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This project is co-funded
by the European Union

MARINE LITTER OF THE BLACK SEA

A THREAT TO BIODIVERSITY

EMBLAS-Plus

Environmental Monitoring in the Black Sea

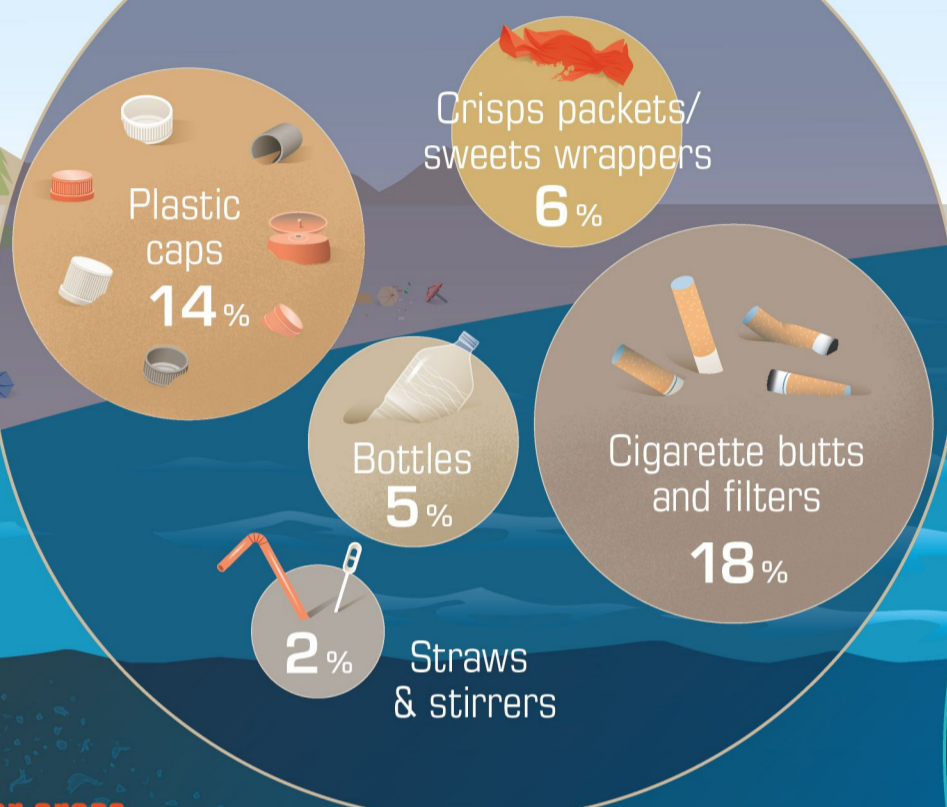


Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

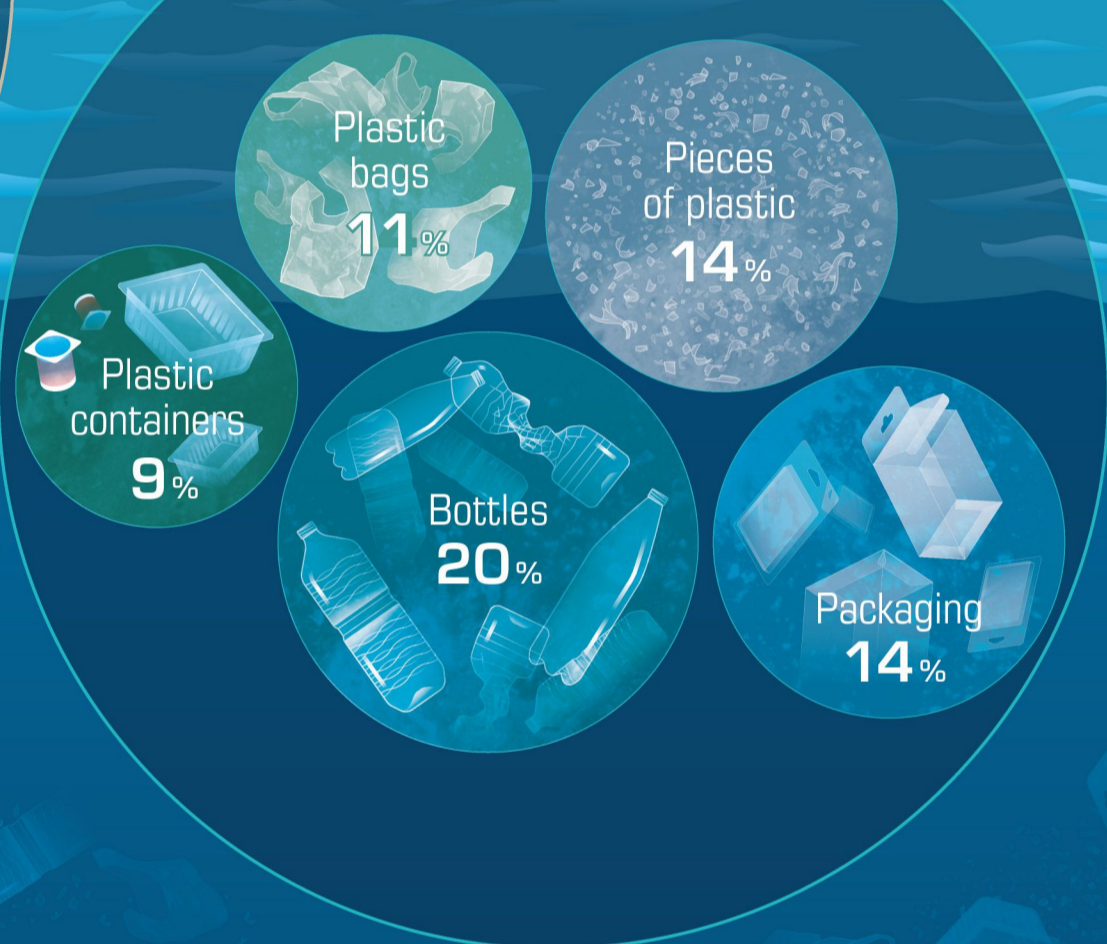
83% of the marine litter found
in the Black Sea is plastic.

Top 5 Types of litter*...

