

#RightToRepair at UNEA4

CHALLENGING PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE

Tired of wasting money on products that don't last?

Help us put an end to the **throwaway culture**.

The “right to repair” is part of sustainable consumption and production - and it demands an end to a throwaway culture for our products. The EEB is campaigning alongside environmental groups and social enterprises for products which are built to last.

The campaign targets policy makers and manufacturers. In 2019, for the first time EU legislation will oblige manufacturers to make certain appliances more easily repairable and longer-lasting. This legislation covers lighting, displays, washing machines, dishwashers and fridges.

Our ambition is to expand the scope of these policies and turn the **#RighttoRepair** into a global movement.

“The proportion of defective devices being replaced by consumers grew from 3.5% in 2004 to 8.3% in 2012.”

Oeko-Institut, Germany

“Electronic waste is the fastest growing waste stream in the world.”

UN University

“Repair is as important as innovation.”

The Economist

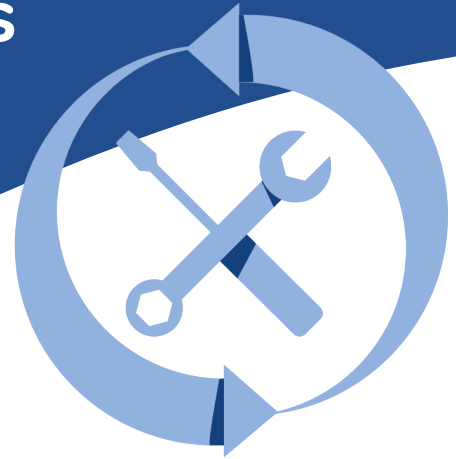


EEB

European
Environmental
Bureau



Why repairing products is better than buying new



ENVIRONMENT

Repairing products helps to limit the depletion of valuable finite natural resources. The embedded emissions from manufacturing in products such as smartphones are significant – these are lost when a product is discarded. Repair also helps to reduce landfilling, dumping and incineration of valuable materials, as well as low value waste exports to the global south.



ECONOMY

Repair is a more effective value retention process than recycling, providing product level efficiency gains in material, energy, and water use. At a macro-economic level and as part of the circular economy, repair on a large scale can help to reduce dependencies on virgin materials. For citizens, in the long term, it is nearly always cheaper to use more durable product which are maintained and repaired, rather than repeatedly buying products with a short product lifetime.



SOCIETY

Repair provides opportunities for new business models, such as leasing and service models, as well as social enterprises, repair cafés and tool libraries which are increasingly being set up across the globe. These initiatives can create new revenue opportunities for businesses, create skilled jobs, and support social integration.



Building blocks for repairable products

- Design products which are easy to disassemble with commonly available tools
- Make spare parts available at an affordable price
- Provide public access to product information and repair manuals

For more information about the #RighttoRepair campaign please contact:

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