

**Priority question for written answer P-002724/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Michiel Hoogeveen (ECR)

Subject: Disposal of products made with forced labour

In its proposal for a regulation on prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market¹, the Commission suggested that such products should be disposed of.

The question is how this should be carried out: for example, the products could be donated to charitable organisations, while recycling would also be an option.

However, it seems that donation might go against the objectives of this proposal, as it could be a way of such products still entering the EU market, which, in turn, could negatively impact competing manufacturers/distributors of similar products who do not make use of forced labour.

1. Why did the Commission not consider donation to charity in its proposal?
2. Could products made with forced labour that are donated to charity negatively affect competition on the internal market and if so, how could such distortion be addressed?
3. Is the idea of donating products made with forced labour to charity compatible with existing EU law?

Submitted: 20.9.2023

¹ Commission proposal of 14 September 2022 for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market (COM(2022)0453).