

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003207/26
to the Commission
Christine Singer (Renew)
(5 August 2026)**

Subject: Proportionality in the digital product passport for handcrafted textiles

On the basis of Regulation (EU) 2024/1781, the Commission is preparing a delegated act for textiles and clothing products, including a digital product passport (DPP). A draft study that the Joint Research Centre has carried out as part of preparations for the delegated act concludes that SMEs, including many micro-enterprises, account for the vast majority of companies in the European textile supply chain and found that many of them do not have the digital infrastructure they need. The study does not, however, lay down any specific rules concerning bespoke products, one-off handcrafted pieces or small production runs.

Imposing a one-size-fits-all DPP could place a disproportionate burden on tailors, milliners and other micro-enterprises in the craft sector in particular. Their durable, repairable and regionally manufactured products cannot be compared with industrially mass-produced items.

1. What exemptions, transitional arrangements or simplified DPP requirements is the Commission considering for bespoke products, one-off handcrafted pieces and small production runs?
2. What criteria should be used to distinguish between handcrafted, bespoke products or items produced via small production runs and industrially mass-produced items?
3. What methodology and data does the Commission intend to use in the impact assessment to assess the one-off and recurring costs of the DPP requirements for micro-enterprises, and to ensure that they are not subject to a disproportionate administrative burden within the meaning of Article 5(11)(f) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1781?

Submitted: 5.8.2026

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(8 October 2026)**

Ecodesign requirements for textile apparel will be developed with the particularities of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), including micro-enterprises, in mind as they account for the vast majority of businesses active in the European textile apparel value chain.

Measures taken to prevent undue negative impacts on businesses can for instance concern the length of transition periods after entry into force of the delegated act, the provision of support tools or targeted exemptions.

As set out in the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation ⁽¹⁾, exemptions should be provided when setting ecodesign requirements where needed, for instance for products produced in very small quantities. Any such remedial measures and their detailed criteria are still under consideration.

As part of the preparation of the delegated act setting out ecodesign requirements for textile apparel products, the Commission will conduct an impact assessment in line with the methodologies set out in the Better Regulation Guidelines ⁽²⁾.

A key element of this assessment is an ‘SME Test’ to ensure effective and efficient rules and minimise the burden imposed on SMEs.

Data from an ongoing ecodesign preparatory study will be used for this purpose, as well as additional information collected through consultation of SMEs and their representative organisations.

Engagement to seek the opinion of EU SMEs in textile sector will also be fostered via the SME participation in the Ecodesign Forum.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1781 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 establishing a framework for the setting of ecodesign 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⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation_en.