

EU GSP+ Compliance · Sri Lanka — MP Evidence Pack

Sri Lanka's standing against the 27 EU GSP+ conventions. Supports genuine compliance — never calls for withdrawal. Pairs with the new EU GSP Regulation entering into application 1 January 2027.

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Audience

- UK MPs
- FCDO
- Department for Business and Trade
- International Trade Committee
- APPG for Tamils

Best used for

- Trade-policy PQs on Sri Lanka's GSP+ standing under the new EU regulation (in force 1 Jan 2027)
- PQs on UK Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) conditionality for Sri Lanka
- Letters supporting the EU's structured civil-society engagement channel
- Briefings citing OHCHR A/HRC/60/21 and ILO CEACR observations

Tier-A evidence anchors

- EU Commission — new GSP Regulation (applies 1 Jan 2027)
- EU GSP+ monitoring mission to Sri Lanka, April–May 2025
- European Parliament resolution 2021/2748(RSP) on Sri Lanka (PTA arrests)
- Commission reply on GSP+ action — Dombrovskis, February 2022
- EU statement at Sri Lanka WTO Trade Policy Review, 15 October 2025
- OHCHR A/HRC/60/21 (2025)
- OHCHR OISL 2015
- ILO CEACR — Sri Lanka observations
- UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances — Sri Lanka
- Sri Lanka MFA — GSP+ re-application interest, Feb 2026
- UK Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) — conditionality
- EU trade relations with Sri Lanka — Commission country page

Policy asks

- UK Government (FCDO / DBT): Publish a UK assessment of Sri Lanka's standing against the 27 GSP+ conventions, with particular reference to ILO C87, C98, C111 and OHCHR A/HRC/60/21.
- UK Government (DBT): Confirm UK use of the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) conditionality on Sri Lanka mirrors the spirit of the new EU GSP Regulation.
- UK Government (FCDO): Engage the EU as a third-country partner on the new (2027) civil-society compliance channel.
- UK MPs: Support compliance — never call for withdrawal. Pair every Tamil-specific evidence point with ILO

/ OHCHR / treaty-body language.

Draft parliamentary questions

- [FCDO / DBT] What assessment has the Government made of Sri Lanka's adherence to ILO Conventions 87 and 98 in light of recent CEACR observations?
- [FCDO] What discussions has the Government had with the European Union on Sri Lanka's standing against the GSP+ conventions under the new regulation entering into application on 1 January 2027?
- [DBT] What human-rights conditionality applies to Sri Lanka under the UK Developing Countries Trading Scheme, and how is it monitored?
- [FCDO] What representations has the Government made to Sri Lanka on the implementation of UN Human Rights Council resolution 51/1?
- [FCDO] What assessment has the Government made of the OHCHR finding in A/HRC/60/21 that Sri Lanka's surveillance apparatus is 'largely intact'?
- [FCDO] What recent engagement has the Government had with the Committee on Enforced Disappearances concerning Sri Lanka?

Civic remembrance

The first GSP+ withdrawal (2010) followed the LLRC era. The civic question for the 2027 cycle is not whether to threaten withdrawal — it is whether the evidence required for genuine compliance can be made visible and verifiable. That is civic work the diaspora can do without ever leaving the UK.

Pack rules

- Never ask the UK or any MP to call for GSP+ withdrawal. Ever.
- Never name a specific European Commission official or DG TRADE caseworker.
- Always pair Tamil-specific evidence with ILO / OHCHR / treaty-body language.
- Always show the April–May 2025 monitoring mission outcome honestly: no withdrawal triggered.
- Always frame the apparel sector as a stakeholder in genuine compliance, not as a target.

Transparency

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