

**Question for written answer E-000381/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Recovery plan for the textile sector in the face of COVID-19 and competition from outside the EU

The textile industry has to find ways of dealing with the COVID-19 crisis. In 2019, there were 160 000 businesses in the industry as a whole, providing 1.5 million jobs and generating EUR 162 billion in turnover. The successive lockdowns have engendered huge financial losses in the sector.

A large part of the 26 kilos of textiles people in the EU consume every year comes from a non-EU country. On average, 11 kilos of textiles end up in the bin every year.

In addition to unfair competition coming from outside the EU, industries within the EU also have to contend with the fast-fashion phenomenon, which is constantly shortening the life span of clothing.

This is an area in which coordinated action by the EU nations would prove highly effective. A framework should be established, with incentives, to boost the competitiveness, sustainability and resilience of the EU textile sector.

1. How is the Commission planning to relaunch business in this sector weakened by the crisis?
2. How will the Commission enhance the value of durable textiles in the face of unfair competition from countries outside the EU?
3. Is the Commission going to take coercive measures against non-EU countries?