

## Timeline - EU industrial policy

EU concrete steps to strengthen the competitiveness of its industry and to promote a more sustainable, resilient and digitalised economy that creates jobs.

This timeline features key developments in EU industrial policy.

Council of the EU - European Council

- 2024
  - **21 May**

### **Electricity market reform: Council signs off on updated rules**

The Council adopted the **electricity market designed regulation**.

The new rules will mean:

- a better protection for consumers
- more stability and competitiveness for companies
- a boost for green electricity

The proposal for a regulation to protect against market manipulation in the wholesale energy market was formally adopted by the Council on 18 March 2024.

- [Electricity market reform: Council signs off on updated rules \(press release, 21 May 2024\)](#)
- [Wholesale energy markets: Council adopts law to protect against market manipulation \(press release, 18 March 2024\)](#)
- [Electricity market reform \(background information\)](#)

- **27 May**

### **Council gives final approval to the net-zero industry act**

The Council adopted a regulation on establishing a framework of measures for **strengthening Europe's net-zero technology manufacturing ecosystem**, better known as the 'net-zero industry act'.

These new rules will facilitate the **conditions for investments in green technologies** by:

- simplifying permit granting procedures
- supporting strategic projects, based on specific criteria contributing to decarbonisation
- facilitating access to markets for net-zero technological products
- defining rules for public incentives
- enhancing the skills of the European workforce

The objective is **to cover 40% of the EU's needs** in strategic technology products, such as solar photovoltaic panels, wind turbines, batteries and heat pumps.



[Net-zero industry act: a benchmark for the manufacturing capacity of strategic net-zero technology products \(infographic\)](#)

### **Net-zero industry act: a benchmark for the manufacturing capacity of strategic net-zero technology products (infographic)**

- [Industry policy: Council gives final approval to the net-zero industry act \(press release, 27 May 2024\)](#)
- [European Green Deal \(background information\)](#)

○ **24 May**

### **Council adopts conclusions on the future of industrial policy**

The Council adopted conclusions on '**A competitive European industry driving our green, digital and resilient future**' which call for a comprehensive long-term industrial policy strategy with a vision for 2030.

More specifically, the Council conclusions call for:

- priority to be given to areas of technology that are critical for the **EU's economic security**
- the identification of a limited number of **strategic priorities** in the EU's industrial research and innovation policy
- the **advancement of the Capital Markets Union** and the use of existing bodies and instruments (European Investment Bank, the cohesion policy, InvestEU programme)
- a European industrial policy **in line with the green and digital priorities** of the Union, based on evidence-based tools, metrics, market-based principles and core economic forecasts and findings
- [Council adopts conclusions on the future of industrial policy \(press release, 24 May 2024\)](#)
- [European capital markets \(background information\)](#)

○ **23 May**

**Council adopts conclusions on strengthening knowledge valorisation**

The Council adopted conclusions on '**strengthening knowledge valorisation as a tool for a resilient and competitive industry and for open strategic autonomy in an open economy in Europe**'.

Knowledge valorisation is the process of creating social and economic value from knowledge obtained from research and innovation.

The adopted text:

- **takes stock of recent initiatives and the guidelines** for strengthening knowledge valorisation
- makes **proposals to fill in the gaps** in the European innovation landscape
- [Council adopts conclusions on strengthening knowledge valorisation \(press release, 24 May 2024\)](#)

