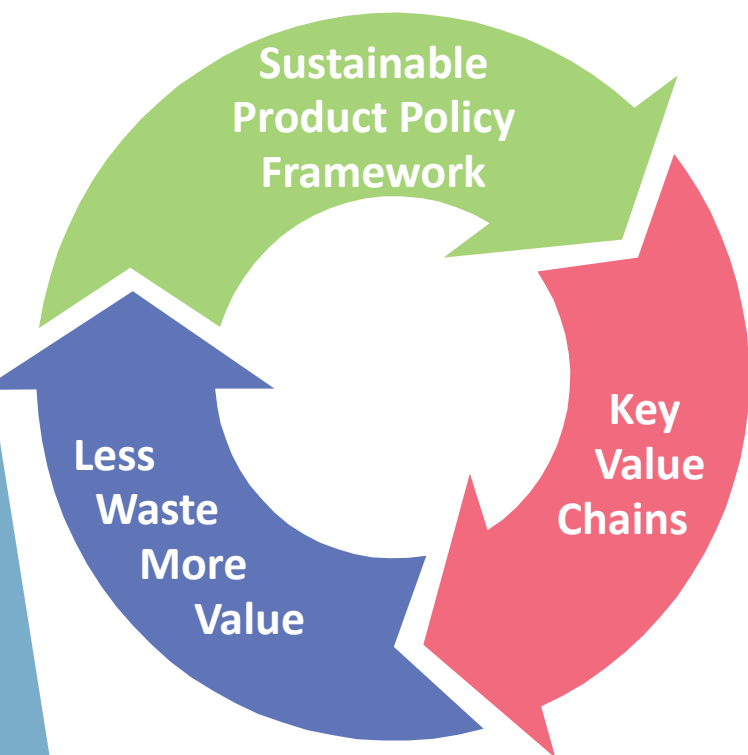


# Key ongoing and forthcoming regulatory initiatives for a Sustainable and Circular Textiles Ecosystem

# Textiles within the Circular Economy Action Plan



35 actions

Make sustainable products the norm in the EU  
Empower consumers and public buyers  
Sustainable production processes

Electronics and ICT  
Batteries and vehicles  
Packaging  
Plastics  
Textiles  
Construction and buildings  
Food, water and nutrients



Reduce Waste  
Reduce Waste Exports  
Boost market for high quality and safe secondary raw materials

Making circular economy work for people, regions and cities

Circular economy as a requisite for climate neutrality

Getting the Economics Right

Financial Markets

Investments and R&I

Global Level Playing Field

Monitoring

# EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles

## Need for action



European consumption of textiles has the **fourth highest impact** on the environment and climate change, after food, housing and mobility.



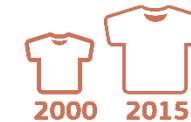
1% of material used to produce clothing is recycled into new clothing (globally)



About 5.8 million tonnes of textiles are discarded every year, equivalent to 11.3 kg per person (EU)



Almost 9/10 Europeans (88%) think that clothing should be made to last longer



Textiles production doubled between 2000 and 2015 (globally)

### Opportunities:

- Increase the EU textiles ecosystem's **resilience**
- Boost its attractiveness, creative and innovative potential
- Tap into new markets for **sustainable textiles**
- An average of 20 to 35 jobs are created for every 1.000 tonnes of textiles collected for **re-use**, such as selling them second-hand

# Road to 2030: the vision of the Strategy



- By 2030, all textile products placed on the EU market are:
  - **durable, repairable and recyclable**
  - to a great extent **made of recycled fibres**
  - **free of hazardous substances**
  - produced respecting **social rights**
- **"Fast fashion is out of fashion"** - consumers benefit longer from high quality textiles
- In a competitive, resilient and innovative textile sector, producers take **responsibility** for their products **along the value chain**
- **Circular** rather than throw-away clothes have become the norm, with sufficient capacities for **reuse** and **closed loop recycling (fibre to fibre)**, with minimal incineration and landfilling
- Profitable **re-use and repair services** are widely available



# Key actions of the Textiles Strategy

## 1. New **ecodesign requirements for textiles**

- ❑ **Clearer information and performance requirements** on textile products' aspects (including on the **unintentional release of microplastics** and **substances of concern**)
- ❑ **Addressing the destruction** of unsold or returned textiles
- ❑ An information and traceability tool (**digital product passport**)

