

For many years, German textile and clothing manufacturers have been working together with partner companies in Ukraine. The European-Ukrainian free trade agreement has facilitated trade and contract production since 2016. The Russian attack has dealt a serious setback to this cooperation. The destruction of the economy and infrastructure is enormous. But the country is already starting to rebuild. GDP has been picking up again since the beginning of 2023. Our web seminar provides information on current opportunities and challenges.

## **Textiles and Clothing Industry in Ukraine** 7th February 2024, 10:30 to 12:00 am (CET) | online

Despite the war, 80 percent of Ukrainian textile companies are now producing again. Our webinar informs about the current conditions of cooperation in the textile sector with contributions from the German-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce, the GTAI and the Ukrainian Textile and Clothing Association UKRLEGPROM. In addition to the important key figures for the industry, this includes the framework conditions for trade and investment as well as funding opportunities for investors.

According to the Ukrainian textile and leather association UKRLEGPROM, not only companies in EUrelated western and central Ukrainian regions continue to be export-oriented and quite capable of handling orders from the EU efficiently. In addition, it should be emphasized that enterprises in the North (Chernihiv, Sumy), East (Kharkiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia), South (Odesa, Kherson, Mykolaiv) of Ukraine also work and are able to fulfill orders responsibly.

The EU-Ukraine Textile Initiative (EUTI) supports manufacturers in the EU and Ukraine in establishing or expanding trade and production partnerships. Selected companies will introduce themselves during the webinar. The "EU-Ukraine Textile Initiative" (EUTI) is intended to encourage EU manufacturers to work more closely with Ukrainian partners again.

## PROGRAMME

Welcome Silvia Jungbauer, GESAMTMASCHE, Tetiana Izovit, UKRLEGPROM

**EUTI – What it is all about** *Paulo Sandri, EURATEX, Brussels* 

## Financing and hedging of investments and exports

Hans-Jürgen Wittmann, Senior Manager Ukraine, Germany Trade & Invest, Berlin

**Textiles and clothing in Ukraine: sectoral landscape and SWOT** *Tetiana Izovit, President UKRLEGPROM, Kiev* 

**Business Facts & Business Support** Tetiana Sliusarchuk/Nataliia Hryshchenko, Rebuild Ukraine, AHK Kiev

**EU-Ukraine duty-free textile trade** *Silvia Jungbauer, GESAMTMASCHE* 

Ukraine producers present themselves Company Pitches

End of session: ca. 12:00 pm.

The online conference will take place via Webex. Conference languages are German and English. All registered participants will receive the access link the day before the event. Please register for the online conference "Ukraine as a Textile Location" by February 5, 2024 at the latest. Participation is free of charge. All participants will then receive the event documents, if approved by the speakers.

Ukraine is considered as a traditional center of the textile industry. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, a rapid opening to the West and the conclusion of free trade agreements helped the industry to flourish again. Then came the financial crisis of 2008, and from 2014 onwards, the conflict with Russia hampered newly established partnerships. After the military aggression at the beginning of 2022, many of the remaining EU partners withdrew for the time being. According to UKRLEGPROM, EU orders are gradually stabilizing again after a sharp slump at the beginning of the war. However, the industry is currently struggling with staff shortages as many workers migrate to the EU. Companies are trying to address the shortage, with some success, by hiring displaced people and lateral entrants.



GTA Deutsch-Ukrainische Industrie- und Handelskammer Німецько-Українська промислово-торговельна палата

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