○ **18 March**

**Strategic autonomy: Council gives its final approval on the critical raw materials act**

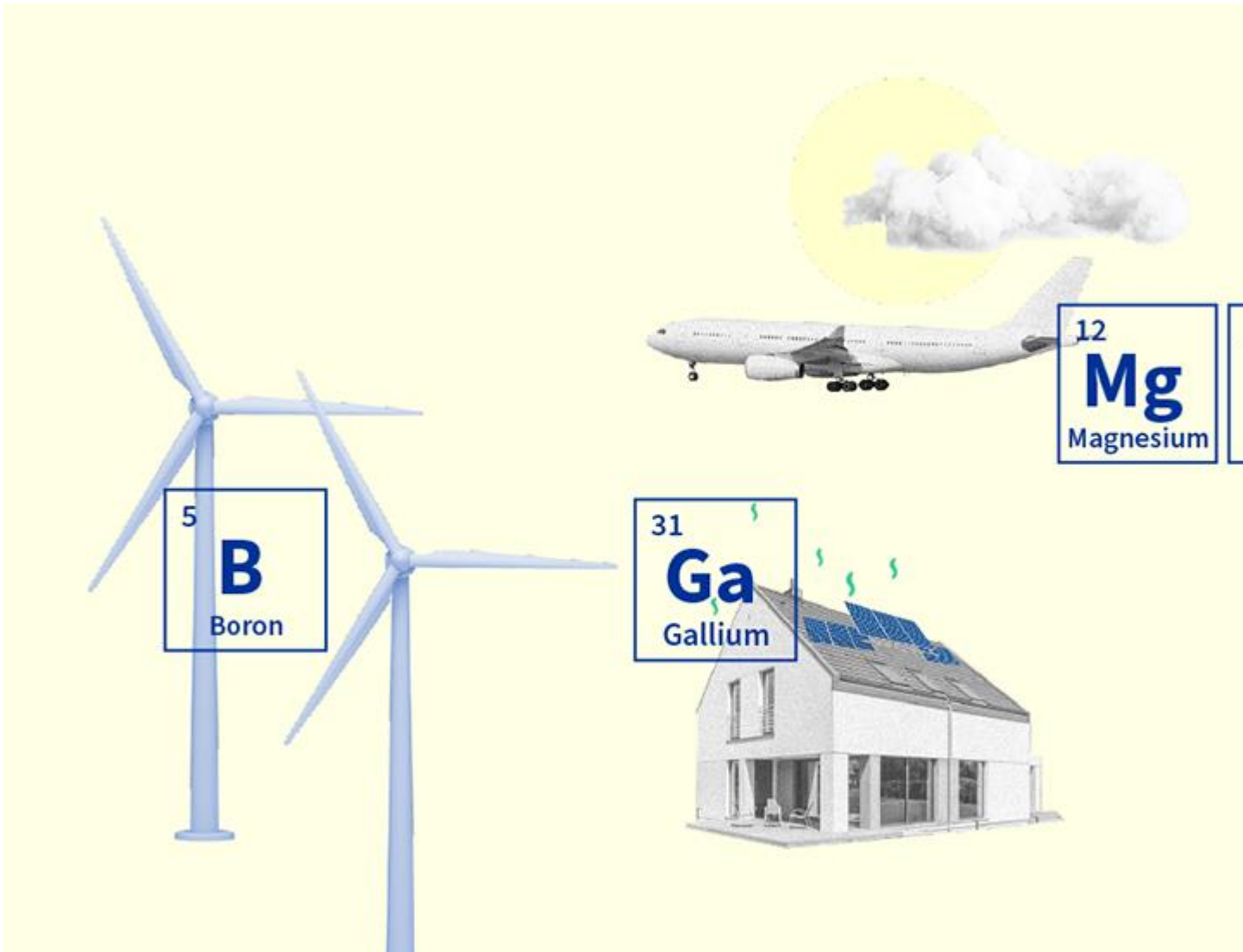
The Council adopted the regulation to establish a framework to ensure a **secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials**, better known as the critical raw materials act (CRMA).

The CRMA introduces:

- ambitious **benchmarks** on extraction, processing, recycling and diversification of import sources
- **clear deadlines** for permit procedures for EU extracting projects
- **supply-chain risk** assessments

This legislative act will ensure that our industry is up and ready for the **digital and green transitions**.

