



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, Vice-Rector for Research, FOM University of Applied Sciences, 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 University of Applied Sciences & 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 Presentations (ITA Institut für Textiltechnik of RWTH Aachen, FOM University of Applied Sciences) Exhibition 5: Textile Circular Economy – Project Presentation (FOM University of Applied Sciences & 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, 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