

| SMALL BUT PERFECT |

FAIR FASHION DAY

MEPs Delara Burkhardt and Saskia Bricmont in conversation with impacted stakeholders

25 April 2023, 9.45am to 12.00

Event at the European Parliament, Brussels
Spaak building, room 7C50



Fair Fashion Day at the European Parliament: civil society demands better legislation in the fashion industry

Fashion Revolution and the Fair Trade Advocacy Office are hosting a Fair Fashion Day at the European Parliament on April 25th. The event will take place during Fashion Revolution Week and just a few days ahead of the ENVI vote on the EU Textile Strategy, as well as around the time when the JURI committee is expected to vote on the long awaited Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive that - *if done right* - could have a great impact in making the textile sector more fair and sustainable. The event will be used to call on European lawmakers to hold fashion brands accountable by law on their human rights and environmental impacts, and take legal action against brands' irresponsible purchasing practices. The day will consist of a panel discussion between MEPs and impacted stakeholders, including SMEs and a public stunt outside the European Parliament in support of the [Good Clothes, Fair Pay](#) campaign.

The day will begin with an honest and unfiltered discussion on the main challenges faced by impacted stakeholders from the fashion supply chain, as told from the perspectives of Sahin Pravin, former child garment worker from Nepal, and General Manager at Local Women's Handicraft, Nepal; Simone Simonato, founder & designer of Sica, an upcycling design SMEs from Berlin; and Mario Iveković, trade unionist from Novi Sindikat, Croatia. MEPs Delara Burkhardt and Saskia Bricmont will join the conversation which is taking place in the morning at the Spaak building

“Fashionably late: it's time for the EU to take action on poverty pay in fashion”

The event will be directly followed by a public stunt outside the European Parliament to demonstrate the urgent need for the EU to take action on poverty pay in fashion. To symbolise this, citizens behind the [Good Clothes, Fair Pay](#) campaign will be stationing a person sewing with a machine (to symbolise the fashion industry), alongside an hourglass to represent the limited time the EU has to act. MEPs Delara Burkhardt and Saskia Bricmont will be speaking at the stunt. Citizens from across Europe will simultaneously be replicating the stunt in busy public spaces in their cities, demonstrating EU-wide solidarity with the people who make our clothes. Good Clothes, Fair Pay is a European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) which demands legislation on living wages for garment workers worldwide. There's less than three months left to mobilise the critical one million EU signatures needed to call on the European Commission to introduce laws on this important issue. You can access images

and videos of the stunt in Brussels and across Europe [here](#) and EU citizens can add their name at goodclothesfairpay.eu.

“As the world’s largest importer of textiles, the EU has the power to hold the fashion industry accountable for its human rights and environmental impacts. Therefore, we call on the EU to introduce stringent due diligence legislation covering the entire fashion industry and ensure that the people who make our clothes are paid a living wage. There is no sustainable fashion without fair pay.” - Delphine Willot, Policy and Campaigns Manager, Fashion Revolution

“Well documented by field research, Unfair Trading Practices such as very long payment delays and prices below production costs are a sad reality in the fashion industry. As a result of the brands' quest for the lowest price, clothing manufacturers are often unable to make a profit or invest in sustainable production and living wages for workers. We call on the EU to take strong legislative action to ban this abusive and predatory behaviour and to create a level playing field.” - Marta Garda, Project Coordinator, FTAO

Ends.

Notes to Editors

The panel will take place between 9:45am and 12pm CET
Spaak Building room 7C50
European Parliament
Brussels
Belgium

Register for the panel event at

<https://saskiabricmont.typeform.com/to/HnhV0rPJ?typeform-source=www.google.com>.

The Good Clothes, Fair Pay stunt is taking place outside of the European Parliament and in the following cities:

Amsterdam, the Netherlands - 22nd April

Milan, 22nd April

Köln, Germany - 25th April

Paris, France - 25th April

Catalunya and Valencia, Spain - 25th April

Images from the panel and discussion and stunt will be added to [this folder](#) for press usage. Please credit where appropriate.

More information about the [Good Clothes, Fair Pay campaign](#) is available [here](#). We need 1 million signatures by July 2023, EU citizens can sign at goodclothesfairpay.eu.

For further information and interview requests, please contact press@fashionrevolution.org or brussels@fairtrade-advocacy.org.