### + Digital and physical labels for textile products

with accessible, accurate and comparable information to consumers



## 2. REACH restrictions on **intentionally added microplastics** + potentially **skin sensitisers** &

## PFAS

## 3. **More and reliable information to consumers** on durability, reparability and **green claims**

## 4. Mandatory **Extended Producer Responsibility** for textiles with eco-modulation of fees

## 5. Horizontal **reporting** and **due diligence obligations regarding impacts on human rights** (including social rights) and the environment

## *Ecodesign and Label for textile products*

- ✂ Information and performance ecodesign requirements:
  - ✂ durability, reusability, reparability
  - ✂ fibre-to-fibre recyclability and recycled fibre content,
  - ✂ presence of substances of concern
  - ✂ generation of waste materials (including microplastics)
  - ✂ ...
- ✂ Also a basis for mandatory criteria for Green Public Procurement + Ecolabel criteria
- ✂ Introduce Digital Product Passports as information and traceability tools
- ✂ Label for textile products - potentially:
  - ✂ Sustainability and circularity (eco-design requirements)
  - ✂ Revision of fibre composition substantive and procedural rules
  - ✂ New harmonised (mandatory or voluntary) labelling domains: origin, care, uniform size, allergenic substances and others, including leather/fur authenticity (with expansion of scope)

*ESPR adopted + Review of the Textile Labelling Regulation ongoing (possible proposal planned for Q1 2025)*

*+ ESPR DA on textiles (timeline tbd)*

- ✂ Transparency obligation to publicly disclose the number of unsold products discarded and destroyed.



# *New REACH restrictions impacting the textiles ecosystem*

- ✎ *Intentionally added microplastics (adopted)*
  - ✎ COM Regulation restricting synthetic polymer microparticles on their own or intentionally added to mixtures – notably glitter made of non-biodegradable, insoluble plastic
- ✎ *Potentially Skin sensitisers*
  - ✎ Work ongoing linked to a potential label on allergenic substances (timeline tbd)
- ✎ *Potentially new restrictions on placing on the market and use of PFAS*  
also for clothing and home textiles (timeline tbd)



# Tackling greenwashing on textile products

- ✂ Empowering consumers in the green transition (adopted)
  - ✂ Providing consumers with **information at the point of sale** about a commercial guarantee of durability as well as information relevant to repair (*also Right to Repair initiative*)
  - almost adopted)*
  - ✂ **General environmental claims**, such as “green”, “eco-friendly”, “good for the environment”, allowed only if underpinned by recognised excellence in environmental performance
- ✂ Green claims initiative (in co-decision)
  - ✂ **Minimum criteria** for (voluntary) environmental claims, including on textiles
  - ✂ Use of Environmental Footprint methods as a way to substantiate and communicate environmental claims – **PEF category rules for textiles and footwear** to be taken into account (PEFCR release planned for Q1 2025)
- ✂ Review of the **EU Ecolabel** criteria for textiles – awarding excellence (timeline tbd)





# Extended Producer Responsibility and waste actions

*Upcoming MS obligation to establish separate collection of textile waste by January 2025*

review of the EU waste legislation (in co-decision)

- ✎ Harmonised EU extended producer responsibility rules for textiles with eco-modulation of fees
  - ✎ notable share of contributions made to EPR schemes will be dedicated to waste prevention measures and preparation for reuse
- ✎ “Consumer textile waste” and similar waste is prepared for reuse and closed loop recycling (fibre to fibre)
- ✎ Dedicated study for the feasibility of mandatory targets for preparing for re-use and recycling of textile waste.
- ✎ Ongoing work on EU level concepts of textile waste and used textiles

# Global sustainable value chains

✎ Action for promoting sustainable textiles value chains globally

✎ global progress (including on decent work conditions) in bilateral trade relations, international fora (G7, G20), GACERE and the United Nations Environmental Assembly.

