

Factual summary of the online public consultation

*This document should be regarded solely as an overview of contributions received during the public consultation on 'New Product Priorities for Ecodesign for Sustainable Products'. It cannot, in any circumstances be regarded as the official position of the Commission or its services and **is without prejudice to the products that will form part of the first working plan under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation, or the continued work of the Commission's Joint Research Centre**. Responses to the consultation activities cannot be considered as a representative sample of the views of the EU population.*

Introduction

The [public consultation](#) on 'New Product Priorities for Ecodesign for Sustainable Products' aimed:

- to gather the views of the general public and interested stakeholders on what the first priorities under the future Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) should be;
- to refine the findings of the [preliminary study](#) carried out by the Commission's [Joint Research Centre](#) (JRC) – which identified several product groups and horizontal measures that *may* be suitable candidates for prioritisation under the ESPR, once it enters into force;
- to close information gaps; help build consensus on future action under the ESPR; and
- to help prepare for a smooth implementation once ESPR enters into force.

The public consultation was open for input between 31 January and 12 May 2023. The questionnaire comprised the following sections:

- An **introductory section** that collected information about the demographic profile of the respondents.
- Three **thematic sections** that gathered opinions about 1) end-use products 2) intermediate products and 3) horizontal measures. All three sections included general questions, as well as questions per product group/horizontal measure.
- A **final section** where the survey participants could submit general comments and upload supplementary documents.

This **factual summary report** gives an overview of the number of responses, the type of respondents and their country of origin. It also provides a brief overview of responses submitted.

Who contributed?

There were **447 responses** to the survey, and **161 position papers** were also submitted.

The vast majority of questionnaire respondents was from the EU (89%), with contributions also from non-EU countries, especially Japan (3% of respondents), United States (2%), the UK (1%), Norway (1%), Australia (1%) and Switzerland (1%). Within the EU, Belgium, France, Germany and Italy represented more than 70% of respondents.

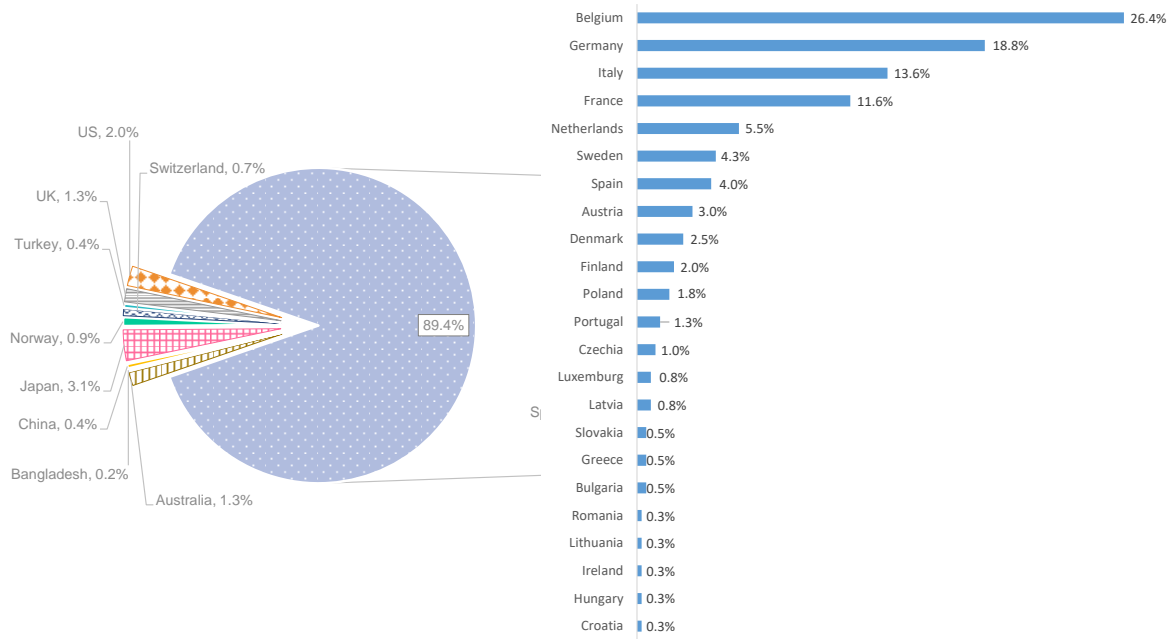


Figure 1. Country of origin of questionnaire respondents

Industry stakeholders were the most frequently represented stakeholders, making up 73% of the questionnaire respondents. NGOs provided 7% of the questionnaire responses, while public authorities provided 3%.

