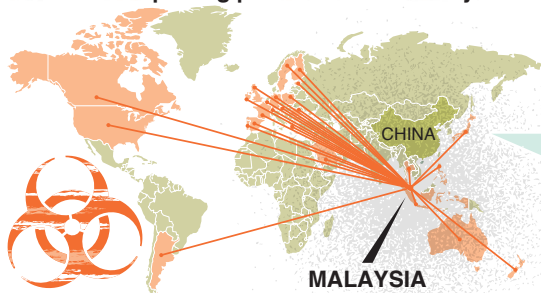


Malaysia pops recycling myth bubble

Malaysia is to send around 3,000 tonnes of contaminated plastic waste back to the wealthy countries that shipped it there, in a stand against becoming a dumping ground for the world's "recycled" garbage



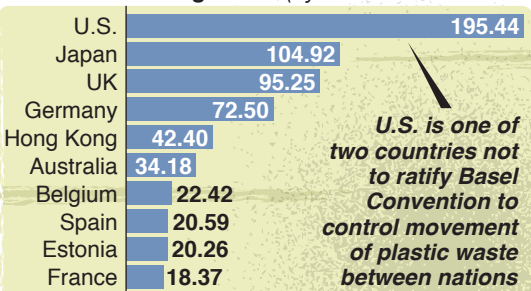
Countries exporting plastic waste to Malaysia...



Jan 2018: China bans importation of plastic waste from other countries. Until then, it had disposed of about **70%** of world's total plastic scrap

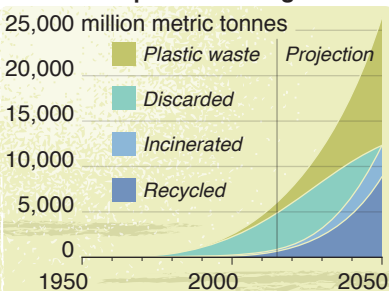
Half of world's plastic waste, intended for recycling, is actually traded internationally

... of which 10 largest are (by thousands of metric tonnes)



Malaysia (and some other countries) have taken over China's former market share, leading to appearance of dozens of illegal recycling facilities. **Plastic is burned in open air, dumped close to bodies of water or left to rot**

Cumulative plastic waste generation and disposal



Dangers of burning plastic

- Modify DNA, cancer
- Respiratory disease
- Heart disease
- Liver/kidney disease
- Skin rashes
- Affect reproduction