✎ horizontal reporting and due diligence obligations to identify, prevent, mitigate, bring to an end and account for actual and potential adverse impacts on human rights (including social rights) and the environment – Directives on Corporate Sustainability Reporting (adopted) + Due Diligence (almost adopted)

✎ legislative initiative to effectively prohibit the placing on the EU market of products made by forced labour, including forced child labour – Regulation on Forced Labour Products (almost adopted)

✎ Export of textile waste to non-OECD countries only if managed sustainably – revision of the Waste Shipments Regulation (in co-decision)

## *Enabling conditions – enforcement*

- ✂ **A level playing field** and a **well-functioning internal market**

Revision of the Market Surveillance Regulation (adopted)

Regulation establishing the EU Single Window Environment for Customs (adopted)

- ✂ Close collaboration between customs and market surveillance authorities

- ✂ CERTEX and EU Product Compliance Network

and proposed revision of the Customs Code (in co-decision)

- ✂ **new EU Customs Authority** will oversee an **EU Customs Data Hub**

- ✂ **New approach to e-commerce**

- ✂ **EU Toolbox against counterfeiting**

**Consumer legislation**

**Empowering Consumers Dir**  
(JUST - adopted)

**Right to Repair Dir**  
(JUST - co-decision)

**Textile Product Directive**  
(GRO - co-decision + DA)

**Green Claims Dir**  
(ENV - co-decision)

**Complementarity**

Empowering  
Consumers Dir  
(JUST - adopted)

Right to  
Repair Dir  
(JUST - co-decision)

Green Claims Dir  
(ENV - co-decision)

Textile Labelling Reg  
(GROW - Prop Q1 2025 ?)  
+ DA (GROW - timeline tdb)

```
graph TD
    PL[Product legislation]
    BR[Brochure outlining measures on unintentional Microplastics release  
(ENV - 16/10/2023)]
    REACH[REACH COM REGs  
- Microplastics - adopted  
- Skin sensitizers - in prep  
- PFAS - in scrutiny by EP and Council]
    EC[Ecodesign (Textile and DPP) DA  
(ENV/GROW - timeline tbd)]
    LF[Labelling Reg  
(Prop Q1 2025 ?)  
(GROW - timeline tbd)]
    WFD["(EPR in) Waste Framework Dir  
(ENV - co-decision)"]
    WS[Waste Shipments  
(ENV - adopted)]
    ENF[Enforcement]
    SWC[Single Window Customs Reg  
(TAXUD - adopted)]
    MSR[Market Surveillance Reg  
(GROW - adopted)]
    NCLF[New Customs legislative framework  
(TAXUD - co-decision)]
    FL[Forced Labour  
(TRADE/GROW - co-decision)]

    BR --> EC
    REACH --> EC
    EC --> LF
    EC --> WFD
    EC --> WS
    EC --> ENF
    LF --> ENF
    WFD --> ENF
    WS --> ENF
    ENF --> SWC
    ENF --> MSR
    ENF --> NCLF
    ENF --> FL
```

Brochure outlining  
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(ENV - 16/10/2023)

## REACH COM REGs

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**Ecodesign  
(Textile and DPP) DA  
(ENV/GROW - timeline tbd)**

(EPR in) Waste Framework Dir  
(ENV - co-decision)

Waste Shipments Reg  
(ENV - adopted)


Forced Labour Reg  
(TRADE/GROW  
- co-decision)

Single Window Customs Reg (TAXUD - adopted)

Market  
Surveillance Reg  
(GROW -  
adopted)

New  
Customs  
legislative  
framework  
(TAXUD - co-  
decision)

## Enforcement



Label  
potentially  
introduced by



SoC

```
graph TD; A[Corporate Reporting Dir  
(FISMA - adopted)] <--> B[Articulation of  
concepts and  
standards]; B <--> C[Due Diligence Dir  
(JUST - co-decision)]; C --> D([Contributes to  
implementation  
of]); D --> E[Reg]; D --> F[Reg]; D --> G[Reg];
```

Global sustainability  
(inc. social) legislation

Corporate Reporting Dir  
(FISMA - adopted)

Articulation of  
concepts and  
standards

Due Diligence Dir  
(JUST - co-decision)

Contributes to  
implementation  
of

Reg

Reg

Reg

Corporate  
Reporting Dir  
(FISMA - adopted)

Articulation of  
concepts and  
standards

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(JUST - co-decision)

Contributes to implementation of