

Question for written answer E-002832/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Jessica Polfjärd (PPE)

Subject: New climate and environmental labels for textiles and clothing

As part of ongoing work concerning textiles and clothing, the Joint Research Centre and the Commission are proposing new carbon and environmental footprint labels. More labels risk confusing consumers rather than helping them, while at the same time increasing red tape for businesses. In addition, it remains unclear whether the labels will be voluntary or mandatory. Experts in the Commission's own Ecodesign Forum have pointed out that the scientific basis is weak and, in a worst-case scenario, labels risk contributing to greenwashing, as they are not life-cycle based.

1. How do the new labels benefit consumers compared to already established and trusted voluntary labels on the market, such as the EU Ecolabel and the Nordic Swan Ecolabel?
2. How does the introduction of new labels relate to the simplification agenda and the Commission's own ambition to tidy up the labelling jungle, as set out in the Directive on empowering consumers for the green transition (Directive (EU) 2024/825)?

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