

## **Industrial Policy: Chambers want immediate actions, not vague commitments**

While endorsing today's European Parliament vote on the Industrial Policy report, EUROCHAMBRES reiterated the need for immediate and concrete actions to reduce the most pressing burdens on the manufacturing base of the European economy.

Commenting on this vote, Arnaldo Abruzzini, Secretary General of EUROCHAMBRES, stated: *"Overall, the report addresses many key questions on how to strengthen the industrial base of Europe's economy. The focus on innovation, financing, skills and energy prices in particular are long-held demands of the Chamber network"*.

However, Mr Abruzzini stressed that *"time is running out and we urgently need to improve the investment climate in Europe. Therefore, our industries require decisive and immediate actions, instead of endless repetitions of vague commitments."*

EUROCHAMBRES now calls on the Commission to follow up on the Parliament's commitment by ensuring that the new communication on the reindustrialisation of the EU scheduled for next week is both ambitious and concrete. The Chamber association also considers that the cancellation of the European Council summit on industrial policy scheduled for February sends the wrong signal and calls on member states to play their part in reviving EU manufacturing.

In particular, Chambers claim for more ambitious actions in the following areas:

- **Smart regulation:** Competitiveness tests and SME tests should be strictly applied to all new legislative proposals, as industrial SMEs are frequently hindered by complying with and reporting on complicated rules.
- **Vocational Education & Training (VET):** Schemes should be established across the EU, based on a combination of classroom and work-based learning, as well as on effective partnerships between education providers and businesses.
- **Affordable energy:** Though the report rightly highlights the efficient use of energy as a strategy to overcome competitive disadvantages, it is also paramount to support renewables more cost-efficiently and to complete the internal energy market.

-----  
Further information: Mr Michael Steurer, Tel. +32 2 282 08 77, [steuerer@eurochambres.eu](mailto:steuerer@eurochambres.eu)  
Press contact: Ms Susete Sampaio, Tel. +32 2 282 08 66, [sampaio@eurochambres.eu](mailto:sampaio@eurochambres.eu)  
All EUROCHAMBRES' press releases can be downloaded from  
[www.eurochambres.eu/content/default.asp?PageID=153](http://www.eurochambres.eu/content/default.asp?PageID=153)