

Gymnasium Apeldoorn

Kastanjelaan 17

7316 BN, Apeldoorn

Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection

Beillardstraat 99

76260, Brussel

22 Februari 2023

Subject: system change in the field of fast fashion

Dear Sir/Madam,

Today, pollution is an increasingly pressing issue. The textile industry has a significant influence in this pollution, partly due to the 'fast fashion' ideology: Clothing is produced cheaply in low-wage countries, with all the economic benefits that entails. However, this clothing is of low quality, and too much is produced. A consequence of this is that a huge amount of clothing is thrown away. This must stop immediately. That is why we want to have some measures realized:

Firstly, we want to introduce a new trading system, which will be similar to the emission allowance system. The EU is introducing new regulations, which impose a national importquota on each member state, which is reduced every year. As a starting ceiling, we aim for a quota of EUR 650 million in import duties per million inhabitants. Of course, this ceiling will be lowered, the aim will be to reduce imports by 5% per 10-year period. This is to make the transition smoother. Companies can then bid for the highest possible share of these import duties. This financially discourages companies from doing excessive business in low-wage countries, while benefiting state finances. In addition, there will be a 10% tax on private clothing imports from non-Western industries.

We want to use this new income to further reduce trade with low-wage countries. We intend to seriously discourage it because, of course, we cannot ban it. In our opinion, a subsidy for European textile producers is a good investment, which reduces production costs and achieves a more competitive market price. This makes it more attractive for clothing stores to do business with European partners, instead of non-Western competitors. Which in turn stimulates the European economy and improves the trade relationship with other countries.

With these suggestions we hope to assist you in tackling pollution problem in the textile industry. We look forward to receiving your reply soon. Respectfully

Gymnasium Apeldoorn