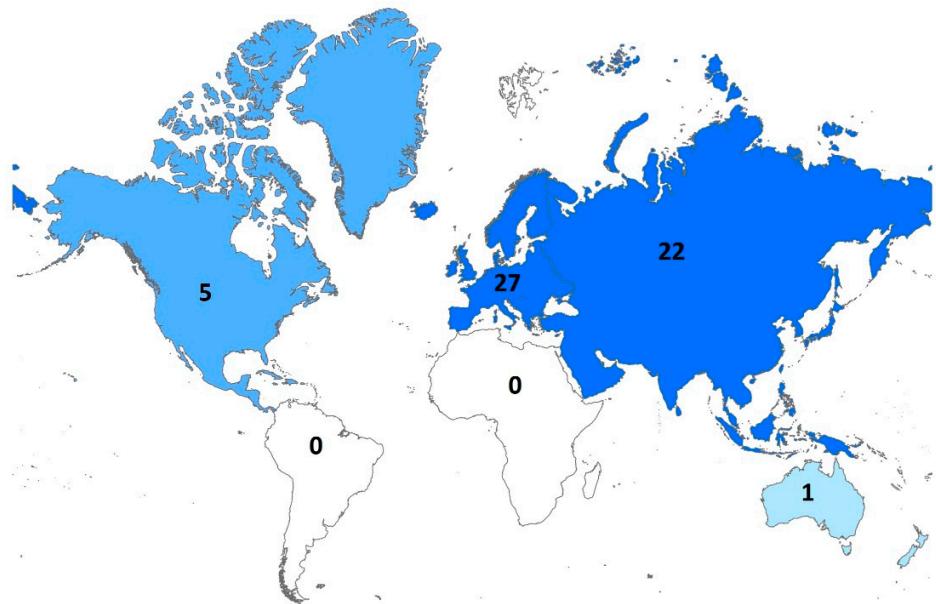
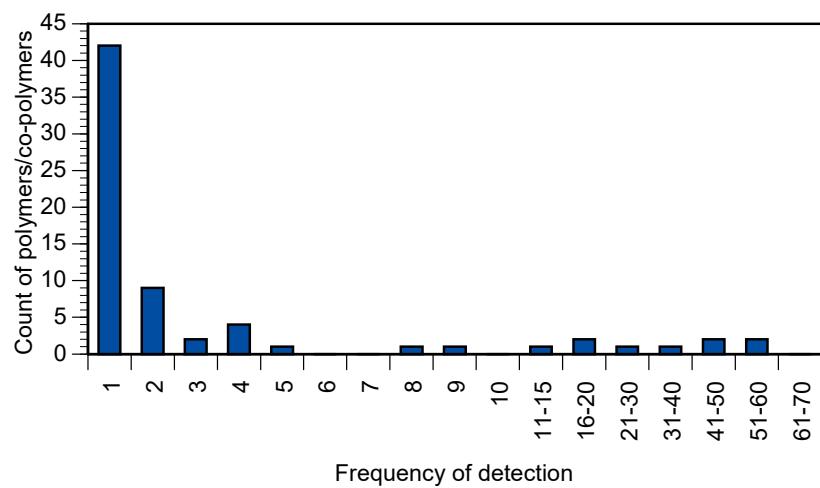


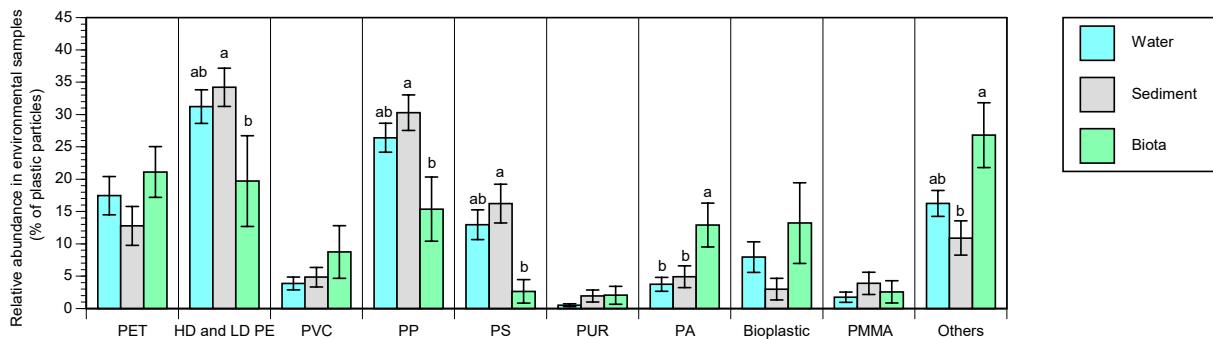
*Electronic Supplementary Information*



**Figure S1.** Map showing the geographical locations of the studies that were used for this review.



**Figure S2.** Frequency of detection of polymers/co-polymers by studies of microplastics in water, sediment and biota sampled in freshwaters and estuaries.



**Figure S3.** Mean relative abundance of polymers (% of particles  $\pm$  SE) including more frequent miscellaneous plastics, reported as microplastics in water ( $n = 39$ ), sediment ( $n = 23$ ) and biota ( $n = 10$ ) sampled in freshwaters and estuaries. Influence of matrix (water, sediment or biota)  $p = 0.0444$  from MANOVA. Significant differences within polymers were identified by Tukey's test, where means that are not significantly different (within polymers) share the same letter.

**Table S1. List of references used as evidence sources.**

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