Question for written answer E-003607/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for textile products

As part of its revision of the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC), the European Union recently adopted[1] the mandatory application of extended producer responsibility (EPR) for textile products. This decision aims to reduce waste, promote recyclability and reusability, and make the sector more sustainable.

However, the implementation of the new system poses significant challenges[2]: small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) may well incur financial burdens due to the high costs of collecting, sorting and recycling their products. At the same time, there is a risk that collected waste will be exported to non-EU countries with inadequate management infrastructure, which would temper the environmental benefits of the legislation.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What support measures is it planning to take to enable SMEs to meet the new obligations?

2. How does it intend to prevent the export of waste to countries that do not have the proper infrastructure?

3. Is there a plan to develop infrastructure for the recycling and reuse of textile products in Europe?

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[1] https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20250905IPR30172/parliament-adopts-new-eu-rules-to-reduce-textile-and-food-waste
[2] https://www.wsj.com/articles/europe-orders-textile-producers-to-manage-their-own-waste-307b2720