



R/H

SUSTAINABILITY  
OVERVIEW

2020

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# ABOUT R/H STUDIO

Hanna Riiheläinen and Emilia Hernesniemi founded R/H in Helsinki, Finland, in 2010 after working in different areas of fashion and design. Through a diverse and international experience, both women came to understand the value of a local production practice, which became the operative principle of the company. All R/H clothes and accessories are designed in Finland, and raw materials are sourced and manufactured in the European Union. R/H believes that this local, sustainable practice is essential for wellbeing.

The core values that guide R/H are loyalty, quality and freedom:

**LOYALTY.** We want to have long-lasting relationships with all our partners and customers. To maintain these relationships, you have to be trustworthy and to take responsibility for your actions. This is why we also want to be transparent with our operations.

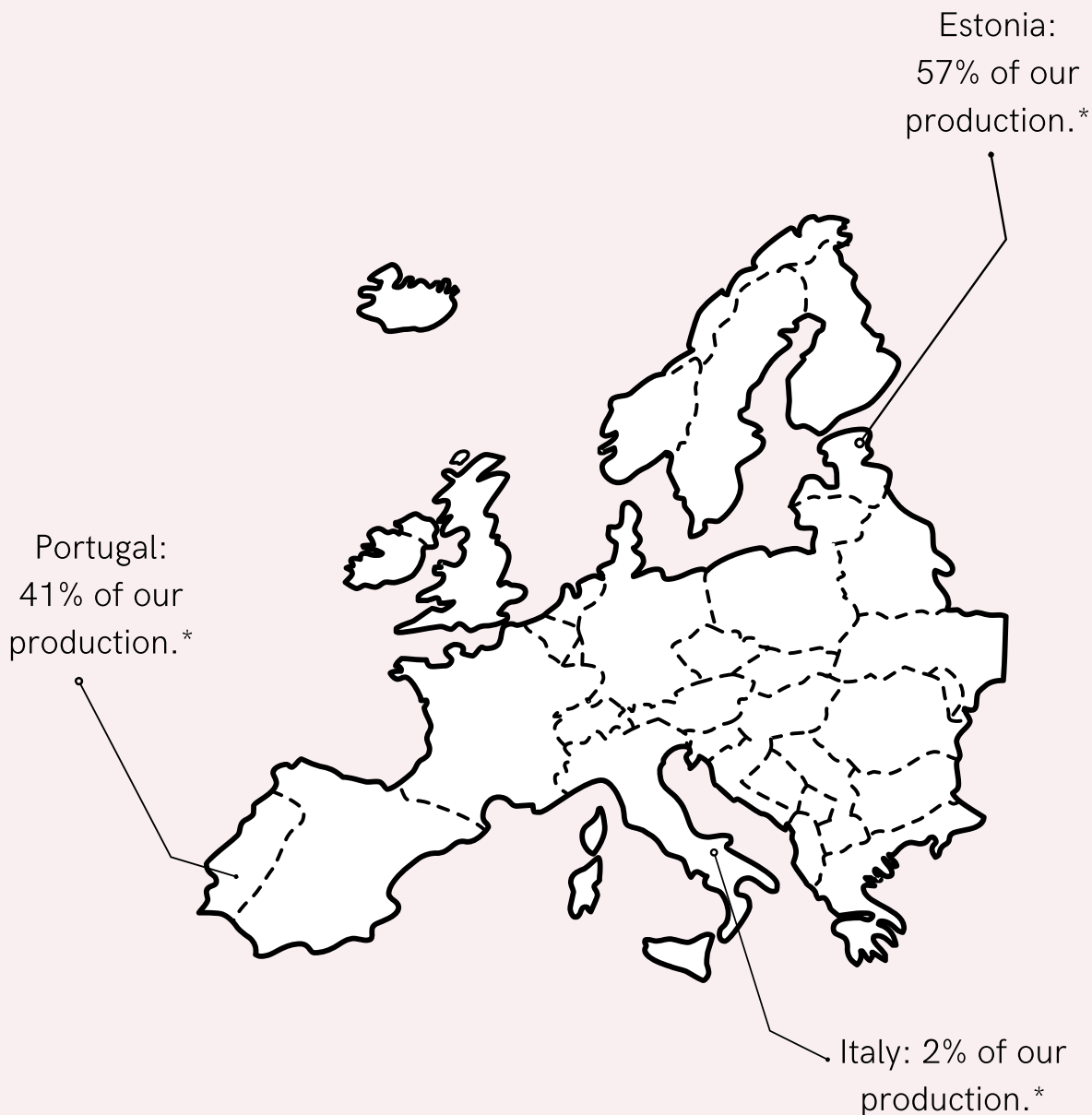
**QUALITY.** With everything we do, we aim for quality. This consists of not only our products, but our website, social media, pictures and customer service. We want R/H to be a brand you can call or ask whatever, and we'll get back to you. With our product development we aim to create timeless and long-lasting clothes that meet our high-quality standards.

**FREEDOM.** We have the freedom to choose how we work and who we work with. We have the freedom to make bold, playful and recognizable designs. We are free to make decisions that are good for people and the planet.



# PRODUCTION

All R/H products are manufactured and fabrics produced in the EU. European legislation ensures good and healthy working conditions, which are also monitored with regular visits to factories and continuous interaction with all our partners. Our principle is to have close and long-lasting relationships with a few carefully selected partners. This way we can trust that all people who works with us are treated with respect and compensated fairly.