- [Strategic autonomy: Council gives its final approval on the critical raw materials act \(press release, 18 March 2024\)](#)



[An EU critical raw materials act for the future of EU supply chains \(infographic\)](#)

### **An EU critical raw materials act for the future of EU supply chains (infographic)**

- **14 March**

#### **Council and Parliament strike a deal to expand the use of digital tools in EU company law**

The Council and the European Parliament reached today a provisional deal on the amending directive to further **expand and upgrade the use of digital tools and processes in company law.**

Digitalisation will cut the amount of red tape by allowing SMEs to complete administrative procedures across the single market without the need to re-submit documents.

The new rules:

- encourage the use of the '**once-only principle**' (part of the Single Digital Gateway) when setting up subsidiaries and branches in another member state
- introduce a **multilingual EU company certificate**
- remove formalities such as the need for an apostille on company documents through a **digital EU power of attorney** to be used in cross-border procedures

- [Council and Parliament strike a deal to expand the use of digital tools in EU company law \(press release, 14 March 2024\)](#)
- [Support to small and medium-sized enterprises \(background information\)](#)
- [A digital future for Europe \(background information\)](#)

○ **14 February**

**Digital transformation in enterprises: Council adopts position on upgrading digital company law tools**

The Council and the European Parliament reached today a provisional deal on the amending directive to further **expand and upgrade the use of digital tools and processes in company law**.

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- [Council and Parliament strike a deal to expand the use of digital tools in EU company law \(press release, 14 March 2024\)](#)

○ **6 February**

**Net-zero industry act: Council and Parliament strike a deal to boost EU’s green industry**

The Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional deal on the **net-zero industry act**.

These new rules will **facilitate the conditions for investments in green technologies** by simplifying permit granting procedures and supporting strategic projects.

The objective is to **cover 40% of the EU’s needs in net-zero strategic technology products**, such as solar photovoltaic panels, wind turbines, batteries and heat pumps.

The act will accelerate progress towards the EU’s 2030 climate and energy targets and the transition to climate neutrality, while:

- boosting the **competitiveness of EU industry**
- creating quality jobs
- supporting the EU’s efforts to become energy independent
- [Net-zero industry act: Council and Parliament strike a deal to boost EU’s green industry \(press release, 6 February 2024\)](#)
- [European Green Deal \(background information\)](#)



[Net-zero industry act: a benchmark for the manufacturing capacity of strategic net-zero technology products \(infographic\)](#)

**Net-zero industry act: a benchmark for the manufacturing capacity of strategic net-zero technology products (infographic)**

- **16 December**

**Council adopts the directive upgrading company law for the digital era**

The Council adopted a directive **expanding and upgrading the use of digital tools and processes in company law.**

Digitalisation will cut the amount of red tape by allowing SMEs to complete administrative procedures across the single market without the need to re-submit documents.

The new rules:

- encourage the use of the ‘**once-only principle**’ (part of the Single Digital Gateway) when setting up subsidiaries and branches in another member state
- introduce a **multilingual EU company certificate**

- remove formalities such as the need for an apostille on company documents through a **digital EU power of attorney** to be used in cross-border procedures

This is the last step in the decision-making procedure.

- [Council adopts the directive upgrading company law for the digital era \(press release, 16 December 2024\)](#)
- [Support to small and medium-sized enterprises \(background information\)](#)
- [A digital future for Europe \(background information\)](#)

- 2023

- **14 December**

#### **Reform of electricity market design: Council and Parliament reach deal**

The Council and the Parliament reached a provisional agreement to reform the EU's electricity market design (EMD). The reform aims to **make electricity prices less dependent on volatile fossil fuel prices**, shield consumers from price spikes, accelerate the deployment of renewable energies and improve consumer protection.

The provisional agreement with the European Parliament needs to be endorsed and formally adopted by both institutions.

