The objective of this Directive

- to prevent and reduce the impact of *disposable plastic waste* on the environment *in general*, in particular *plastic waste transportation to any* aquatic environment, *including freshwater and shallow sea*, on human health or sea-life...

- to the single-use plastic products *especially those* listed in the Annex, *or in general any other disposable non-degradable plastic items left in the environment for any reason*

- preventing and reducing littering in the natural and marine environment, does not go beyond what is necessary to attain that objective, does *not constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination or a disguised restriction on trade* between Member States and is consistent with existing EU legislation.
Excluding

- natural polymers that have not been chemically modified or synthetic polymers in general; polymeric materials degradable in aquatic environments, biodegradable modified natural polymers, natural fibers and biodegradable synthetic polymers are not defined as 'plastic'
- polymeric coatings, linings, paints, inks or adhesives (minor components)
- products made of paper, board or wood or cellulose pulp having established dedicated for paper or board recycling systems, (recyclable biomaterials)
- excluding materials which are essential for health care and safety. (essentials)
Main amendments

Member States should

- have permission to limit the use of single-use plastic products other than those listed in Part A of the Annex, on their territory on specific reasons on well defined limited areas (very sensitive environments like Arctic, Mediterranean or Baltic resorts)

- actively stimulate innovation and investment with a view to circular solutions to support the potential for growth in tourism and the blue economy.
The European Commission shall

Assess in cooperation with Member States

- take into consideration problems of transition to reusable alternatives and single-use non-plastic alternatives, their sustainability as well as appropriate waste disposal practices.

- take into consideration specific legislative, economic, social and environmental aspects of the Member States as well as local and regional differences.