\*Calculated from pieces produced in 2020, including fabric production and garment manufacturing

# LIST OF SUPPLIERS

In 2020

COUNTRY	SUPPLIER NAME	ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP STARTED	PRODUCT TYPE	NUMBER OF WORKERS	MALE %	FEMALE %
Estonia	Rondestor Disain OÜ	Türi tn. 10D 11313 Tallinn, Estonia	2012	Garments	2	50	50
Estonia	Baltic Intertex OÜ	Tondi 17 11316 Tallinn, Estonia	2017	Garments	17	6	94
Portugal	Black Moda Oy	Rua da Barreira 1124, 4990-645 Ponte de Lima, Portugal	2017	Fabric	71	9	91
Italy	Achille Pinto	Via Roma 9, 22070 Casnate Con Bernate, Italy	2015	Printing	246	57	43

Our organic cotton fabric and fibers, as well as the linen used in our SS20 collection, comes from Black Moda Oy. The GOTS certified cotton is sourced from Turkey and India.

All our printed fabrics come from Achille Pinto (IT) and Black Moda Oy (PT). Both companies are GOTS certified, meaning their whole supply chain follows the requirements for the certificate, both ecologically and ethically, which has been proven by a third party.

Our garments are manufactured in Estonia. Most of our products come from Rondestor Disain, which also distributes work to four other factories inside Estonia. Our Bobi Coats and washing bags are made in Baltic Intertex.

READ MORE:

[Baltic Intertex](#)

[Black Moda](#)

[Achille Pinto](#)



## PACKAGING MATERIALS

Our products arrive from factories packed in recycled plastic bags. Since autumn 2019 we pack most of our online orders in biodegradable paper bags made in Helsinki, Finland. Previously we have used plastic bags that we still have a few remaining, therefore some larger orders we still pack in plastic bags. In 2019, 56% of our orders were packed in plastic bags and 44% in paper bags. In 2020, as soon as the stock of plastic bags runs out, we will be using only either paper bags or bags made of recycled plastic. The material of the new paper bags is FCS and PEFC certified, and even the glue and ink are approved for food industry, meaning they can be composted with bio-waste. With every order we send a greeting card. The cards are also made of FSC and PEFC certified paper with ink approved for food industry.

## STUDIO & SHOP

Both our studio and R/H shop are located in Kämp Galleria, a shopping center in Pohjoisesplanadi, Helsinki. Having our studio close to our store enables us to move stock easily without any extra logistics. The electricity contract for our premises is negotiated by the shopping center. The electricity used is CO2-free meaning no fossil fuels have been used.

## LOGISTICS

To transfer our products from factories to our studio and storage, we use truck transportation instead of air freight to keep our emissions lower. Our domestic online orders are shipped by Posti and DB Schenker. DB Schenker aims to be carbon neutral by the year 2035, and now uses low-carbon bio-diesel made 100% from renewable raw materials for its deliveries. Posti is committed to reducing its carbon emissions by 30% by the year 2020. In addition to deliveries, we offer an option to pick up online orders from and return them to our R/H shop, which we highly recommend our customers use when possible.



# PRODUCTS

We want everyone to be and feel like themselves when they wear R/H, which is our main focus in the design and creation of every piece. Our products should feel so nice and cozy that they don't get in the way when one is doing whatever one feels like doing. We also want each item to be durable and stand the test of time. Our products should be seasonless pieces that will be loved forever. These are the main ideas behind the choices considering design and materials.



# TEXTILE MATERIALS

In all our classics we use organic cotton and elastane blend. The cotton we use is GOTS certified organic cotton, which means the cotton is grown without chemicals like pesticides and fertilizers. The certificate ensures that the whole production is traceable and every step from the cotton fields to the final use is certified. The hint of elastane not only makes the fabric softer, but also helps the garment keep its form and therefore last longer. The cotton-elastane blend is knitted in a Finnish-owned factory in Portugal. Organic cotton makes up 58% of our production and elastane 3%

In our SS20 Painter Collection the fabrics consist of linen, silk-cotton blend, cotton-elastane blend and 100% organic cotton. Linen makes up 12% of our production and silk-cotton blend 3%.

As most fashion brands, over the years we have ended up with some surplus fabrics because there is always a production minimum for materials, which is sometimes more than is needed any given time to maintain a moderate stock. We use the surplus fabrics to make scrunchies, bags and other products. In 2020, we have made two capsule collections entirely out of surplus fabrics, instead of producing new materials. A total of 25% of our pieces produced in 2020 is made of surplus fabrics. These materials have been produced over the years in Italy, Portugal and Holland.



Percentages of all fabrics we have used in 2020, including new materials produced as well as surplus fabrics used for new products.





## CARE & REPAIR

Part of our design philosophy is to create long-lasting products with right kind of material and design choices. In addition, the use and care of clothing has an equally important role on how long the product lasts. Therefore, we feel it is our responsibility to do our part and educate our customers on right kind of care and maintaining of R/H products. In addition to product- and material-specific care instructions on our website, we have written a blogpost about more sustainable care of clothing. We have also published and highlighted the care instructions on our Instagram, so they are easy to find whenever needed.

Another way we aim to make R/H products last as long as possible is by repairing broken items. Whenever possible, we repair the customer's broken R/H piece instead of replacing it with a new one. Of course, sometimes this is not possible if the product is severely broken, in which case we recycle it.

# FUTURE PLAN



Becoming even more sustainable is a lengthy process to which we are committed. Until now, we have focused on sustainability efforts mainly with our local production practice and smart use of materials, but we want to do even better. Therefore, we have set goals for ourselves along the way. These include becoming more transparent with our operations.



# R/H

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