

**Question for written answer E-001067/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Sirpa Pietikäinen (PPE)

Subject: Microplastics in textiles

Fast fashion usually involves inexpensive clothing that is not intended to last and is often made of cheap and synthetic materials.

Washing synthetic textiles is the principal source of all primary microplastics (35 % of the total). These microplastics often end up in rivers and seas and may have negative environmental and health effects.

In November 2021, the Commission launched an initiative for a proposed regulation tackling microplastics that are unintentionally released. In response to the public consultation, all stakeholders, in general, unanimously agreed on product design requirements while public authorities somewhat agreed to restrict all synthetic fibres for certain uses in addition to those with a high microplastic content.

1. When will the Commission publish the regulation proposal?
2. Will it contain product design requirements and restrict some synthetic fibres?

Submitted: 29.3.2023