

Manifesto

Industry is grinding to a halt. Europe must act!

Business leaders are taking action: for the first time, a coordinated initiative agreed with employees across Europe will lead to a suspension of production.

Europe risks ceasing to produce what it needs to survive, and for this reason, industry is currently halting temporarily, but tomorrow it could do so without ever restarting.

The value chain of the electromechanical sector (from magnetic laminations to transformers and electric motors, to name but a few), a flagship of our continent, is going through a critical phase.

Today's policy choices will determine whether we will still be able to manufacture in Europe tomorrow – and with that, the fate of millions of jobs.

Deindustrialisation is no longer a theoretical threat. It is already underway and is accelerating at a rate that risks undermining our competitiveness, our resilience and Europe's strategic autonomy.

Global overcapacity – at its highest levels since the 2008 crisis – and unfair trade practices adopted in other countries are driving production, investment and skilled jobs out of Europe. Meanwhile, our own products, manufactured in non-EU countries, are entering the Single Market at unrealistic prices (with a cost differential of over 40%), circumventing rules that European businesses comply with every day.

We are running out of time.

The consequences are plain to see: orders drying up, production lines slowing down, companies closing down or being forced to give in to those very same unfair producers. Colleagues losing their jobs. Families looking to the future with fear.

We are not just losing market share. We are losing industrial capacity, skills, jobs and strategic autonomy. And just as the EU aims to strengthen European competitiveness, the pressure is already shifting onto some of the most strategic sectors: electrical steels, transformers, generators, electric motors. In other words, precisely some of the technologies on which our energy future – and more besides – is based.

It is a paradox we cannot afford.

We need a structural response. We need a strategic vision.

We need a Europe that defends the entire electrical steel supply chain. Today more than ever, we must present a united front: businesses, associations, institutions and regions. We are not asking for privileges. We are asking for fair rules, clear timelines and a long-term industrial vision.

Defending the European steel and electromechanical sectors means defending millions of jobs, our strategic autonomy and Europe's right to generate value within its own borders.



The time for waiting is over.

Now is the time to make our voices heard and to demand policies that do not leave behind those who work within the rules and invest here in Europe.

In this difficult context, protecting steel alone is not enough. It exposes downstream industries to even fiercer unfair competition and circumvention practices, with the consequence of hollowing out the very industrial value chain that we seek to preserve.

We therefore call upon the institutions and our institutional representatives, both nationally and in Europe, to take urgent action to ensure, through a 'new safeguard measure', the protection of strategically important electrical steel derivatives and components with a high electrical steel content, which are equally strategic as they are used in the production of renewable energy, distribution and electric mobility, in order to ensure an equivalent level of protection throughout the entire value chain. At the same time, some of the measures currently under discussion at European level (CBAM) must be expanded to include the entire value chain, from raw materials to the finished product.

Today, simply holding out is not enough.

Today, together with our partners, we demand that the European Union act with strategic vision to ensure that we can continue to invest and innovate in our regions for the benefit of the whole community.

It is time to choose between defending our manufacturing capacity and our communities, or accepting that we will lose them and face the serious socio-economic consequences that will follow.

The responsibility lies with all of us, entrepreneurs and politicians alike.

We entrepreneurs have already made our choice.