



AEGIS Europe welcomes New Industrial Strategy for Europe

Brussels, 17 March 2020 – AEGIS Europe, an industry alliance that brings together more than 20 European manufacturing associations committed to free and fair international trade ensured by an effective international level-playing field, supports the New Industrial Strategy for Europe presented on Tuesday 10th of March by European Commission’s Executive Vice-Presidents Valdis Dombrovskis and Margrethe Vestager; and by Commissioner Thierry Breton.

The Alliance welcomes the recognition of European industry as “central to Europe’s future progress and prosperity” and has always emphasised the importance of a strong industrial base as a key element for Europe’s prosperity and growth. AEGIS Europe also welcomes the particular attention given to the benefit of rules-based trade for SMEs in the new “SME Strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe” published on the same day. We particularly support the announcement that “the Commission is increasing its dedicated support to SMEs to facilitate their access to TDI and cooperation with the Commission during investigations”.

Different measures were announced in order to maintain “European industry’s global competitiveness and a level playing field, at home and globally, making Europe climate-neutral by 2050 and shaping Europe’s digital future”. These measures will need to be ambitious, and robust, in order to achieve their goal: to help the European Industry transition to carbon neutrality, whilst remaining competitive at an international level. “AEGIS Europe supports strong trade defence mechanisms to ensure a real and effective fair competition” said Inès Van Lierde, the Chair of AEGIS Europe. “In these times of global uncertainty, we appreciate the European’s Commission commitment to keeping the European Union open, but at the same time not to be naïve to threats to fair competition and trade”, she said.

As a promoter of fair international competition and a level playing field, the Alliance will closely monitor the development and implementation of the measures against these criteria. The Alliance supports a swift agreement on the proposed International Procurement Instrument and will particularly be vigilant on the measures related to state aids, subsidies and WTO reform, as these topics are at the top of AEGIS Europe’s priorities.

Inès Van Lierde, expressed industry’s willingness to work closely with the EU institutions: “AEGIS Europe and its members look forward to working closely with the EU institutions to build on this important initiative which is ultimately about promoting European values and excellence in manufacturing” she said.

ENDS

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AEGIS EUROPE

GlassFibreEurope
APFE - European Glass Fibre Producers Association (AISBL)



Eurometaux
European Association of Metals

EUROFER The European Steel Association

EU ProSun



**Cerame-
unie** The European Ceramic Industry Association



EDG EUROPEAN DOMESTIC GLASS

**fertilizers
europe**



EUROCORD



**EUROPEAN
BICYCLE
MANUFACTURERS
ASSOCIATION**



FEVE
The European Container Glass Federation

**Euro
Alliages**
COMITE DE LIASON DES INDUSTRIES DE FERRO-ALLIAGES

EUROPEAN ALUMINIUM

**medicines
for europe**
better access, better health.



SEA Europe
Ships and Maritime Equipment Association

unife
THE EUROPEAN RAIL INDUSTRY

EIFI
European Industrial Fasteners Institute