

ITRE vote on Industrial Policy: Chambers push for immediate actions

While endorsing today's Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) committee vote on the Industrial Policy report, EUROCHAMBRES reiterated the need for immediate actions to reduce the most pressing burdens on the manufacturing base of the European economy.

Commenting on today's committee 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 considered that *"time is running out and we urgently need to improve the investment climate in Europe. Therefore, our industries require decisive and immediate actions at both European and national level."*

EUROCHAMBRES now calls on the European Parliament's plenary to follow the ITRE Committee's lead and to provide a clear political commitment to the EU as an industrial production location.

Moreover, in the run-up to the European Council Summit devoted to the theme in February, Chambers urge the Commission and member states to swiftly tackle the most burning issues, as identified by EUROCHAMBRES ['Ten Point-Programme for a stronger industrial base of the European economy'](#).

In particular, Chambers demand 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
Press contact: Ms Susete Sampaio, Tel. +32 2 282 08 66, sampaio@eurochambres.eu
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