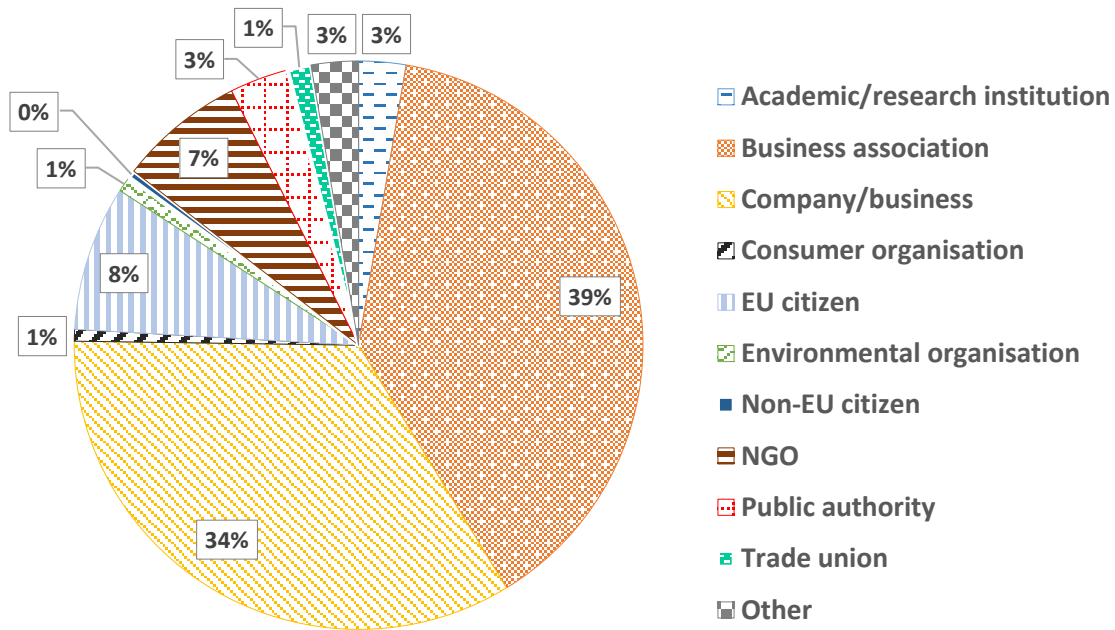


Figure 2. Questionnaire respondents - Type of organization

When asked about their sector, over two thirds of industry stakeholders came from **sectors related to the products identified in JRC’s preliminary study (69%)**. 15% represent Textiles and Footwear, 7% Chemicals and 6% Plastic and Polymers. The other 31% of industry stakeholders came from sectors related to products not identified in the preliminary study, notably 6% from the energy-related products sector, 5% from the construction products sector and 4% from the packaging sector.

