

Question for written answer E-003049/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Extended producer responsibility scheme and the textile sector

While the President of the Commission has committed to making circular economy a priority¹, social enterprises that arrange for the collection and sale of second-hand clothes – and are now responsible for collecting textile waste and for the costs thereof – are going bankrupt or are at risk of doing so². The amount of textile waste, including low-quality textiles, keeps on piling up. Recycling capacities are still not up to scratch, but the requirement to collect textiles came into force on 1 January 2025. Social enterprises are unable to manage those costs.

1. What corrective action will the Commission take to ensure that the processing and cost of textile waste does not fall on social enterprises?
2. Given that the extended producer responsibility scheme will be fully up and running by 2028, will an EU-level emergency fund to support social enterprises have been set up by then to prevent the internal market fragmenting? How will Member States be able to access it quickly to cover the new costs linked to textile waste streams?

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¹ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en, p.9

² <https://www.lecho.be/entreprises/textile/les-collecteurs-de-textiles-de-seconde-main-reclament-des-mesures-urgentes-a-l-ue/10585157.html>