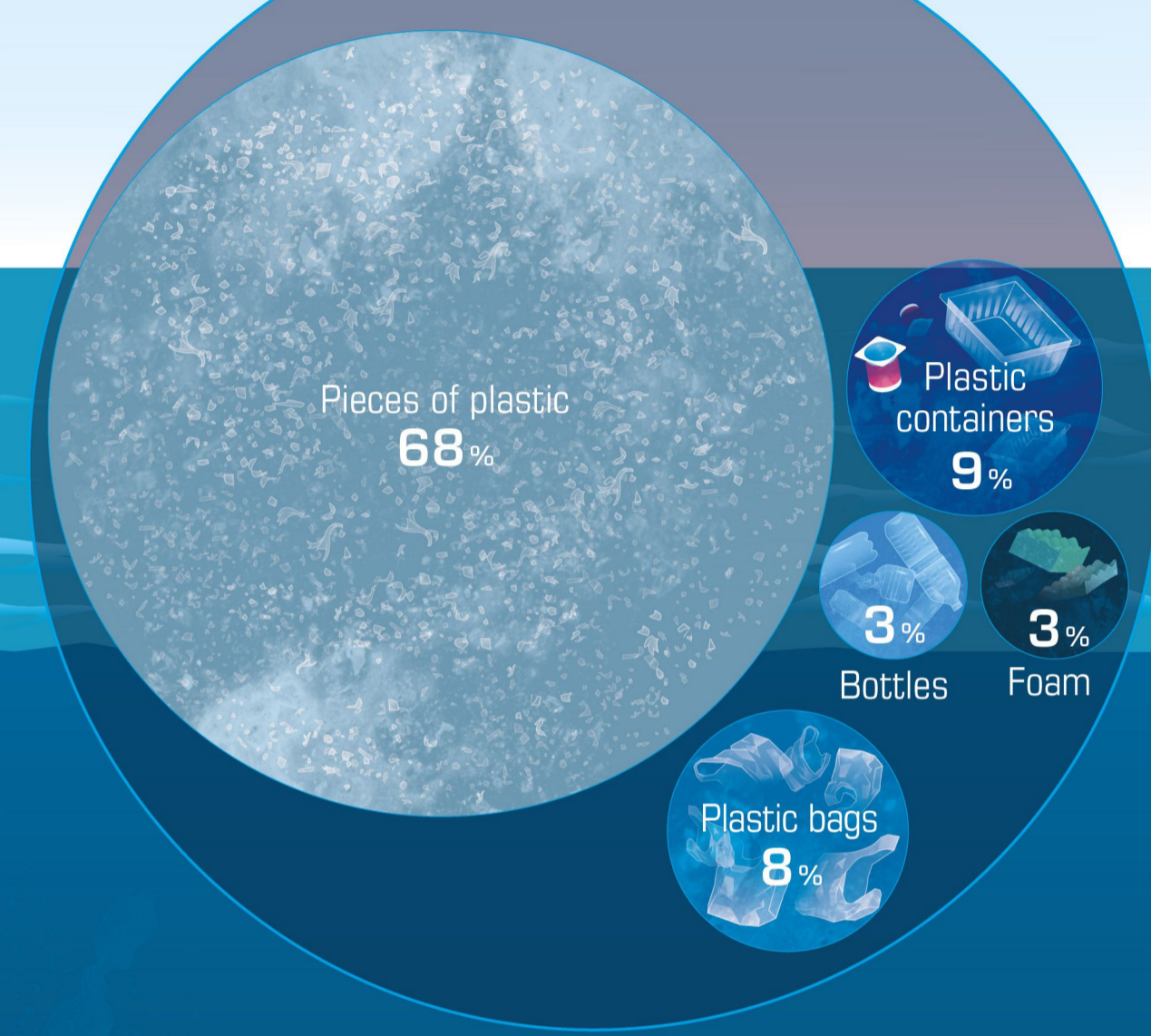
...found on the beach



...flowing from rivers

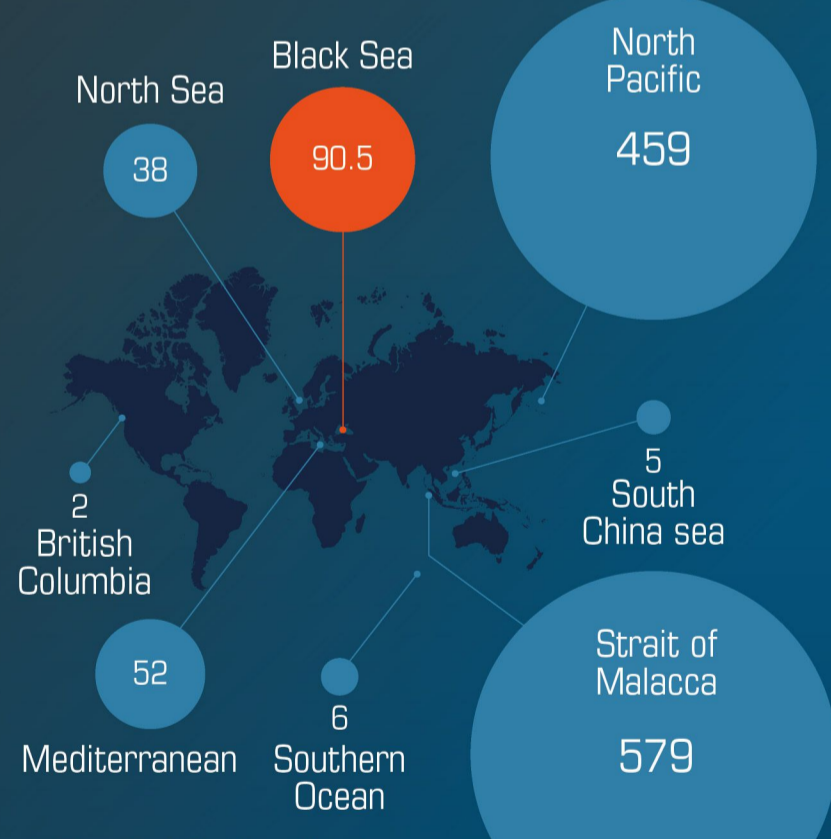


...found in the Sea



Comparison with other areas

Mean litter densities on the sea surface
from worldwide data (Litter Items/km²).*