- [Reform of electricity market design: Council and Parliament reach deal \(press release, 14 December 2023\)](#)
- [Electricity market reform \(background information\)](#)

- **7 December**

#### **Net-zero industry act: Council adopts position to boost technologies for the green transition**

EU ministers adopted a common position (general approach) on the proposal to scale up manufacturing of clean technologies in the EU, through the **net-zero industry act**.

These new rules will accelerate progress towards the EU's 2030 climate and energy targets and the transition to **climate neutrality**, while:

- boosting the **competitiveness** of EU industry
- creating quality **jobs**
- supporting the EU's efforts to become **energy independent**

The objective is to cover 40% of the EU's needs in strategic technology products, like solar photovoltaic panels, wind turbines, batteries and heat pumps.

- [Net-zero industry act: Council adopts position to boost technologies for the green transition \(press release, 7 December 2023\)](#)
- [European Green Deal \(background information\)](#)



[Net-zero industry act: a benchmark for the manufacturing capacity of strategic net-zero technology products \(infographic\)](#)

### **Net-zero industry act: a benchmark for the manufacturing capacity of strategic net-zero technology products (infographic)**

○ **5 December**

### **Products fit for the green transition: Council and Parliament conclude a provisional agreement on the ecodesign regulation**

On 5 December 2023, the Council and the Parliament reached a provisional deal on new **ecodesign requirements** for sustainable products.

The new rules aim to:

- set environmental sustainability requirements for almost **all kinds of goods** placed on the EU market
- establish a **digital product passport** that will provide information about a product's environmental sustainability



- prohibits the destruction of certain unsold consumer goods (textiles and footwear)

They will also will:

- provide a level-playing field for businesses aiming to sell their products on the EU market
- widen existing markets
- reduce compliance costs and administrative burdens
- [Products fit for the green transition: Council and Parliament conclude a provisional agreement on the ecodesign regulation \(press release, 5 December 2023\)](#)

○ **13 November**

**Council and Parliament strike provisional deal to reinforce the supply of critical raw materials**

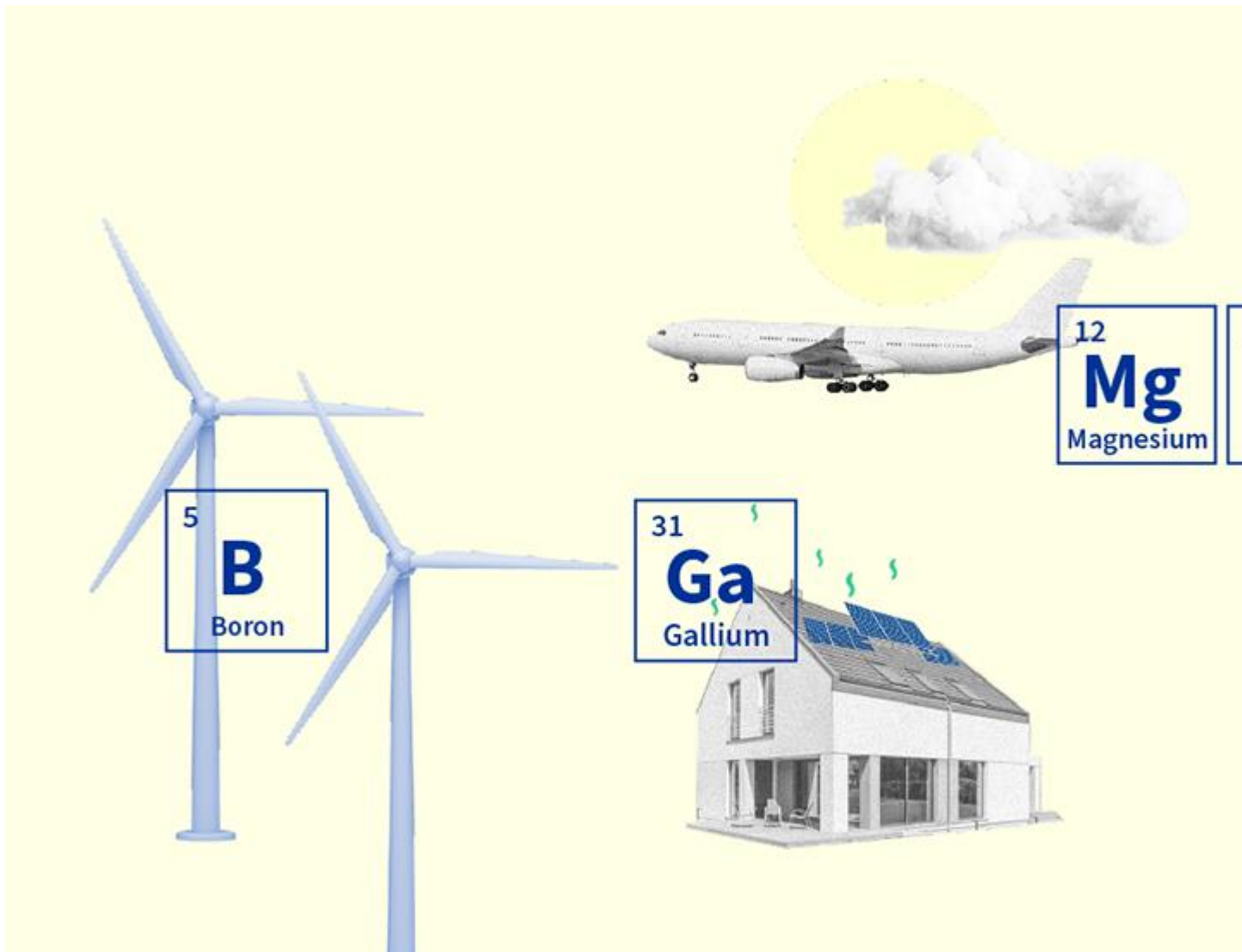
The Council and Parliament reached a provisional agreement on a European critical raw materials act.

