



Increasing transparency of materials and chemicals used in textiles

In order to enable recycling of textile waste, which kind of information do recyclers need?

- More specific and comprehensive information on fibre composition that goes beyond the information given on current care labels
- Information on accessories (e.g. zips, trims)
- Information on chemicals used along the value chain (e.g. dyes, finishes, ...)
- Information on use of recycled fibres
- Information on whether a textile was designed for recyclability
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

Which medium is best suited to provide the relevant information to sorters and recyclers?

- A data carrier which is automatically recognized and read out in the sorting and recycling plants (e.g. NFC or RFID transponders)
- Textile labels or markings indicating the required information directly on the textile product (by way of attaching a label or tag, ...)
- Documents accompanying the product
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

Are you in favour of introducing a digital product passport for textile products?

- Yes
- No
- It depends

Please briefly explain your selection:

In which areas do you see the need to develop and harmonise standards in order to enable recycling of certain textile products?

- Decision criteria on whether a product should be prepared for reuse or be destined for recycling

- Sorting criteria for post-consumer textile waste (e.g. different fractions depending on material)
- Disassembly of textiles (e.g. removal of hardware such as trims, zips)
- Limiting the combinations of different materials
- Limiting the use of problematic chemicals
- Standardization of product information
- Defining textile fibre recycling (in distinction to downcycling)
- Common test methods to declare recycled content in textile products
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

Which product groups could be among the first for which to develop and introduce minimum design requirements for recyclability – such as maximum thresholds for problematic chemicals, maximum thresholds for seconds required to remove zips, etc.?

- T-shirts
- Jeans
- Sweaters
- Socks
- Outdoor wear (e.g. raincoats, jackets)
- Sportswear (e.g. tracksuits, skisuits, swimwear)
- Bed linen
- Towels
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

In addition to mandatory minimum design requirements and mandatory declaration of chemicals, what can be done at EU level to promote the use of safe chemicals in textiles that are compatible with recycling?

- Provide a positive list of suitable chemicals that can be used in textile products – similar to the approach taken by the EU Cosmetics Regulation
- Promote best practice examples on a central website
- Promote knowledge transfer and exchange
- Make REACH more circularity-friendly – i.e. restrict and set limits for textile products beyond the chemicals that are on the list of substances of very high concern (SVHC)
- Align EU legislation with the voluntary initiative Zero Discharge Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC)
- Promote the use of Standard 100 by OEKO-TEX®
- Make it mandatory to apply the Standard 100 by OEKO-TEX® or similar standards for textile products on the EU market
- Investigate the effects of chemicals additives (e.g. dyes, ...) on circularity of products they are used in
- Adapt EU Eco-label criteria to promote textiles that are easy to recycle
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

Introducing targets for separate collection, recycling and for preparation for re-use

Do you see a need for introducing targets for separate collection of textile waste, for recycling and preparation for re-use at European level?

- Yes
- No

In your view, when should such targets become effective on EU level?

- 2025
- 2030
- 2035
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

What level should separate collection targets (by weight of all textile waste disposed of via public collection systems) start at?

- 30 %
- 40 %
- 50 %
- 60 %
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

What level should preparation for re-use targets (by weight of all textile waste collected through public collection systems) start at?

- 10 %
- 15 %
- 20 %
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

What level should recycling targets (by weight of all textile waste collected through public collection systems) start at?

- 10 %
- 15 %
- 20 %
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

Introducing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for textiles with ecomodulation of fees

In order to foster the circular economy, many stakeholders argue for an EU-wide mandatory extended producer responsibility scheme for textiles. Do you agree?

- Yes
- No

In order to avoid competition between discarded textiles collected for reuse and recycling, many stakeholder suggest separate targets for reuse and recycling. Do you agree?

- Yes
- No

In order to improve textile product design, ecomodulation of EPR fees (i. e., charging producers lower fees for products designed according to certain criteria) is suggested based on criteria such as recyclability, recycled content, reusability etc. Do you agree that ecomodulation of fees can play a crucial role in fostering improved product design?

- Yes
- No

Who should in your view be responsible for organising the collection, sorting and treatment of textile waste?

- Producers through the creation of a Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO)
- Municipalities (while producers contribute financially)
- Both municipalities for public waste bins (while producers contribute financially) and, optionally, producers through individual, certified take-back-systems
- Should be decided on a case-by-case basis
- I do not know

Regulating the incineration* of unsold textiles

Which of the following policy options is best suited in order to incentivise circular design of textiles and to drive innovations?

*incineration here includes energy recovery

- Introducing a ban on incineration and landfilling of unsold textiles by 2025
- Introducing a ban on incineration and landfilling of unsold textiles by 2030
- Introducing high taxes on incineration and landfilling of unsold textiles by 2025
- Introducing high taxes on incineration and landfilling of unsold textiles by 2025 and announcing a ban on incineration and landfilling of unsold textiles by 2030
- I do not know
- None of the above. Please explain:

Stimulating demand for recycled fibres

One way to stimulate the demand for high quality recycled fibres is to introduce mandatory recycled content for specific textile products. What should be the minimum requirement to qualify as "recycled content"?

- Complying to Global Recycled Standard (GRS)
- Positive life-cycle assessment (considering e.g. energy intensity of recycling)
- Fibres derived from qualified fibre-to-fibre recycling technologies (excluding e.g. fibres made from PET bottles)
- Minimum number of cycles the fibre can make when fed back to recycling
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

For which textile products would it be most sensible and feasible to introduce a low mandatory recycled content by 2024?

- T-shirts
- Jeans
- Socks
- Medical robes
- Bed linen
- Textiles for furniture
- Outdoor wear (e.g. raincoats and jackets)
- Sportswear (e.g. tracksuits, skisuits, swimwear)
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

What makes more sense in your view to stimulate the demand for recycled textile fibres?

- Introducing mandatory recycled content for specific textile products
- Introducing a target for circular textiles (e.g. textiles that are proven to be recyclable and/or repairable or contain a certain percentage of recycled content)
- Both are needed
- I do not know

In order to address price differences between recycled fibres and virgin fibres and to create a level playing field, what would your order of priority be regarding the following policy options?

Please rank the options from most favoured (top) to least favoured (bottom) by dragging from the left to the right box. You can leave the category "other" in the left box, if you want and continue without answering on the other item in the pop-up window when clicking on Next.

Your ranking

- Ecomodulate EPR fees – with perceptibly lower fees for recyclable textiles
- Introduce reductions of value added tax (VAT) for circular textiles, including textile products that contain recycled fibres
- Increase taxes on virgin fibres
- Introduce labour tax reductions for circular business models, including high quality textile recycling and sorting
- Other

Developing EU-wide end-of-waste criteria

In order to foster the circular economy, many stakeholders argue for an EU-wide harmonised definition of end-of-waste criteria for textiles. Difficulties regarding interpretation of end-of-waste criteria in different Member States complicate processes and create uncertainties for circular economy actors.

Where do you see relevant difficulties related to current end-of-waste criteria?

- Regarding administrative procedures within single Member States
- Regarding trade between EU Member States
- Regarding trade between EU Member States and third countries
- I do not see any difficulties
- Other (please specify)

What are important aspects in your view that need to be specified in EU wide end-of-waste-criteria for textiles?

- Clarifying that the waste status ends when (a) collected textile wastes are prepared for re-use and (b) collected textile wastes are recycled

- Clarifying that sorted textile waste destined for recycling – if it meets certain criteria – is considered to be a product and is not classified as waste
- Introducing a new category for textile waste that is sorted, recyclable and destined for recycling, so that it is neither classified as waste nor as a product
- Specifying criteria for certain textile products and/or materials and material mixes that need to be met in order to be classified as product
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

Who should develop these criteria?

- Academia
- Business
- Civil society / NGOs
- Policy and administration
- Other (please specify)

In order to improve sourcing of used textiles for re-use and recycling of needed quality, quantity and type, many stakeholders suggest easing the transboundary movement of secondary raw materials via a review of the Waste Shipment Regulation. Do you agree?

- Yes
- No

Why not? Please briefly add

Transboundary movement of secondary raw materials is not regulated in the Waste Shipment Regulation, as secondary raw material is not classified as waste but as a good.

Wrap Up

Which of the following policy instruments would you prioritise in order to promote textile fibre recycling in the EU?

Choose your top 3.

After selecting your top three from the drop-down menu, you can leave all other options empty and continue without answering on the other items in the pop-up window when clicking on "Submit".

Ensuring transparency on chemicals used in textile production through mandatory product information and digital product passes	Top 3
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Introducing minimum design requirements for recyclability of textiles	
Regulating the incineration (including energy recovery) and landfilling of unsold textile products	
Introducing targets on separate collection, recycling and reuse of discarded textiles	
Introducing EPR schemes with ecomodulation	Top 2
Specifying and harmonising end-of-waste-criteria for textiles	
Introducing mandatory recycled content for specific textile products	Top 1
Introducing tax breaks for circular textiles (including recyclable textiles and textiles made from recycled fibres)	
Other	

Would you like to make any additional recommendation to strengthen textile re-use and textile fibre recycling in Europe?

Green Public Procurement in textiles (such as uniforms, workwear, towels, linen, etc.) can be improved in selection criteria of public procurement processes. When assessing ability to perform a contract, contracting authorities should take into account specific properties related to environmental aspects. This includes, for example, recyclability or recycled content of procured textiles.