



Joint Press Statement

European Associations Welcome Commission's Opinion on French Draft Textile Law: Call for EU Leadership in Proportionate, Impact-Driven Sustainability Policy

Brussels, 15 October—The undersigned organisations welcome the European Commission's opinion on France's draft legislation aimed at reducing the environmental impact of the textile sector (Notification 2025/0336/FR). This marks a vital step towards preserving a predictable, balanced, and evidence-based regulatory framework across Europe. We hope this inspires closer cooperation and harmonisation between EU institutions and national governments to meet EU sustainability ambition.

We would like to repeat our support to the objectives of the EU Strategy for Sustainable textile as the enabler to advance sustainability in the sector. We also call for ensuring a level playing field with all players placing products in the EU regardless of their business model, size, or origin.

The Commission's detailed opinion rightly identifies that several provisions of the draft law risk creating disproportionate barriers to the free movement of goods, fragmenting the Single Market, and introducing legal uncertainty.

This notification follows a concerning pattern of national initiatives being introduced ahead of harmonised EU legislation, which risks undermining the integrity of the Single Market. Notably, the Commission acknowledges that the French proposal exceeds and contradicts ongoing EU efforts under the Waste Framework Directive (WFD) and the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR).

We believe that EU competitiveness must be underpinned by a regulatory environment that fosters innovation and growth within a unified Single Market, while upholding high environmental standards. It is essential that eco-design criteria under ESPR and WFD are proportionate, harmonised at EU level, science-based, and impact-driven—supporting sustainability without compromising economic resilience.

As the EU advances its sustainability agenda, we call for stronger coordination between Member States and EU institutions, and for the consistent application of Better Regulation principles. This includes robust impact assessments, legal proportionality, and alignment with the Single Market Strategy and Communication on e-commerce to ensure that new measures are both effective and enforceable.

—ENDS—

EBCA

The [European Branded Clothing Association \(EBCA\)](#) is the collective voice of more than 75 global apparel brands. The sector supports more than 4.5 million jobs in the EU. We envision a Europe where the branded clothing sector contributes to shared prosperity and is supported by global standards that enhance sustainability and trade, creating a level playing field. For media enquiry, contact Isabelle Maurizi Director General secretariat@ebca-europe.org

Ecommerce Europe

[Ecommerce Europe](#) is the united voice of the European Digital Commerce sector, representing the interests of companies selling goods and services online to consumers in Europe. Our mission is to act at EU level by engaging with policymakers to create a better regulatory framework for all e-merchants. Ecommerce Europe is a platform where our members can stay informed, exchange best practices, and define common positions on EU legislation impacting the sector. For Press Enquiry, contact lucacassetti@ecommerce-europe.eu

EuroCommerce

[EuroCommerce](#) is the principal European organisation representing the retail and wholesale sector. It embraces national associations in 28 countries and 5 million companies, including leading global players and many small businesses. Over a billion times a day, retailers and wholesalers distribute goods and provide an essential service to millions of business and individual customers. The sector generates 1 in 7 jobs, offering a varied career to 26 million Europeans, many of them young people. It also supports millions of further jobs throughout the supply chain, from small local suppliers to international businesses. EuroCommerce is the recognised European social partner for the retail and wholesale sector. Contact: Daniela Haiduc | Head of Communications, haiduc@eurocommerce.eu <https://www.eurocommerce.eu/>