

CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE TEXTILE SECTOR



Christos Kyriatzis DG GROW



EU textile and clothing sector

- Sustainability a priority for the EU
- European Green Deal
- New Industrial Strategy
- Circular Economy Action Plan



EU textile and clothing sector

- ➤ Turnover, number of companies and employment are stabilising
- > Textile producers are finding niche markets
- High-end clothing, technical textile for automotive applications, medical textile, agro textile and protective clothing
- >SMEs >90% of workforce





Figures for EU sector

- ❖€146 billion in turnover and investments of almost €5 billion in 2018
- *175.000 companies and employment of 1.5 million
- **♦€61 billion** of exports and **€109** billion of imports in 2019





EU - Mexico

- ➤ EU imported €191 million T & C from Mexico
- ➤ EU exported €974 million T & C to Mexico





Textiles and clothing

- Competitiveness strengths
 (high quality, new technologies, international leadership, design, creativity)
- Competitiveness challenges
 (low profit margins, environmental footprint, international competition, skill gaps)



Textiles and clothing

- Collection rate 25%
 (varies between 11% and 75 % among MS)
 - Only 1% of material used to produce clothing is recycled into new clothing globally



EU Policies

- New Industrial Strategy: Global competitiveness, making Europe climate-neutral and shaping digital future
- Circular Economy Action Plan: EU Strategy for Textiles



THANK YOU

GROW.F.4 « Tourism, Textiles and Creative Industries »
Christos.kyriatzis@ec.europa.eu