

**Question for written answer E-004084/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Martin Günther (The Left)

Subject: Follow-up on microfibre shedding from synthetic textiles — timeline and scope of the Joint Research Centre preparatory study and impact assessment

In its answer to Question E-002551/2026¹, the Commission confirmed that a preparatory study by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) is under way under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products and Energy Labelling Working Plan 2025-2030, and that this study will include an analysis of the fragmentation of textiles into microfibres. However, the Commission did not specify a timeline, nor whether product-specific microfibre emission sources, such as brushed synthetic fabrics including polyester fleece, are explicitly within the scope of this analysis. Furthermore, it did not clarify whether measurable limits on fibre shedding are being considered as a specific regulatory option.

1. What is the expected completion date of the JRC preparatory study, and when is the Commission expected to publish or act on its findings within the ecodesign process?
2. Does the scope of the JRC preparatory study explicitly include an assessment of specific textile constructions (e.g. brushed or napped surfaces) known to produce disproportionately high fibre shedding, and if so, will the results differentiate between textile types in terms of microfibre emission intensity?
3. Will the forthcoming impact assessment under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation formally examine measurable, product-specific limits or thresholds on fibre shedding, including minimum durability requirements, as a specific regulatory option, or is this excluded from consideration at this stage?

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¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2026-002551-ASW_EN.html.