The new rules will:

- strengthen the EU's strategic autonomy
- diversify the supply of critical raw materials (CRMs)
- strengthen circularity

To reduce dependence on third countries to access CRMs, the EU set the following **objectives for 2030**:

- at least **10%** of the EU's annual consumption from EU extraction
- at least **40%** of the EU's annual consumption from EU processing
- at least **25%** of the EU's annual consumption from domestic recycling
- [Council and Parliament strike provisional deal to reinforce the supply of critical raw materials \(press release, 13 November 2023\)](#)



[An EU critical raw materials act for the future of EU supply chains \(infographic\)](#)

### An EU critical raw materials act for the future of EU supply chains (infographic)

- **17 October**

#### Reform of electricity market design: Council reaches agreement

The Council reached an agreement (general approach) on a proposal to amend the EU's **electricity market design (EMD)**. The reform aims to **make electricity prices less dependent on volatile fossil fuel prices**, shield consumers from price spikes, accelerate the deployment of renewable energies and improve consumer protection.

The proposal is part of a wider reform of the EU's electricity market design which also includes a regulation focused on improving the Union's protection against market manipulation through better monitoring and transparency (REMIT). A general approach on REMIT was agreed during the Energy Council on 19 June 2023.

- [Reform of electricity market design: Council reaches agreement \(press release, 17 October 2023\)](#)

- **25 July**

## **Council gives its final approval to the 'Chips Act'**

The Council gave its final approval to the regulation establishing a framework of measures to strengthen Europe's semiconductor ecosystem, better known as the '**Chips Act**'.

The deal will create the conditions for the development of an industrial base that can double the EU's global market share in semiconductors from 10% to at least 20% by 2030.

- [Chips Act: Council gives its final approval \(press release, 25 July 2023\)](#)
- [The EU chips industry \(background information\)](#)



[The EU Chips Act \(infographic\)](#)

## The EU Chips Act (infographic)

- **30 June**

### Council adopts negotiating position on critical raw materials act

The Council adopted its negotiating mandate on the proposed regulation establishing a framework to ensure a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials, better known as the **critical raw materials act**.

