

Question for written answer E-003840/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Decline of the European textile industry in the face of unfair foreign competition

Fast fashion platforms (Shein, Temu, etc.) threaten the European textile industry, which has already been weakened by a wave of closures and bankruptcies. In 2024, 1 422 clothes stores and 288 manufacturers went into bankruptcy in France, including 955 compulsory liquidations¹. This situation has led to job losses and trade desertification. While the Commission has examined fast fashion from the point of view of the environment, human rights and unfair commercial practices, it remains silent on the dramatic social consequences of this destruction of the European textile industry².

Ultra-fast fashion players benefit from a clear distortion of competition, including the exemption from customs duties on parcels worth less than EUR 150.

1. Does the Commission intend to reform the Union Customs Code and promptly abolish the customs exemption for low-value consignments, which benefits Chinese e-commerce companies at the expense of EU companies?
2. Will it swiftly present a concrete action plan to protect EU jobs in the textile sector from unfair competition from these non-EU companies?

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¹ <https://fr.fashionnetwork.com/news/Les-defaillances-des-commerces-et-fabricants-de-mode-francais-en-hausse-en-2024,1694454.html>.

² <https://www.touteurope.eu/economie-et-social/que-fait-l-union-europeenne-pour-lutter-contre-la-fast-fashion/>