



Commission proposal on a targeted revision of the Waste Framework Directive

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|Economia Circolare dei tessili: responsabilizzazione, riutilizzo e riciclo tra adempimenti ed opportunità, 10 December 2024

Disclaimer: the information and views expressed in this presentation do not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission

History of the file

- On 5 July 2023, the Commission adopted a proposal for a [targeted revision of the Waste Framework Directive \(WFD\)](#) focusing on the resource intensive sectors of **food and textiles**
- The [Circular Economy Action Plan \(CEAP\)](#)
- The [EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles](#) ('Textiles Strategy')
 - ✓ reinforced and accelerated EU and Member State action to **prevent textiles waste and to improve the circularity of textiles**



State of play and next steps

5 July 2023 – Adoption of the Commission Proposal

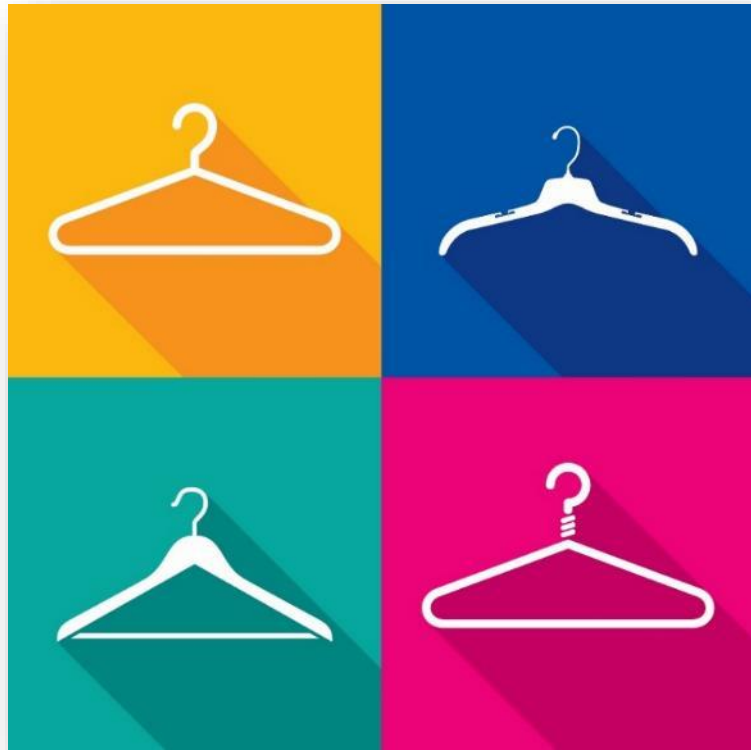
14 March 2024 – Adoption of the ENVI committee report by the European Parliament Plenary

17 June 2024 – Council General Approach

October 2024 – Starting of trilogue

Q1 2025 – Expected adoption of the amending Directive

Main elements of the Commission Proposal



- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for textiles**
- **Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO)**
- **Rules on textiles waste management**

Extended Producer Responsibility for textiles



- **Scope: household textile products**, articles of apparel, clothing accessories and **footwear**, apparel and clothing accessories listed in Annex IVc ('textiles')
- **EPR on producers** of textiles that are **made available on the market for the first time** within the territory of a Member State
- **Producers to cover the costs** of collection and management of used and waste textiles
- **Textiles producer register** - Implementing acts establishing **the harmonised format**

Producer Responsibility Organisations (PRO)



