

(English version)

Question for written answer E-001071/26
to the Commission
Bruno Gonçalves (S&D)
(16 March 2026)

Subject: ‘One Europe, One Market’ — clarification regarding Regulation (EU) 2023/988 in order to reduce the fragmentation of textile trade in the EU single market

Diverging interpretations on the applicability to textile products of Articles 9-18 of the General Product Safety Regulation (GPSR) ⁽¹⁾ have raised legal uncertainty and caused fragmentation in the single market.

Article 2 provides that the regulation applies insofar as there are no specific provisions with the same objective under EU harmonisation legislation that governs the safety of such products. The Commission’s guidelines further state that where products are subject to specific safety requirements under EU law, the GPSR applies only to aspects, risks or categories of risk not covered by those requirements.

Textile products are subject to Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 ⁽²⁾ on textile fibre names and related labelling and marking of the fibre composition of textile products. However, national authorities have interpreted provisions differently regarding Chapter III, Section 1 of the GPSR (Articles 9-18). Some consider that these obligations do not apply to textile products covered by EU harmonisation legislation, while others expect economic operators to comply with such legislation.

In this context:

1. Does the Commission consider that the obligations laid down in Articles 9-18 of Regulation (EU) 2023/988 apply to textile products covered by Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011?
2. If so, which specific obligations under Articles 9-18 apply to such products and what is the legal basis for that interpretation under Article 2 of the GPSR?

Submitted: 16.3.2026

Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(18 May 2026)

Economic operators are obliged to offer only safe textile products to consumers, taking into account the factors relevant for assessing safety and laid down in Article 6 of the General Product Safety Regulation (GPSR) ⁽¹⁾. The GPSR also sets obligations for economic operators in case of distance sales as well for providers of online marketplaces that apply to textiles products.

It should also be noted that there are provisions in other pieces of EU legislation that apply to textile products covered by the Textile Labelling Regulation (TLR), namely in the Market Surveillance Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and, once ecodesign requirements are introduced for textile products, provisions in the Ecodesign for Sustainable Product Regulation (EU) 2024/1781 as well.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2023/988 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 May 2023 on general product safety, amending Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Directive (EU) 2020/1828 of the European Parliament and the Council, and repealing Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Directive 87/357/EEC (OJ L 135, 23.5.2023, p.1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/988/oj>).

² Regulation (EU) No 1007/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 September 2011 on textile fibre names and related labelling and marking of the fibre composition of textile products and repealing Council Directive 73/44/EEC and Directives 96/73/EC and 2008/121/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 272, 18.10.2011, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/1007/oj>).

⁽¹⁾ In accordance with point b) of the last subparagraph of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EU) 2023/988 General Product Safety Regulation (EU) 2023/988 — EUR-Lex (GPSR), textile products covered by the Textile Labelling Regulation No 1007/2011 (TLR), being products subject to specific requirements imposed by Union harmonisation legislation, are not subject to certain GPSR obligations, including Section 1 of Chapter III containing Articles 9-18. Importantly, however, the GPSR provisions not mentioned in point b) of the last subparagraph of Article 2(1) of the GPSR apply to textile products covered by the TLR, notably the general safety requirement in Chapter II of the GPSR.