

Prohibition of products made with forced labour

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Regulation

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market – [Analysis of the final compromise text with a view to agreement](#)

What is changing and why?

The new Regulation prohibits the import and sale (including online) of products made with forced labour, including forced child labour. This covers all stages of the production process including harvest, production, and processing.

Businesses must not put any products on the market that have been made using forced labour. The new rules do not set out in detail the specific actions that companies must take to prevent use of forced labour (“due diligence”), but being able to demonstrate efforts to identify, prevent, and mitigate the use of forced labour will reduce the risk of being investigated.

The Regulation puts in place information systems that will help the Commission and EU Member States to collect and share evidence of the use of forced labour, including an online information point where anyone can provide evidence.

The Commission will take the lead in investigating suspected use of forced labour in non-EU countries. It will take a risk-based approach focusing on large-scale and severe cases of suspected forced labour, taking into account the quantity of products involved. The Commission will give companies suspected of bringing products made using forced labour to the EU market a first opportunity to provide information. If there is sufficient evidence, a full investigation will be launched, with a further opportunity for companies to provide information. A final decision is taken by the Commission within 9 months. Products found to violate forced labour rules will no longer be able to be sold on the EU market, and products already on the market will have to be withdrawn and disposed of. Once a company has demonstrated that it has eliminated forced labour from its supply chain, it can restart trading in products.

Based on information provided by the public and by international organisations, EU Member States will have to assess whether there is a risk that products were produced with forced labour. Where they identify a risk, they will launch an investigation.

During an investigation, EU Member State competent authorities will ask businesses for information. Businesses will have to demonstrate that they have made sufficient efforts (“due

diligence”) to identify, prevent, mitigate, or bring to an end the use of forced labour. For example, this can include evidence that they have implemented voluntary guidelines or recommendations directed at eliminating forced labour.

After an initial investigation, if there is a “substantiated concern”, an EU Member State competent authority can launch a full investigation. If this full investigation finds that products were made with forced labour, the companies concerned:

- will not be able to sell the products
- have to withdraw any products already on the market
- have to dispose of the products.

Once a company has demonstrated that it has eliminated forced labour from its supply chain, it can restart trading in products.

Actions

The Commission will develop guidance on due diligence related to forced labour by the end of 2025 to help suppliers and importers put in place monitoring and reporting systems that will reduce the risk of investigations.

Timeline

The Regulation is expected to apply from mid-2027.

For more information see the [full record](#) on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest [AGRINFO Update](#) newsletters and [search](#) the database.

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