



PRESS RELEASE

4 May 2026, Budapest

Summer dresses, pajamas, and nightgowns on the inspection shelf – A wide-ranging official investigation is launched into the textile market

The National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection (NATCP) has launched a comprehensive inspection of the textile products market, accompanied by laboratory tests. The purpose of the inspection is to determine whether products available on the market comply with current legal requirements and whether the information provided on labels offers accurate and reliable information to consumers.

Based on the authority's previous experience, a recurring problem is that the fiber composition listed on the labels of clothing and household textiles does not always reflect reality. Last year, 120 products (40 items of clothing for infants, 40 for children, and 40 for adults) were subjected to laboratory testing, of which 22 failed the tests.

Since fabric composition plays a key role in consumers' purchasing decisions—for example, in terms of comfort, allergenicity, or durability—such discrepancies are not only misleading but also constitute a violation of market surveillance regulations.

Another key focus of the investigation is the testing for the presence of formaldehyde. This substance is a compound frequently used in the textile industry that can contribute to desirable product properties, such as wrinkle resistance or dimensional stability. However, it can also pose a health risk: it is an irritant and may be classified as carcinogenic in the event of prolonged contact or prolonged exposure. European Union regulations establish clear limits on formaldehyde content, particularly for products that come into direct contact with the skin.

The authority pays particular attention to products whose packaging or labels contain claims indicating the absence of formaldehyde. Examples include labels such as “formaldehyde-free,” “contains no added formaldehyde,” “skin-friendly,” “hypoallergenic,” “baby-friendly,” or “complies with EU regulations,” as well as labels referencing various certifications. The veracity of these claims is verified in every case through laboratory testing.

The inspection takes place in several phases. In the spring, the focus is primarily on summer clothing and underwear, while in the fall, pajamas, nightgowns, and other cotton textiles are examined. The samples come from various retail locations, including shopping malls, chain stores, markets, specialty shops, and online stores. The selected products are examined by the NATCP’s accredited laboratory, and if the laboratory results show that a product does not comply with the information indicated on the label and misleads consumers, the authority initiates a market surveillance procedure.

The purpose of the investigation goes beyond identifying violations: it also contributes to strengthening fair market competition, protecting law-abiding businesses, and increasing consumer confidence. The NATCP urges economic operators to ensure that their products are labeled accurately and in compliance with the law, and that consumers are provided with accurate information. Consumer safety is a shared interest, which is why the authority contributes to the functioning of a reliable and transparent market through continuous inspections.

4 May 2026

National Authority for Trade and Consumer Protection