TEXTILES ECOSYSTEM

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3,1% of manufacturing value added

Textiles
Clothing
Leather
Footwear

High share of imports: 73% of fashion products are imported

Textiles ecosystem

6,2% of manufacturing employment

99,5% of companies are SMEs

Textile & clothing: exports +58% (2010-2019)

European Commission

Textiles Ecosystem

¼ of EU carpets are produced in BE

¼ of all technical textile produced in DE

Over 40% of all clothes made in the EU produced in IT and over 60% of leather tannery turnover.

2/3 of footwear production in IT, ESP and PT.

European Commission
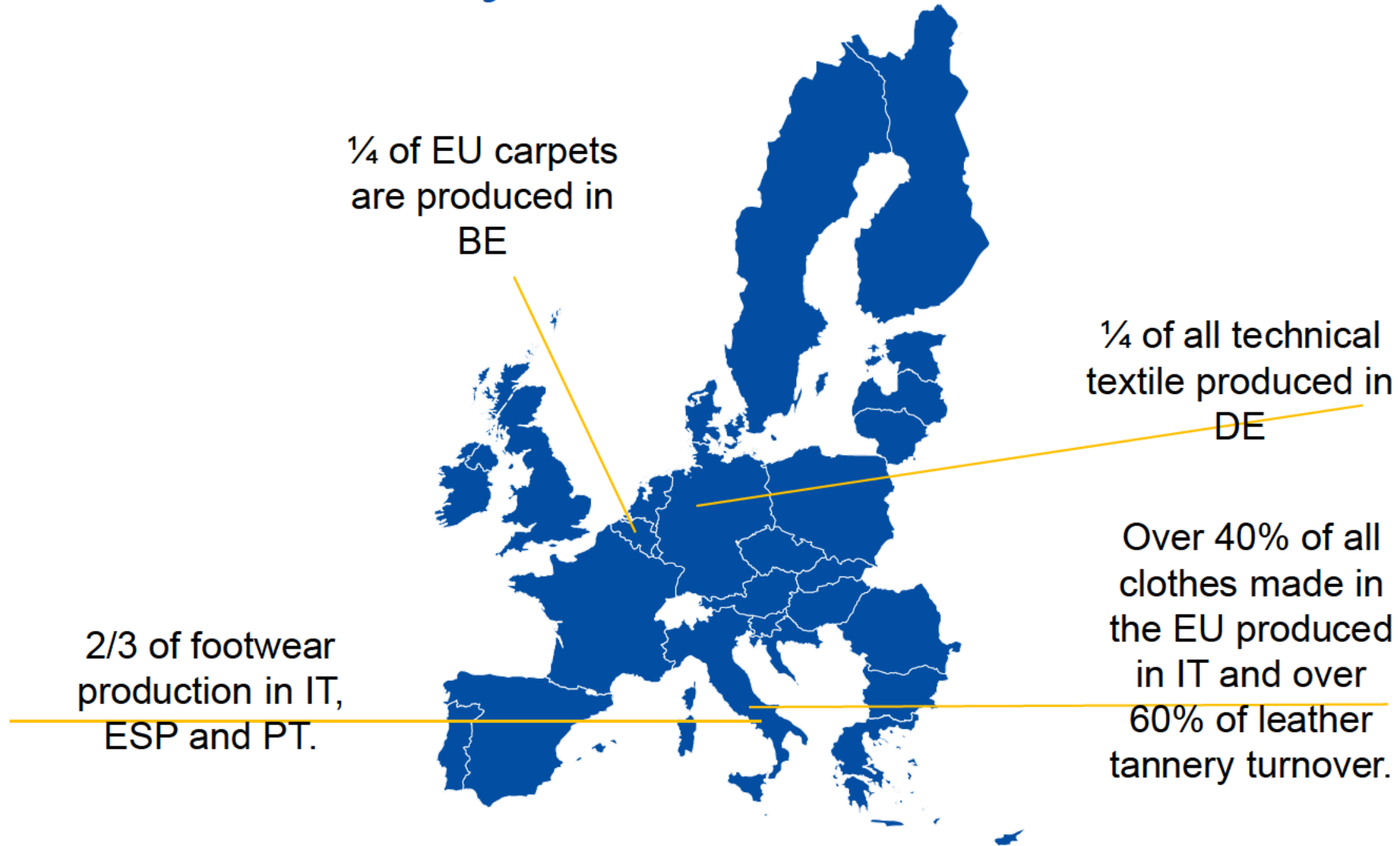
Key figures of EU textile and clothing trade

