



Beyond the Waste Hierarchy

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Municipal solid waste (MSW) is one of the most prominent by-products of urban society and a primary concern of local authorities that directly affects public health, the environment, and the livelihoods of citizens. Rapid urbanization and population growth are placing increasing pressure on solid waste management systems, and the regulatory framework must adapt to meet these challenges.

The waste hierarchy was established in the first waste framework directive 75/442/EEC, which encouraged the "reduction of quantities of certain wastes, the treatment of waste for its recycling and re-use, the recovery of raw materials and/or the production of energy from certain waste". While it is unanimously agreed that the reduction of waste is essential, as the highest priority of the waste hierarchy, followed by reuse, recycling, and energy recovery, it is nevertheless a subject of debate.

The focus of this Special Issue is to collect up-to-date manuscripts that explore, examine, and deliver theoretical, methodological, and practical contributions on the waste hierarchy and particularly on solid waste management regulations.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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