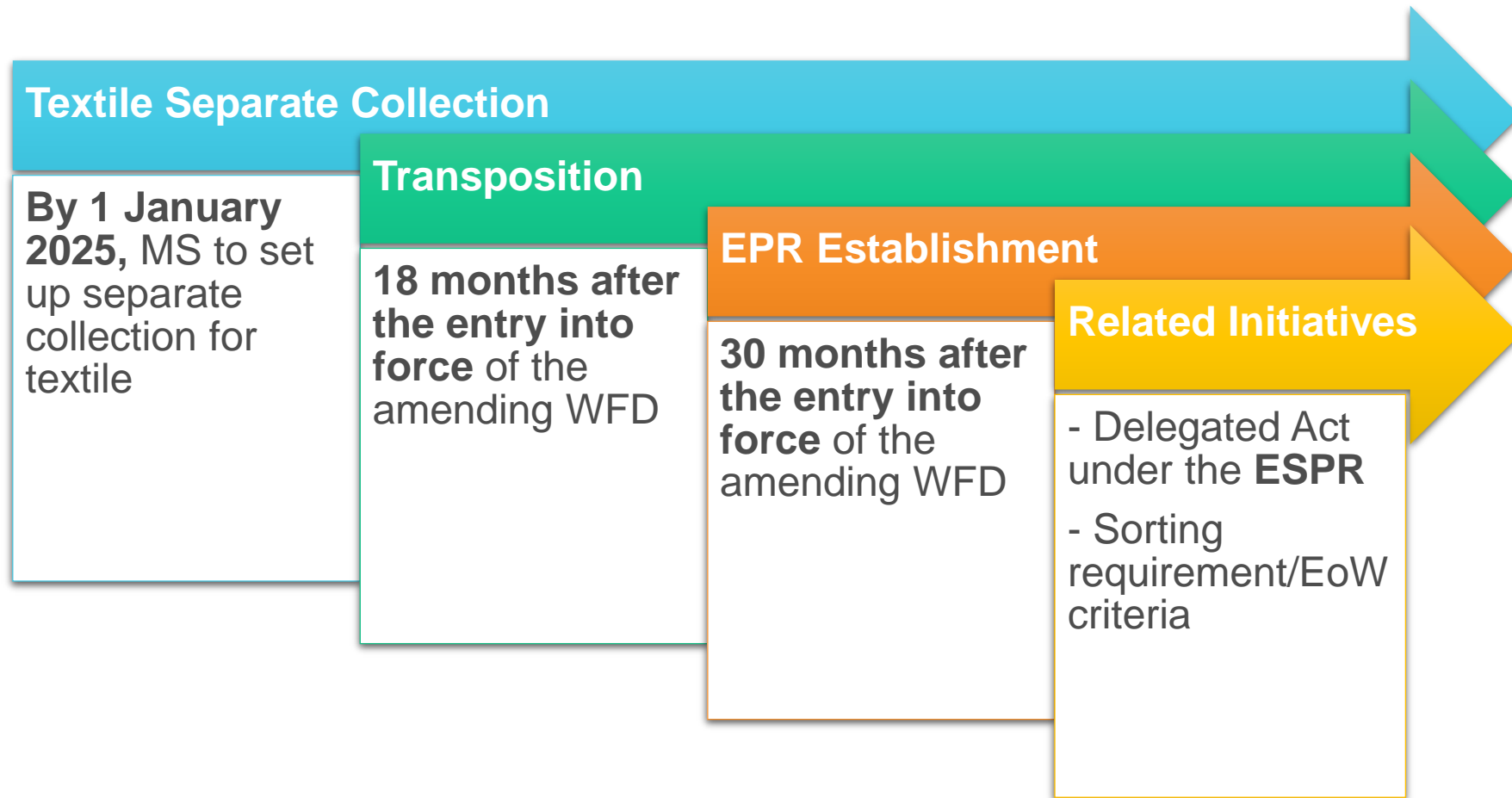
- **Producers to designate a PRO** to fulfil their EPR obligations on their behalf
- **EPR fees** based on **weight and eco-modulated** according to harmonised sustainability criteria and measurement methods (**Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation**)
- Set up **separate collection systems**
- **Publish on their websites** the information on used and waste textile

Rules on textiles waste management



- **Separate collection of textiles by 1 January 2025**
- Used and waste textiles, separately collected to be considered **waste upon collection**
- **sorting operations** to ensure the treatment **in line with the waste hierarchy**
- **shipment of used textiles:** obligations for **inspections** and **prior sorting operations**

WFD Timing



Links with other initiatives

Targeted Revision of the Waste Framework Directive

Textile waste: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

The proposed new EU rules on waste will support the separate collection of textile waste, which becomes mandatory in the EU in 2025. They will create:

- Mandatory and harmonised Extended Producer Responsibility for textiles across all Member States with eco-modulation of fees
- Rules to manage textile waste in line with the waste hierarchy: used clothes to be directed as a priority to re-use; more textile waste to be recycled
- Incentives for producers to increase the circularity of products by design, innovate and boost circular economy business models
- Local jobs and larger markets for used textiles and secondary raw materials
- Cost-saving opportunities for citizens moving from fast fashion to timeless fashion

The Commission's 2030 Vision for Textiles

- All textile products placed on the EU market are:
 - durable, repairable and recyclable
 - to a great extent made of recycled fibres
 - free of hazardous substances

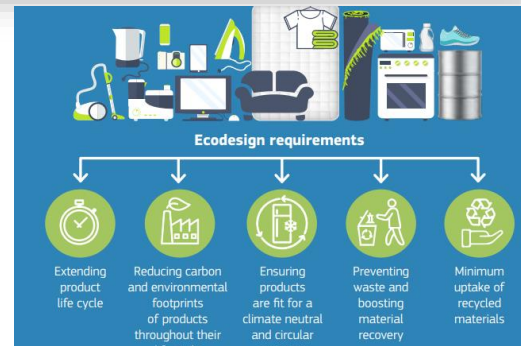
European consumption of textiles has the **fourth highest impact** on the environment and climate change, after food, housing and mobility.

