Eliminating Forced Labor Turkmen Cotton from Global Supply Chains

Ending State-Imposed Forced Labor in Cotton Supply Chains
OECD Side Session, February 15, 2023
About the Cotton Campaign

- Leading human rights advocacy to end forced labor and promote decent work in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan
- Multi-stakeholder coalition of labor and human rights organizations, independent trade unions, academics, investors, and brand associations
- At the forefront of the global movement for transparency and full traceability of the global cotton supply chains
- On the Steering Committee of the End Uyghur Forced Labor Coalition
- Hosts the Turkmen Cotton Pledge - [https://www.cottoncampaign.org/turkmen-cotton-pledge](https://www.cottoncampaign.org/turkmen-cotton-pledge)
Turkmen yarn imports in 2021:
- Turkey: >$140 mil
- Russia: >$21 mil
- China: >$4 mil
- Poland: >$3 mil
- Pakistan, Portugal, Italy

Based on import data made available through UN Comtrade, 2021
Turkmenistan fabric imports in 2021:
- Turkey: >$35 mil
- Morocco: >$5 mil
- Italy: >$4 mil
- Portugal: >$1 mil
- Russia, Poland, Pakistan

Turkmenistan yarn imports in 2021:
- Turkey: >$140 mil
- Russia: >$21 mil
- China: >$4 mil
- Poland: >$3 mil
- Pakistan, Portugal, Italy

Based on import data made available through UN Comtrade, 2021
Türkiye: A Primary Manufacturer of Textiles Using Turkmen Cotton

In 2021, Turkey imported from Turkmenistan:

- > $140 million worth of yarn,
- > $35 million worth of fabric
- > $50 million worth of cotton (quantity increased 5x from 2020)

The Turkmen textile industry is 22% foreign-owned;
- 20% are Turkish companies

Turkey is the third-largest textiles supplier to the EU. According to Open Supply Hub:
- > 20,000 facilities in Türkiye
- The list is not exhaustive
Global Brands and Retailers Should:

- Fully map their supply chains to the raw material level and exclude cotton originating in Turkmenistan.
- Establish a binding policy that prohibits the use of Turkmen cotton.
- Verify compliance with the company policy and ensure purchasing practices support its implementation.
- Publicly release documentation of these steps.
- Meaningfully engage stakeholders. Support the advocacy efforts of the Cotton Campaign and its NGO Turkmen partners.

- US: Withhold Release Order (WRO) against Turkmen cotton; Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA)
- Canada: Forced labor import ban
- EU: Forced labor instrument underway; German Supply Chain Act
- Australia: upcoming Customs Amendment Bill to ban imports of forced labor products
Links and Contact Information

- Cotton Campaign website – [https://www.cottoncampaign.org/](https://www.cottoncampaign.org/)
- Turkmen Cotton Pledge [https://www.cottoncampaign.org/turkmen-cotton-pledge](https://www.cottoncampaign.org/turkmen-cotton-pledge)
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