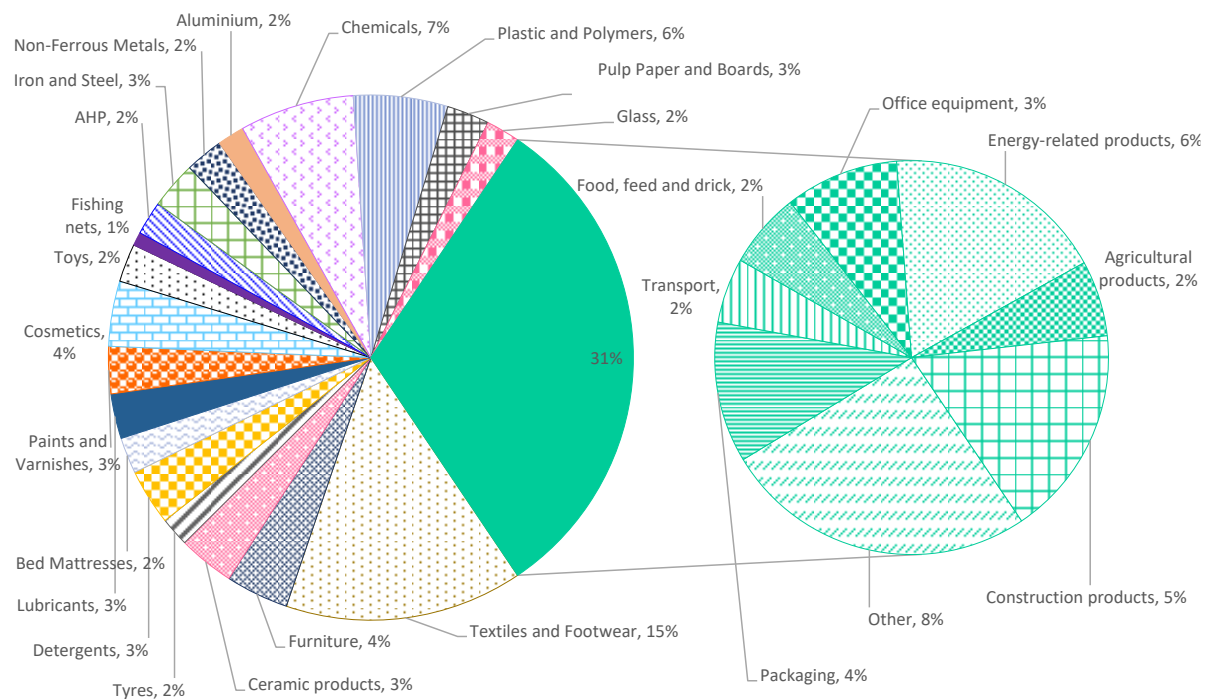


Figure 3. Products represented by industry stakeholders (questionnaire). The right-hand side of the figure addresses products not addressed in the preliminary study for the WP. AHP: Absorbent Hygiene Products

With respect to the market dimension, 36% of industry stakeholders declare they are active on the worldwide market, 32% in the EU market, and 10% in local, regional and non-EU markets respectively. 50% of industry stakeholders represent medium sized enterprises, 17% large enterprises, 17% small enterprises, and 16% micro enterprises.

Overview of the results

It should be noted that, due to the design of the questionnaire, which permitted respondents to answer as many sections as they wished (including on only one single product group, if this was their only area of interest), a significant number of “no answer” responses were generated. This may be because respondents were not answering questions on products which fell outside of their field of competence or interest. As such, **“no answer” responses were filtered out of the analysis conducted and are therefore not reflected in the results summarised here**. On the contrary, “no opinion” responses, when available, were always considered. Furthermore, it is possible that some respondents interpreted the various product scopes in ways that differed from those product scopes outlined in the JRC’s [preliminary study](#), as they were not repeated in the questionnaire.

Opinion of stakeholders on the products and horizontal measures for the working plan

In the questionnaire, for each end-use and intermediate product identified in the preliminary JRC study, stakeholders were asked whether they agreed with the product’s identification for potential first action under ESPR.

The end-use products with the **highest** percentage of agreement were:

- Textiles and footwear (58% stakeholders agreed, 10% disagreed, 32% no opinion)
- Furniture (48% stakeholders agreed, 5% disagreed, 46% no opinion)
- Tyres (48%, stakeholders agreed, 4% disagreed, 48% no opinion)
- Toys (48%, stakeholders agreed, 3% disagreed, 49% no opinion)
- Bed mattresses (44%, stakeholders agreed, 6% disagreed, 50% no opinion)

The **intermediate** products with the **highest** percentage of agreement were:

- Plastics & polymers (52% stakeholders agreed, 18% disagreed, 29% no opinion)
- Chemicals (47% stakeholders agreed, 21% disagreed, 32% no opinion)
- Aluminium (43% stakeholders agreed, 14% disagreed, 43% no opinion)

The **Horizontal Measures** with the **highest** percentage of agreement were:

- Durability (67% agreed, 17% disagreed, 16% no opinion)
- Recyclability (65% agreed, 23% disagreed, 12% no opinion)



Figure 4. Opinion of stakeholders (agree/disagree/no opinion) on the end-use products, intermediate products and horizontal measures identified for the working plan. HM: horizontal measures

Products considered having highest priority

In the questionnaire, stakeholders were asked to rate, for each product analysed in the preliminary study, their priority as low, medium, or high importance. The results of the responses can be seen in the Figure 5.