The act aims to:

- increase and **diversify** the EU's critical raw materials supply
- strengthen **circularity**, including recycling
- support **research** and **innovation** on resource efficiency and the development of substitutes

The Council position:

- raises the level of ambition for recycled and processed raw materials
- reinforces sustainability criteria
- adapts the process of granting permits
- [Critical raw materials act: Council adopts negotiating position \(press release, 30 June 2023\)](#)
- [An EU critical raw materials act for the future of EU supply chains \(background information\)](#)

- **19 June**

### Council reaches agreement on parts of electricity market reform

The Council agreed a general approach on the **wholesale energy market integrity and transparency regulation** (REMIT). The proposal aims to support an open and fair competition in the European wholesale energy markets, by banning trading based on inside information and deterring market manipulation.

The proposal on REMIT is part of a wider reform of the EU's electricity market design. The remaining parts of the reform, that aim to make electricity prices less dependent on volatile fossil fuel prices and shield consumers from price spikes and accelerate the deployment of renewable energies and improve consumer protection, are to be agreed at a later stage.

- [Council reaches agreement on parts of electricity market reform \(press release, 19 June 2023\)](#)

- **22 May**

### Council adopts position on ecodesign requirements

The Council adopted its general approach on the proposed regulation establishing a framework for **setting ecodesign requirements for sustainable products**.

The new regulation:

- sets environmental sustainability requirements for **almost all kinds of goods** placed on the EU market
- establishes a **Digital Product Passport** that will provide information about products' environmental sustainability

The Council's position:

- clarifies how member state experts and stakeholders should be involved
- introduces a **direct-ban** on the destruction of textiles, footwear and apparel, with a four-year exemption for medium-sized companies, and a general exemption for small and micro companies
- excludes motor vehicles
- [Ecodesign regulation: Council adopts position \(press release, 23 May 2023\)](#)
- [Competitiveness Council, 22-23 May 2023](#)

○ **18 April**

**Chips Act: Council and European Parliament strike provisional deal**

The Council and the Parliament reached a provisional political agreement on the regulation establishing a **framework of measures to strengthen Europe's semiconductor ecosystem**, better known as the 'Chips Act'.

The deal will create the conditions for the development of an industrial base that can **double the EU's global market share** in semiconductors from 10% to at least 20% by 2030.

- [Chips Act: Council and European Parliament strike provisional deal \(press release, 18 April 2023\)](#)
- [The EU chips industry \(background information\)](#)

○ **23 March**

**European Council calls for work to be taken forward on the Green Deal Industrial Plan**

The European Union is building a robust and future-proof economy that secures **long-term prosperity**. This requires a deepened single market and reinforced industrial and trade policies.

EU leaders called for work to be taken forward on the European Commission proposals, tabled under the Green Deal Industrial Plan, on:

- a **European critical raw materials act**
- a **net-zero industry act**
- a revision of the EU's **internal electricity market design**, with a view to ensuring its adoption by the end of 2023
- [European Council, 23 March 2023](#)

○ **9 February**

**EU leaders call for action to respond to the challenges confronting European industry**

At the EU summit held on 9 February 2023, leaders discussed a set of measures that could help boost the **competitiveness of EU industry**.

Building on the Commission's communication on a **Green Deal Industrial Plan for the Net-Zero Age**, which was presented on 1 February 2023, EU leaders called for work to urgently be taken forward on:

- **state aid policy**, including making procedures simpler, faster and more predictable and allowing for targeted, temporary and proportionate support
- increasing the **flexibility of EU funds**, in order to ensure fair access to financial means
- ensuring access to relevant critical raw materials and **simplifying the regulatory environment** to help foster greener industry
- **boosting skills** to meet the challenges of labour shortages and the transformation of the labour market
- **closing investment gaps** through private and public investment
- [Special European Council, 9 February 2023](#)

- 2022

- **15 December**

#### **Leaders call for an ambitious industrial policy**

At the European Council meeting, EU leaders underlined the importance of safeguarding Europe's economic, industrial and technological base and of preserving the global level playing field, in light of the impact of high energy prices.

