



RETRAKT Conference: Join the Circle

'From linear to circular' – The textile and fashion sector is facing huge changes. One priority on the EU's legal agenda: promoting resource-efficiency and circular production principles for consumer goods such as textiles.

This requires not only technical and economic transformation – it is always up to people to implement new obligations. Within the new research project RETRAKT, we take a human-centred perspective to realise this transformation by applying "Resilience Engineering".

Please 'Join the Circle of exchange' on the future of the textile sector at our first **RETRAKT Conference in Aachen on 25 February 2026.**

RETRAKT Conference

Circular Textiles. Resilient Future

25 February 2026
09:00 – 16:00

forum M, Buchkremerstraße 1-7
Aachen, Germany

Registration:
www.retrakt.de



RETRAKT Conference Agenda

25 February 2026, Aachen



09:00	Registration & Coffee
10:00	Welcome Professor Thomas Heupel, FOM Hochschule for Economy and Management, Essen
10:15	Keynote: EU Textile Strategy and European Sustainable Product Regulation (ESPR) Katarzyna Sulisz, Senior Sustainability Officer, FESI (Federation of the European Sporting Goods Industry, Brussels)
11:00	RETRAKT – Circular Textiles – Resilient Future: Project presentation Professor Thomas Mühlbradt, FOM Hochschule & Nicole Espey, ITA Institut für Textiltechnik of RWTH Aachen University
12:00	Interactive Lunch Break Exhibition 1: Euregio Meuse-Rhine and City of Aachen: Circular Activities and cross-border collaboration (CCE, RWTH Aachen University & City of Aachen & Euregio Meuse-Rhine) Exhibition 2: Circular Innovation Systems (HumTec, RWTH Aachen University) Exhibition 3: Digital Product Passport (tbd & i2solutions GmbH) Exhibition 4: Book Presentation "Circular Textile Economy" Exhibition 5: Textile Circular Economy – Project Presentation (FOM Hochschule & TFI)
13:30	The Future of Textiles and Waste Management: Extended Producer Responsibility in Europe tbd
14:00	New Technical Perspectives on Textile Recycling Nicole Hühn M.Sc., ITA Augsburg, Recycling Atelier
14:30	Circular Economy in the Euregio Meuse-Rhine – Best practice examples tdb, Euregio Meuse-Rhine
15:00	Wrap-Up and Closing Remarks Moderation: Nicole Espey, ITA Institut für Textiltechnik of RWTH Aachen University
15:45	RETRAKT Conference 2026 – End

The project "Resilientes Transformationsmanagement zur Kreislaufwirtschaft in der Textilindustrie" (ReTraKT) is funded as part of the "Future of Work" program by the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR) and the European Union through the European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus) and managed by the Project Management Agency Karlsruhe (PTKA).

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