



European Citizens' Panel food waste Have Your Say

#FoodWasteEU

A New Generation of European Citizens' Panels

What are the Citizens' Panels?

Building on the success of the Conference on the Future of Europe, citizens' panels are now part of the Commission's policymaking in certain key areas.

The purpose of such panels is to enable citizens to deliberate and make recommendations ahead of certain key proposals.

The first Citizens' Panel is deliberating on the Commission's initiative on food waste.

Who will be in the panels?



Around **150 randomly selected citizens** from the **27 Member States**.



Representative of the EU's diversity: geographic origin (nationality and urban/rural), gender, age, socioeconomic background and level of education.



1/3 of the panel are young people (ages 16-25).



Food waste in the EU: What is at stake?

Nearly **57 million tonnes of food waste** were generated in 2020 (127kg per person), with the associated market value estimated to be at **€130 billion**.

Households represent a main hotspot, responsible for **55% of all food waste**.

Around 10% of food made available to consumers may be wasted.

Furthermore, food waste accounts for about **5% of EU greenhouse gas emissions** associated with the EU's overall food consumption footprint.



How to reduce food waste more effectively? The citizens' perspective.

Citizens will be asked to formulate recommendations on what actions should be taken by EU Member States, citizens and other private and public stakeholders in order to step up the effort to reduce food waste.

What will be the outcome of the Panel?

The panel will provide a list of recommendations that will support the Commission's work on food waste, including a legislative proposal to set EU food waste reduction targets, and serve as a guide to help Member States in achieving these targets.

How and when will it happen?

The citizens' panel combines collaborative work in small groups of around 12 people working in 5 different languages with plenary work with all the 150 participants together in 24 languages. To carry out this work, panelists are supported by a facilitation team and inputs by experts in the topic.

The panel will meet between December 2022 and February 2023.

The first session will take place on 16th–18th December in Brussels, followed with an online session on 20th–22nd January. The closure session will be held on 10th–12th February in Brussels.