It is one of the **top three** pressures on water and land use, and the **top five** in terms of raw material use and greenhouse gas emissions in the EU.



End-of-Waste Criteria

Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR)



Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR)

Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation



- Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) entered into force on 18 July 2024
- Aims to make sustainable products the norm by setting ecodesign requirements on key sustainability aspects of priority products





ESPR steps and process

Multiannual Work Plans

~ 1st WP Q1/25



Preparatory Study & Impact Assessment



Consultation of Ecodesign Forum



Adoption of Measure



Adoption first measures 2026
Applicable after 18 months 2027/2028



Stakeholder input collected throughout

Measure applies



ESPR and textiles

- Preparatory by JRC will identify and assess possible ecodesign requirements for textiles.
- Product scope: **Apparel**, being the textile product category with the highest environmental impact.
- Indicative timeline:
 - Preparatory study is expected by Q4 2025
 - Adoption of the delegated act by Q4 2026
- JRC Stakeholder Consultation ongoing: Stakeholders can [register](#) to be consulted on draft deliverables of the preparatory study.

✓ The Commission may adopt **implementing acts** laying down the fee modulation criteria based on ecodesign requirements set under the ESPR.

End-of-Waste Criteria for textiles - Timeline



✓ **Sorting requirements** should be developed by the Commission as a priority as part of **the harmonised Union end-of-waste criteria for re-useable textiles and recycled textiles**



Waste Shipment Regulation

I. Shipments of waste in the EU:

set up control procedures for the shipments of waste, improve traceability of waste movements and encourage shipments for recycling

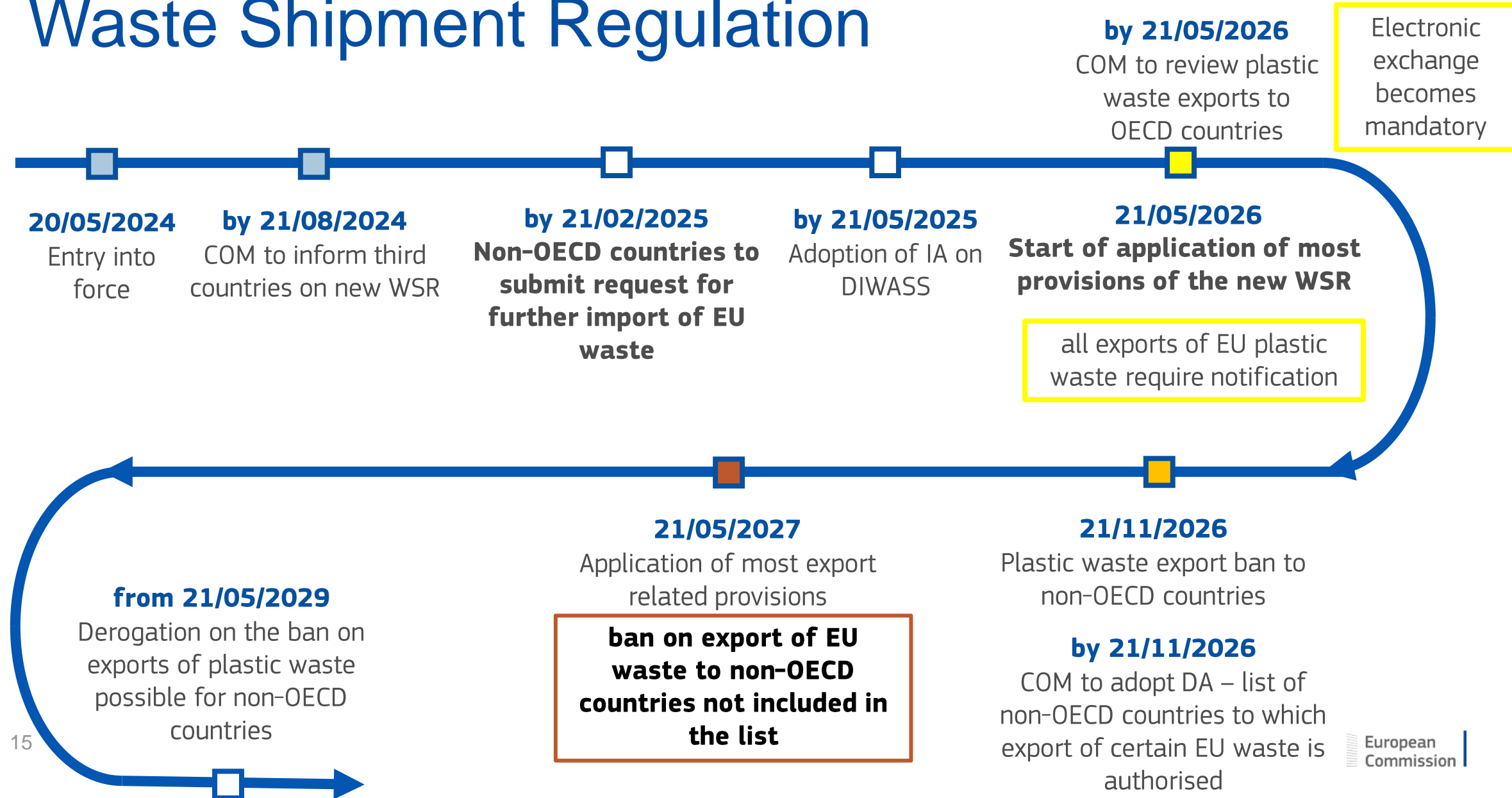
II. Extra-EU:

