Current trends in Europe and legislative challenges facting the printing industry

Beatrice Klose Secretary General



CONTENT.



A new EU political context



A new European Parliament



A new European Commission

"Europe must lead the transition to a healthy planet and a new digital world."

Ursula von der Leyen President of the European Commission 2019-2024



Industry trends



Political uncertainty, including over BREXIT, leads to decreasing growth anticipation in Europe.



Packaging printing has surpassed graphic printing in 2016.



2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

INTERGRAF TURNOVER, 2000-2023f, IN BILLION €, CONSTANT 2015 PRICES AND EXCHANGE RATES SOURCE: SMITHERS PIRA FOR INTERGRAF, APRIL 2019

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Printed Packaging and labels are leading.



10 INTERGRAF EUROPEAN PRINTING AND PRINTED PACKAGING TURNOVER BY PRODUCT, 2017-2023f, € MILLION SOURCE: SMITHERS PIRA FOR INTERGRAF, APRIL 2019

Flexo and inket are the winners.



INTERGRAF EUROPEAN PRINTING AND PRINTED PACKAGING TURNOVER BY PROCESS, 2017-2023f, € MILLION SOURCE: SMITHERS PIRA FOR INTERGRAF, APRIL 2019

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Although the large majority of its trade of printed products is intra-EU, the EU has a trade surplus of €2.7 billion to non-EU countries .



The EU imports printed products mainly from the US and China (imports 2018).



Main EU exporting markets of printed products, 2018.





EU legislative challenges



European Green Deal

Achieving climate neutrality by 2050

Transition to a Circular Economy

A zero pollution Europe

CLIMATE

Decarbonisation of European industrial sectors will increase pressure on largest printing plants, but:

- Good track records for VOC emissions in Europe: VOC emissions decreased by 50% in the past 30 years.
- By 2024, all printers consuming more than 200 tonnes of solvents per year (flexo, gravure, heatset offset) will have to update their environmental permits to comply with new legal requirements in terms of VOC emissions.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Greener product policy with emphasis on eco-design of products, including on recyclability of products:

- Good track records on paper and board recycling in Europe: 71.6% paper recycling; 83.6% paper and board recycling
- New EU Ecolabel for printed products will be available in 2020
- Further pressure on eco-design of printed products (deinkability requirements, mineral oil content...)

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Restrictions on single-use plastics and expected new requirements to ensure that all packaging in the EU market is reusable or recyclable in 2030 will:

- Increase pressure for printed packaging, in particular printed plastic packaging
- Possibly create opportunities for paper-based packaging alternatives

ZERO POLLUTION

Further restrictions on chemicals:

- New EU Ecolabel for printed products will be available in 2020
- Further pressure on eco-design of printed products (deinkability requirements, mineral oil content...)

Beyond legislative challenges



Shortage in skilled staff.



Shortage in skilled staff in Germany.

Employers have difficulty filling their vacancies

Are you able to fill vacant posts?

67% it is difficult to fill vacancies for skilled labour



Shortage in skilled staff in Germany.

Are you hampered in your business activity due to not being able to fill vacancies?

(n=273)

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% all respondents 12% 44% 44% 75% of larger companies up to 20 staff 9% 25% 66% cannot perform as they 21 – 50 staff 13% 53% 34% wish due to lack of skilled 19% 45% 36% 51 – 100 staff staff. more than 100 staff 63% 12% 25% 🔳 a bit 📲 no a lot

Graphic paper Prices in Germany 2017-2019.

Downward trend for paper prices after strong increase.



Decrease of pulp prices 2017-2019.

Pulp prices have peaked in summer 2018 and have decreased in 2019.



PULP PRICES, 2017-2019, IN €/TONNE

Digitisation.



Campaigning for print.











Recognising the benefit of print for reading comprehension.

- A meta-study of 54 studies with more than 170.000 participants demonstrates that comprehension of long-form informational text is stronger when reading on paper than on screens.
- Digital environments also pose challenges. Readers are more likely to be overconfident about their comprehension abilities when reading digitally than when reading print, in particular when under time pressure, leading to more skimming and less concentration on reading matter.
- Contrary to expectations about the behaviour of 'digital natives', such screen inferiority effects compared to paper have increased rather than decreased over time, regardless of age group and of prior experience with digital environments.

2019 Results of the E-READ meta-study 2014-2018 Source: COST Action E-READ Stavanger Declaration: <u>http://ereadcost.eu/stavanger-declaration/</u>

Restrictions on unaddressed printed advertising.



Increased pressure on printed products using environmental justification.



THANK YOU!

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