



PRESS RELEASE

Another fantastic year of *Let's Clean Up Europe*

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Let's Clean Up Europe! (LCUE) 2019 campaign held from 1 March to 30 June, has achieved an excellent result: 16,840 registered actions.

One of the highlights of this year's campaign was its cross-border participation, that is to say, actions were also registered outside of the European Union, namely in Andorra, Sweden, Norway and Turkey.

According to the figures provided by the coordinators in the different countries, nearly 675,000 volunteers participated in the clean-up actions organised by public entities, NGOs, schools, private companies, associations, and individuals.

The amount of waste collected is estimated to have reached almost **256,000 tonnes** (255,446.92 tonnes as per the available data, which contains unreported amounts). The table below provides the updated figures by regions, coordinators and action developers of LCUE across countries, in alphabetical order:

Country/Region	Partner organisation	No. of actions	No. of volunteers directly involved	Tonnes of waste collected
Andorra	Centre Andorra Sostenible	15	860	1,2
Austria	ARGE Österreichischer Abfallwirtschaftsverbände	2,700	170,000	1,000
Belgium	A.I.C.A. (with Surfrider Foundation)	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
Catalonia (Spain)	ARC (Agència de Residus de Catalunya)	309	20,535	86,187
Croatia	Association Žmergo	200	8,266	190.34
Finland	A.I.C.A.	1	4300	n.d.
France	Surfrider Foundation	940	n.d.	n.d.
Germany	VKU (Verband kommunaler Unternehmen)	2,975	64,333	44.2
Greece	Helmepe	107	5,500	n.d.
Ireland	A.I.C.A. (with Surfrider Foundation)	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
Island Balearic (Spain)	Environment Ministry of the Balearic Islands Government	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
Italy	A.I.C.A. (International Association for Environmental Communication)	222	20,297	161
LIPOR area (Region of Great Porto, Portugal)	Lipor	4	n.d.	n.d.
Lithuania	A.I.C.A. (International Association for Environmental Communication)	1	100	n.d.

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Norway		n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
Netherlands	RecycleValley (with Nederland Schoon)	4,370	200,000	n.d.
Northern Ireland (UK)	Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful	3868	127,864	253,316
Poland	Departament of Education and Communication Ministry of Environment of Poland	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
Portugal	Valorsul	17	990	n.d.
Scotland (UK)	Keep Scotland Beautiful	860	43.315	572
Other regions Spain	Surfrider Foundation	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
Sweden	A.I.C.A.	250	8.465	76
Turkey	A.I.C.A.	1	30	

The European campaign against littering LCUE, also known as the European spring clean-up, is organized annually during **the entire spring**, from **1 March to 30 June**. This year, its peak was during the second weekend of May, when the majority of the registered actions were held in celebration of Europe Day on May 9th.

The great efforts contributed by coordinators of the campaign have produced important results. National and regional Coordinators act as a point of contact for anyone interested in organizing a LCUE clean-up action and provide volunteers with support, communication material and the famous LCUE flags that are displayed during the actions.

All coordinators, action developers and participants are strongly invited to share pictures and videos of LCUE 2019 actions online on [Facebook](#) (Let's Clean Up Europe – Official) and [Twitter](#) (@LetsCleanUpEU) and participate in the Facebook Photo Contest (for rules see the Facebook page).

Background information

What is Let's Clean Up Europe! (LCUE)?

It is a campaign on waste minimisation conducted in the framework of the European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR). Initiated in 2014, it aims not only to clean territories, rivers or beaches of litter, but also to encourage concrete actions that inspire participants to incorporate waste prevention and reduction in their daily lives.

The aim of LCUE is not to replace other clean-up initiatives, but to create synergies between existing and new actions. Efforts are made with the goal of uniting events from different

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organisations and long-standing traditions under the LCUE flag in order to give even greater visibility to established clean-up actions.

LCUE is a call to action for a variety of action developers (public administrations, educational establishments, businesses, associations, citizens etc.) to organise or take part in clean-up activities. These can be carried out in natural settings or towns that have been affected by illegal dumping or washed-up waste on coasts or river banks. These action developers are also expected to mobilize participants to clean-up waste and litter in the targeted areas. Registered actions can aim to **either literally "clean-up Europe"** - removing litter which ends up in oceans, beaches, forests, rivers and elsewhere in nature – or **raise awareness** on the problem of littering and waste on a larger scale.

For additional information:

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