ESPR

Ecodesign for Sustainable Product Regulation

Entered into effect on july 18th 2024, this is the newest EU regulation to **accelerate the transition to the circular economy**.

4 key topics :

- The Ecodesign requirements
- The Digital Product Passport
- Ban on the destruction of unsold consumer products.
- Green Public Procurement

Understand the ESPR in 3 minutes

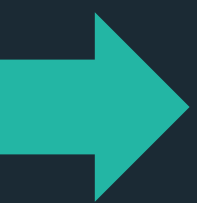The Procurementor

The ecodesign requirements

This is the most important news: **ecodesign is going to be made progressively mandatory for all products.**

Specific **ecodesign requirements** will be introduced for each category of products so that those :

- **Last longer**
- Use **less energy**
- Can be easily **repaired**
- Can be easily **disassembled** and **recycled**
- Contain **more recycled content**
- Contain **fewer substances of concern**
- Have **lower emissions and environmental footprint**

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Defining standards

Starting with garments, footwear, furniture and electronics industries, the first targets will be defined in 2025.

Example of potentials requirements to come for industrials in those industries :

- 20% of the products should be 100% repairable
- 30% of the materials are from renewable sources
- 50% of products should be easily dissassembled

And the Commission is already looking at the cement industry, aiming at regulating it by 2030.

> The cement industry, as one of the most energy-, material- and carbon- intensive sectors is responsible for around 7 % of global and 4 % of EU CO2 emissions

Digital Product Passport

The ESPR also introduces the Digital Product Passport (DPP), **a digital identity card for products, components, and materials.**

This new digital ID will store **relevant information to support products' sustainability, promote their circularity and strengthen legal compliance:**

- **Product's technical performance**
- **Materials and their origins**
- **Repair activities**
- **Recycling capabilities**
- **Lifecycle environmental impacts**

The information will be made available electronically by the manufacturers.

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Ban on the destruction of unsold Consumer Goods

The ESPR sets the ambitious goal **to eliminate consumer waste** by first **mandating reporting on the disposal of unsold goods** and then **banning their destruction.**

The ban will start on the textile industry as they are a key contributors to waste:

The Commission estimates that **"4 to 9% of all EU textile products is destroyed before use**, amounting to between **264 and 594,000 tonnes of textiles destroyed each year"**.

The ban should enter effect in :
- 2 years for large companies
- Medium sized companies will benefit from a 6 year exemption
- While Small and Micro companies remain exempt.

Will this kill fast fashion ?
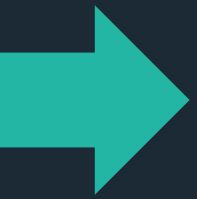
Green Public Procurement

Finally, the ESPR will also help steer some of the €1.8 trillion EU public spending to more circular and sustainable products and services.

The ESPR makes **the evaluation of sustainability criteria mandatory in public sourcing events (tenders)** so that EU public spending aligns more toward its Green Deal objectives.

For instance, public procurement might require that the **tenderers' products meet specific carbon footprint requirements**.

This should therefore **attract investment in the sustainability industry** as the opportunity becomes bigger.

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Are you ready for the circular economy ?

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