The products which received the highest share of **high priority** answers were:

End-use products:

- textiles and footwear (68% of the stakeholders)
- tyres (55%)
- detergents (48%)

Intermediate products:

- plastics (63%)
- chemicals (52%)

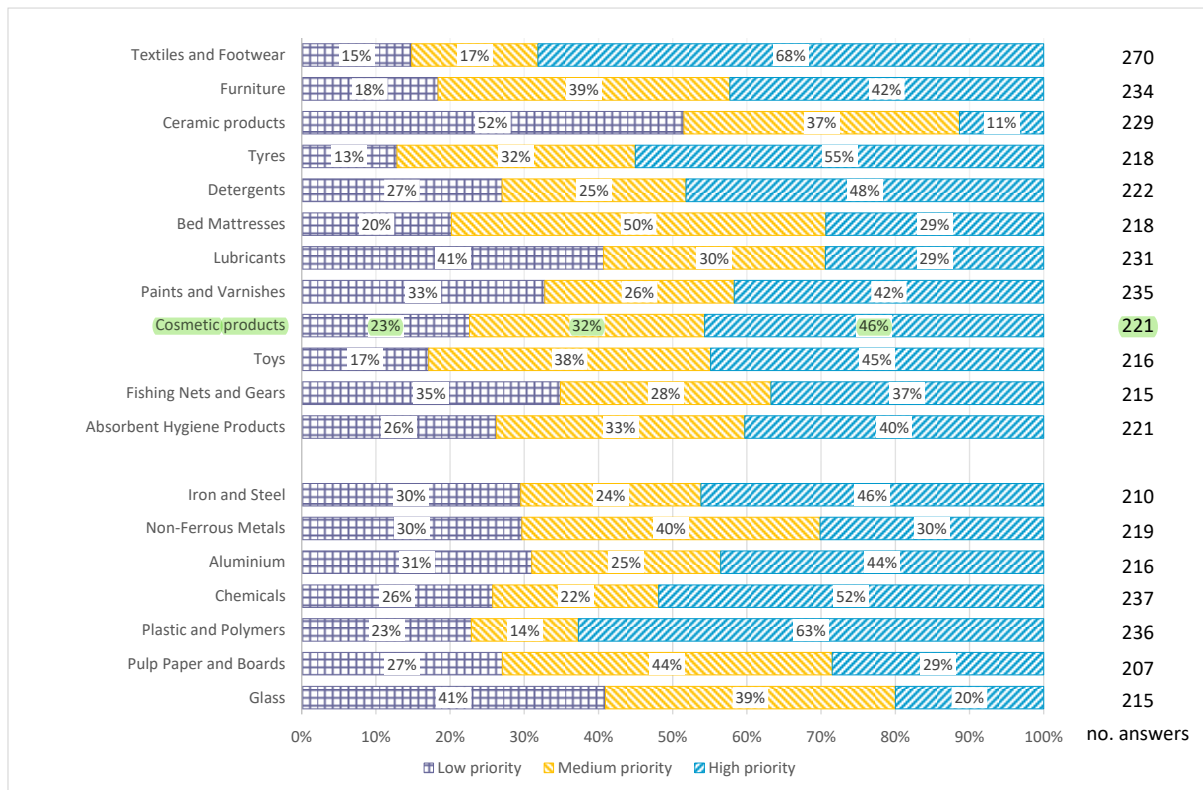


Figure 5. Share of stakeholders assigning Low/Medium/High priority to end-use and intermediate products (questionnaire responses - not considering the “no answer” option). Values on the right-side of the graph represent the number of answers received for each product.

Overview of position papers

A total of 161 position papers were uploaded alongside responses to the public consultation questionnaire.

Most position papers were submitted by **companies and business associations (137 papers)**, while others were also submitted by **NGOs and environmental organisations (11 papers)**, **academic/research institutions (4 papers)**, **public authorities (1 paper)**, **trade unions (2 papers)**, **citizens (2 papers)**, **consumer organisations (2 papers)**, and **unspecified respondents (2 papers)**.

The analysis of these papers is ongoing.

Next steps

Next to the general findings presented above, the stakeholders who contributed to the Public Consultation also provided detailed input, with new data, viewpoints and references that will be further analysed by the Joint Research Centre. Based on this analysis, **the preliminary study will be revised, and an updated version will be produced, likely to be published in early 2024. This will help to inform the work to be carried out under ESPR, once it has entered into force.**