They stressed the importance of an ambitious European industrial policy **to make Europe's economy fit for the green and digital transitions and reduce strategic dependencies**, particularly in the most sensitive areas.

With a view to ensuring resilience and competitiveness, the European Council invited the Commission to make proposals by the end of January 2023 to mobilise all relevant national and EU tools and improve framework conditions for investment, including through streamlined administrative procedures.

- [European Council, 15 December 2022](#)

- **10 June**

#### **The resilience of Europe's strategic industrial ecosystems**

The Council held a policy debate on the resilience of strategic industrial ecosystems, during which the ministers stressed the importance of strengthening the resilience of these ecosystems.

In the light of recent developments, the ministers stressed that Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine highlighted the need to make Europe's **economic base** more **resilient** and more **competitive**. Accordingly, the ministers stated their willingness to continue to work on these aspect.

The Council also discussed **specific actions** to reduce strategic dependencies, in particular concerning **critical raw materials**.

- [Competitiveness Council, 9-10 June 2022](#)

- **7 June**

**Common charger: Council and European Parliament reach a provisional political agreement**

The Council and the European Parliament have reached a provisional political agreement on the proposal for a directive introducing a common charger.

The directive will make a **USB-C** charging port mandatory for a whole range of electronic devices. Having a common charger will improve consumer convenience by **harmonising charging interfaces and fast charging technology**.

The directive will allow consumers to choose whether to purchase a new device with or without a charger. This will **reduce the electronic waste** associated with the production, transportation and disposal of chargers.

The new rules will have to be implemented for most devices **24 months** after the entry into force of the directive.

- [Common charger: Council and European Parliament reach a provisional political agreement \(press release, 7 June 2022\)](#)





[A common charger for your electronic devices \(infographic\)](#)

### **A common charger for your electronic devices (infographic)**

- **24 February**

### **Ministers hold a debate on the future of the industrial mobility ecosystem**

Ministers addressed the specific challenges that implementing the ‘fit for 55’ package would pose for the mobility industries. They discussed **their estimation of the scale** and cost of the green mobility transition, but also its **long-term benefits** and the actions required to support the transition.

The member states welcomed the fact that the Competitiveness Council was to **play an important role** in guiding the various policies for speeding up the EU's green transition.

- [Competitiveness Council \(internal market and industry\), 24 February 2022](#)

- 2021

- **27 May**

### **Ministers stress importance of securing access to critical raw materials**

On the basis of a presidency note, ministers held a policy debate on the **updated new industrial strategy**, focusing on the importance of securing access to critical raw materials.

Delegations welcomed the latest Commission communication on an updated EU industrial strategy. They voiced strong support for the suggested measures to deepen the integration and resilience of the internal market to the benefit of all actors, especially SMEs. They shared the need for a more inclusive and diversified network of supply chains for critical raw materials to ensure that the EU industry remains **resilient in times of crises**, in particular in sectors of strategic importance, such as pharmaceuticals, semi-conductors etc.

- [Competitiveness Council, 27-28 May 2021](#)

- **25 March**

### **Industrial strategy should support the economic recovery**

EU leaders underlined the need to strengthen the competitiveness and resilience of the European Union's industry, including SMEs, to **accelerate the green and digital transitions** and to address strategic dependencies. The update of the European industrial strategy should take into account lessons learned so far from the COVID-19 crisis and **support the recovery effort**.