- **39%** of EU turnover sold on the global market

- **€58 billion** of exports

  - Exports **+58% (**2010-2019)

- **€106 billion** of imports

  - Imports **+43%** (2010-2019)

39%

European Commission
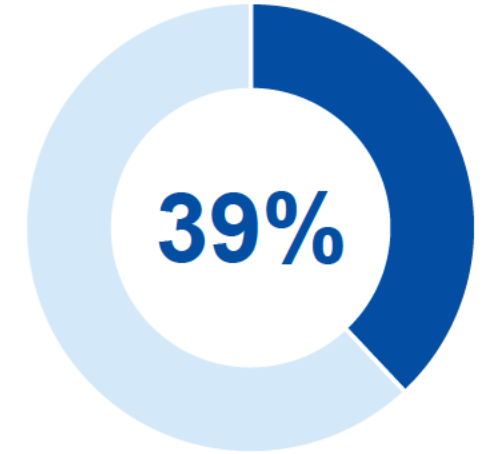
Textile and clothing imports: €106 billion

Biggest exporters of textiles & clothes to the EU in 2021:

- China: €35 billion

- Bangladesh: €14,7 billion

- Turkey: €14,6 billion

- India: €6 billion

- Pakistan: €5 billion

- Vietnam: €3,4 billion

EU imports from China and from the most competitive trade partners with preferential access make up over **70%** of total EU imports.

European Commission

Import of clothes to the EU

(2020 data)

TOP 3 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN
1. China
2. Bangladesh
3. Turkey

IMPORT TO THE EU
€69 BILLION

China €21 BILLION — 30%

Bangladesh €12 BILLION — 18%

Turkey €8 BILLION — 12%

ec.europa.eu/**eurostat**

European Commission

Sustainable
and Circular Textiles

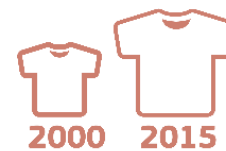# EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles
Need for action

1% of material used to produce clothing is recycled into new clothing (globally)

About 5.8 million tonnes of textiles are discarded every year, equivalent to 11.3 kg per person (EU)

Almost 9/10 Europeans (88%) think that clothing should be made to last longer

Textiles production doubled between 2000 and 2015 (globally)

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

European Commission

Road to 2030: the vision of the Strategy

- By 2030, 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
  - produced respecting social rights

- "**Fast fashion is out of fashion**"

- In a competitive, resilient and innovative textile sector producers take responsibility for their products along the value chain

- **Circularity** has become the norm and the incineration and landfilling of clothes has been minimized

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Key actions

1. New **design requirements for textiles** under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation

2. **Stopping the destruction** of unsold or returned textiles

3. Action to address the unintentional **release of microplastics** from synthetic textiles

4. **Clearer information** on textiles and a digital product passport

5. Tackle **greenwashing**

6. Mandatory **Extended Producer Responsibility** for textiles with eco-modulation of fees

European Commission

Ecodesign and structural aspects

- Binding **performance** ecodesign requirements:
  - durability, reusability, reparability
  - fibre-to-fibre recyclability and mandatory recycled fibre content
  - minimise and track the presence of substances of concern

- **Transparency obligation** to publicly disclose the number of products discarded and destroyed+ **possible ban** (if appropriate)

- Tackle **microplastics release**

Empowering consumers in the green transition

- Review of the **Textile Labelling regulation**

  - Aim to introduce mandatory disclosure of information such as sustainability and circularity parameters.

- Setting **information requirements** for a **Digital Product Passport** for textiles

Tackling greenwashing

- Greenwashing is the practice of marketing a product to appear more environmentally friendly.
- Green claims initiative:
  - **Minimum criteria** for all types of environmental claims, including textiles

Extended Producer Responsibility

- Harmonised EU extended producer responsibility rules for textiles.
    - Eco-modulation of fees
    - The key objective will be to create an economy for collection, sorting, reuse and recycling, as well as incentives for producers and brands to ensure that their products are designed in respect of circularity principles.