

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002832/26
to the Commission
Jessica Polfj rd (PPE)
(8 July 2026)**

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)?

Submitted: 8.7.2026

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(25 August 2026)**

The Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation ⁽¹⁾ is a key instrument to promote a circular economy and responds to requests from stakeholders including businesses to have common requirements on this matter within the single market.

The form and shape of Ecodesign requirements (performance and/or information) for apparel textiles will be determined during the ongoing impact assessment process.

The Ecodesign Forum will discuss the draft measures with stakeholders, and the Commission will publish a Call for Evidence and a public consultation on the 'Have Your Say' portal.

In particular, information requirements under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation aim to function as an incentive for sustainable consumption.

Therefore, the introduction of labelling provisions in the delegated act will be considered if the impact assessment demonstrates that a label would clearly contribute to this goal.

Labels harmonised at EU level also replace the need to comply with multiple, differing national schemes, making it easier for businesses to market products across Member States without having to adapt to separate national requirements, reducing administrative complexity and compliance costs.

This thorough process will ensure that any information requirements are not disproportionate and in line with the Commission's simplification objectives.

While Directive (EU) 2024/825 ⁽²⁾ does not apply to mandatory labels required under Union law, the Commission will also take into account the interaction of requirements under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation with existing EU rules.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1781 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 establishing a framework for the setting of eco-design requirements for sustainable products, amending Directive (EU) 2020/1828 and Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 and repealing Directive 2009/125/EC, OJ L, 2024/1781, 28.6.2024.

⁽²⁾ Directive (EU) 2024/825 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 February 2024 amending Directives 2005/29/EC and 2011/83/EU as regards empowering consumers for the green transition through better protection against unfair practices and through better information, OJ L, 2024/825, 6.3.2024.