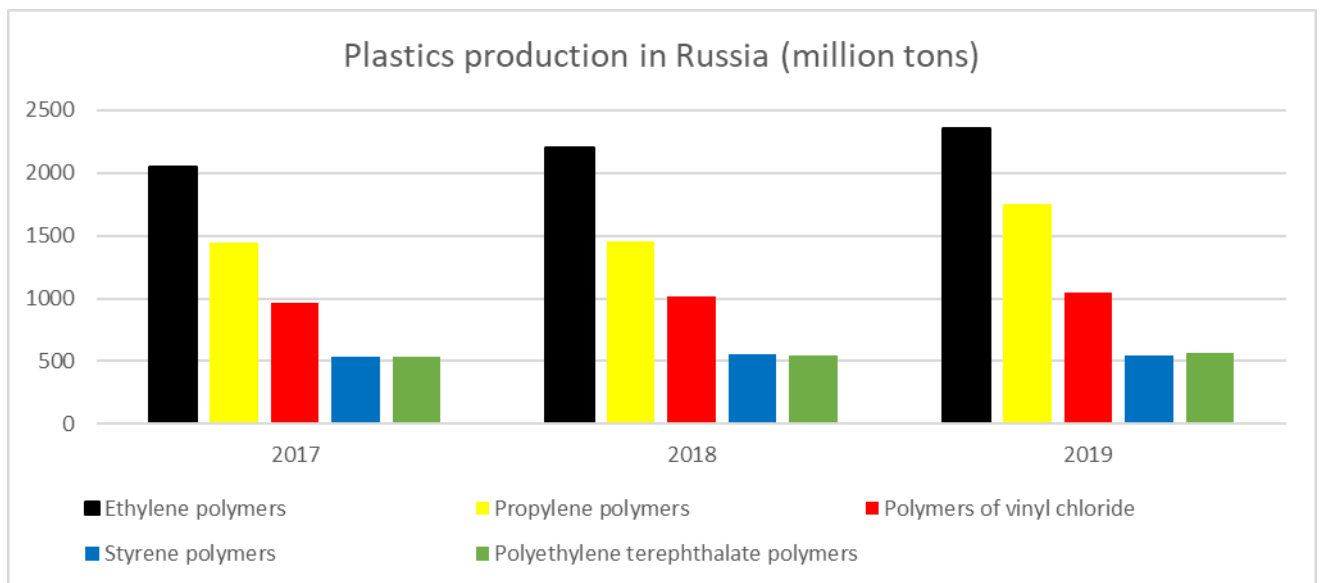




REGULATION OF PLASTICS IN RUSSIA

May 24, 2023

1. The volume of production of plastics in primary forms in Russia in 2021 was 11.1 million metric tons. In the first seven months 2022, it decreased by 5.4% to 6.1 million metric tons compared to January-July 2021. The dynamics of plastics production and trade turnover is shown in the diagrams below.¹



¹ O. Speranskaya, O. Ponizova, O. Tsitser, Y. Gursky. Plastics and Plastic Waste in Russia: situation, problems, and recommendations. International Pollutants Elimination Network, 2021.



2. Russia has supported the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee and participated in the development of an international binding Agreement. Environmental issues in Russia, including the problem of plastic pollution, are handled by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation.
3. The basic plastic regulation legislation:
 - 3.1. The Federal Law of June 24, 1998, № 89-FZ “On Production and Consumption Waste” (ed. of December 19, 2022) — the latest amendments concerned the development of a circular economy;
 - 3.2. The Industry Development Strategy For Processing, Utilization and Dismantling of Production Waste and Consumption Until 2030 of January 25, 2018, № 84-p, approved by the Government of the Russian Federation (establishes national indicators for the development of this industry and determines the resource potential for certain types of waste, including indicators for polymer waste) and the Action Plan to Implement the Strategy, approved by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation on June 10, 2021, № 5637п-П9;
 - 3.3. The Roadmap On the Implementation of the Concept of Improving the Institution of Extended Responsibility of Producers and Importers of Goods and Packaging, approved by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation on March 31, 2021, № 2915п-П11;
 - 3.4. The Action Plan (Roadmap) For the Introduction of Separate Collection and Collection of Solid Municipal Waste, approved by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation on June 1, 2020, № 4586п-П11;
 - 3.5. The Action Plan (Roadmap) On the Development of Technologies and Polymer Waste Recycling Industry, approved by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation on December 2, 2021, № 13023п-П9;
 - 3.6. The Concept of Improving the Institution of Extended Responsibility of Producers and Importers of Goods and Packaging, approved by the Executive Office of the Government of the Russian Federation on December 28, 2020, № 12888п-П11. The reform of the extended producer responsibility (ERP) mechanism and the implementation of the EPR are scheduled for the second half of 2023;
 - 3.7. Amendments to the Federal Law of May 1, 1999, № 94-FZ “On the Protection of Lake Baikal” in terms of the ban on the use of plastic disposable goods in the Baikal natural area (as of April 3, 2023, were approved in the first reading by the State Duma) — a regional experiment to ban plastic packaging.
4. Despite Russia’s active involvement in the agenda, the concepts of “plastic”, “microplastic”, and “plastic waste” are still missing in the Russian legislation. Maximum permissible concentrations and approximate permissible level for microplastics have not been established, and there is no state environmental monitoring for them. The Russian legislation does not contain a ban on the production and distribution of products containing microplastics. In Russia, the issues of plastic pollution are generally solved as part of waste control, implementation of the circular economy concept, application of the EPR mechanism, implementation of the best available technologies, and improvement of the overall scheme of production and consumption waste management.



5. The Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)² is discussing a ban on thin plastic bags, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) labels, expanded polystyrene packaging, and packaging from biodegradable materials.

6. In its proposals to the Agreement, Russia suggested a goal to protect the environment, including the marine environment, from plastic pollution. The proposed core obligations under the current Agreement are focused on the topics of pollution monitoring, extended producer responsibility, effective waste management.

7. The table below demonstrates Russia's status in previously adopted initiatives that are relevant to controlling plastic pollution. Russia participates in the international agreements related directly or indirectly to plastic pollution.

Document	Status (Russia)
The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto and as further amended by the Protocol of 1997	Ratified (1983)
The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (including plastic waste Amendments 2019)	Ratified (1994)
The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade	Ratified (2011)
The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants	Ratified (2011)
The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	Ratified (1997)
The Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter of 1972 and the Protocol thereto	Ratified (1975)
The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	Ratified (1994)
The Convention on Biological Diversity	Ratified (1995)

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² There are currently five countries in the EAEU: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia.