

**Question for written answer E-001962/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Lara Wolters (S&D)

Subject: Serious shortcomings in the clothing collection system of fashion chains in the Netherlands

A recent report by the consumer interest programme Radar has brought to light that there are serious shortcomings with the clothing collection system of large fashion chains (which often have recycling bins for used clothes in their stores) in the Netherlands. Despite promises about recycling, second-hand textiles would appear to be exported systematically to third countries in Asia and Africa, leading to high CO2 emissions, environmental pollution and disruption of local ecosystems.

1. Does the Commission consider this practice to be compatible with existing EU legislation, such as the Waste Framework Directive, which establishes, among other things, the principle of waste hierarchy (preference for reuse and recycling over disposal) and extended producer responsibility for textiles?
2. Will this practice be explicitly banned or regulated in the revision of the Waste Framework Directive, and are there any overlaps with other EU legislation, such as the Ecodesign Regulation?
3. If not, what additional measures is the Commission considering taking to prevent collected textiles from being exported as waste under the guise of reuse, a practice which has serious human and environmental impacts in third countries?

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