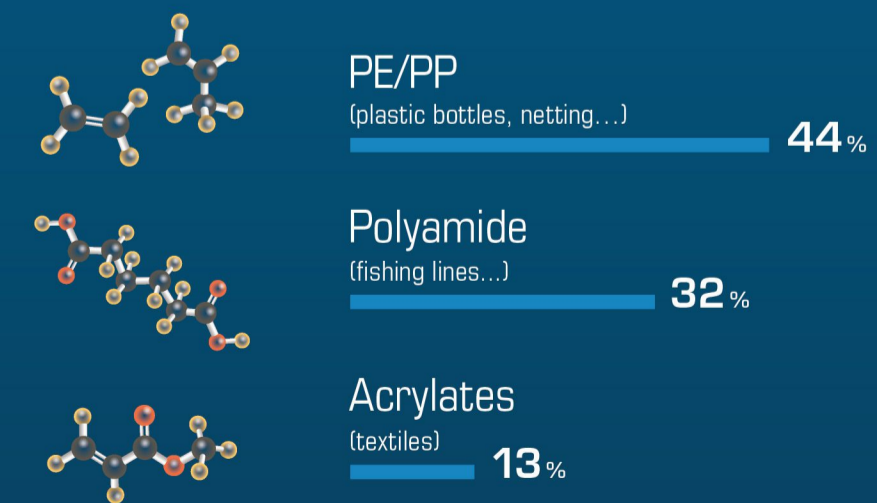


The Black Sea has high litter densities due to limited exchange of water with the open oceans and the intensive loads of pollutants carried on by large European rivers run off, such as Danube, Dniester, Don, Bug and Kubani.

* According to the EMBLAS-II field data (2017).
More information at http://emblasproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/EMBLAS-II_NPMS_JOSS_2017_ScReport_FinDraft2.pdf
** "Marine Anthropogenic Litter" Bergmann M., Gutow L., Klages M., 2009.

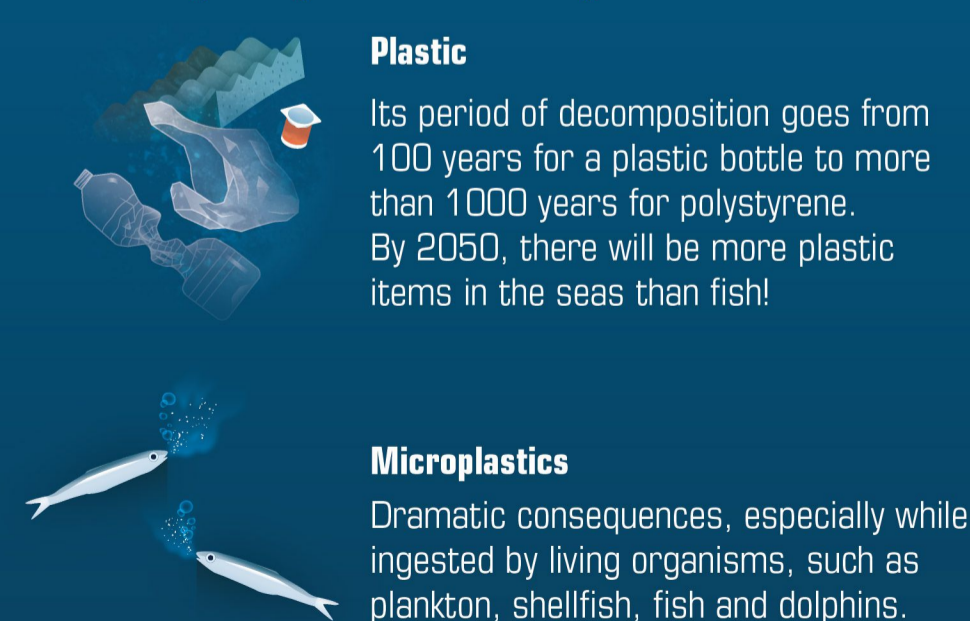
Relative abundance of Microplastics in the sediments of the Black Sea

Microplastics are very small pieces of plastic (less than 5 mm) that pollute the environment.



These numbers are in logical correlation with the global plastic production.

Danger of plastic and microplastics



WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

We can all act to make things better!

As a citizen: stop using single use plastic items - prefer their reusable versions such as cotton bags, glass bottle, wooden cutlery, etc. Sort your trash in order to recycle as much plastic as possible. Never dispose of your waste in the wild.

As a political decision maker: Prohibit the use of all single-use plastic bags and the addition of micro-plastics to products. Aim for 100% waste collection.

As an industrial decision maker: Increase the share of recycled plastic use in the industry.

More information at emblasproject.org