guarantee that waste are only shipped outside the EU if managed in an environmentally sound manner in the countries of destination

III. Tackle illegal shipments

enhance cooperation and coordination on enforcement

Waste Shipment Regulation



Useful information



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Many returned and unsold textiles end up destroyed in Europe

Textile consumption in Europe causes significant pressures on the environment and climate. Part of these pressures comes from returned and unsold textiles that are destroyed and never used for their intended purpose.

Around 4-9% of all textile products put on the European market are destroyed without ever being used for their intended purpose. According to the EEA briefing, processing and destructing returned or unsold textiles can be estimated to be responsible for up to 5,6 million tonnes of CO₂-equivalent greenhouse gas emissions, a figure that is slightly lower than Sweden's national emissions in 2021.

[Find out more from our briefing](#)

Europe's used textile exports: what and where?

Europe faces major challenges in the management of used textiles, which have to be collected separately in the EU by 2025. As reuse and recycling facilities in Europe are limited, a large share of discarded and donated clothing and other textile products are exported.

The amount of used textiles exported from the EU has tripled over the past two decades from slightly over 550,000 tonnes in 2000 to almost 1.7 million tonnes in 2019.

The amount of used textiles exported in 2019 was on average 3.8 kilograms per person, or 25% of the approximately 15 kg of textiles consumed each year in the EU.

In 2019, 46% of used textiles exported from the EU ended up in Africa. The textiles primarily go to local reuse as there is a demand for cheap, used clothes from Europe. What is not fit for reuse mostly ends up in open landfills and informal waste streams.

In 2019, 41% of used textiles exported from the EU ended up in Asia. Most of these textiles are directed to dedicated economic zones where they are sorted and processed.

[More in our briefing on textile exports](#)



JRC Publications Repository



Circular Economy Perspectives in the EU Textile sector

This study aims to provide information about circular economy perspectives in the management of textile products and textile waste in the European Union (EU). The report improves...

KÖHLER Andreas; WATSON David; TRZEPACZ Steffen; LÖW Clara; LIU Ran; DANNECK Jennifer; KONSTANTAS Antonios; DONATELLO Shane; FARACA Giorgia

2021

Technical reports

Environment and climate change

Innovation and growth



Techno-scientific assessment of the management options for used and waste textiles in the European Union

The EU strategy for sustainable and circular textiles envisages "a circular textiles ecosystem that has sufficient capacities for innovative fibre-to-fibre recycling, while the i..."

HUYGENS Dries; FOSCHI Jacopo; CARO Dario; PATINHA CALDEIRA Carla; FARACA Giorgia; FOSTER Gillian; SOLIS Martyna; MARSCHINSKI Robert; NAPOLANO Loredana; FRUERGAARD ASTRUP Thomas; et al

2023

Science for policy

Environment and climate change

Innovation and growth

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CORDIS Results Pack on
the future of textiles
Achieving a circular economy for the textile sector

**Glaukos
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#textiles
#textileindustry
#circulareconomy
#sustainability

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