- [Video conference of the members of the European Council, 25 March 2021](#)

- **25 February**

### **Ministers discuss synergies between national recovery and resilience plans and the industrial policy**

Ministers held a policy debate on how national recovery and resilience plans can best be used as an instrument for delivering on **industrial policy goals** by strengthening:

- the Single Market
- the twin transitions
- the strategic autonomy in an open EU

Ministers broadly agreed that the Competitiveness Council should play a prominent role in the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility and that it should provide coordination and guidance in the investments to be made.

It was stressed that a **well-functioning Single Market** and **fair competition** are the main preconditions for Europe to come out stronger and more resilient from the COVID-19 crisis. Ministers underlined the importance of ensuring the free flow of goods and services for the smooth functioning of the Single Market. They stressed the need for coordination between member states before establishing temporary control measures at the internal borders within the EU.

- [Informal video conference of internal market and industry ministers, 25 February 2021](#)

- 2020

- **19 November**

#### **Ministers discuss Council conclusions on EU industry in the recovery**

Ministers held an informal policy debate on how to make the most of the EU's recovery plan to achieve a more dynamic, resilient and competitive European industry through investments in the green transition.

The discussions followed up on the conclusions on 'A recovery advancing the transition towards a more dynamic, resilient and competitive European industry', which were adopted by the Council on 16 November 2020 through a written procedure.

The conclusions should serve as the Council's input to the Commission's preparatory work for updating its 'New Industrial Strategy for Europe'.

- [Towards a more dynamic, resilient and competitive European industry: Council adopts conclusions \(press release, 16 November 2020\)](#)
- [Video conference of internal market and industry ministers, 19 November 2020](#)

- **1-2 October**

#### **European Council calls for an ambitious European industrial policy**

EU leaders reaffirmed the need for the EU to pursue an ambitious European industrial policy as a central pillar of the EU's recovery. The European Council invited the Commission to identify strategic dependencies, particularly in the most sensitive industrial ecosystems such as for health, and propose measures to reduce these dependencies.

The European Council called for:

- ensuring a **level playing field**, and a regulatory environment and state aid framework that are conducive to innovation
- developing **new industrial alliances**
- stepping up the assistance to the existing **important projects of common European interest** as well as developing new ones
- developing **EU autonomy in the space sector** and a more integrated defence industrial base
- [European Council, 1-2 October 2020](#)

- 2019

- **21-22 March**

#### **European Council calls for long-term vision on industrial policy**

EU leaders agreed that a strong economic base is of key importance for Europe's prosperity and competitiveness. They stated that this objective should be achieved including through a **EU industrial policy**, which should focus inter alia on artificial intelligence.

In order to build towards a sustainable and competitive industrial base, the European Council invited the European Commission to present, by the end of 2019, a **long-term vision** with concrete steps.

- [European Council, 21-22/03/2019](#)

- **26 September**

### **EU industrial policy, key for sustainable growth**

The Council debated the EU's vision for a **long-term strategy on sustainable growth**, as set out in a report by Finland's presidency.

Ministers agreed that this strategy should be based on interlinks between measures covering different policy areas. Among those mentioned:

- an ambitious EU industrial strategy
- a more efficient policy for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- the swift removal of any remaining unjustified barriers to the free movement of services in the single market
- a balanced approach between competitiveness and climate-neutrality

The EU strategy on sustainable growth is an important pillar of the new **strategic agenda for 2019-2024**.

- [Competitiveness Council, 26-27/09/2019](#)
- [A new strategic agenda for the EU](#)
- [EU's long-term strategy for sustainable growth \(presidency report\)](#)

- **27 May**

### **Council reiterates call for long-term EU industrial policy strategy**

The Council held a policy debate and adopted conclusions on an "EU industrial policy strategy: A vision for 2030". The conclusions echoed calls from the European Council for an assertive long-term EU industrial policy strategy, and are to contribute to the Commission's comprehensive strategy planned for end-2019.

Ministers agreed on the need for a strong EU industrial base, capable of facing global competition and of addressing challenges linked to the digital transformation and to the transition towards a climate-neutral and circular economy.

- [An EU Industrial Policy Strategy: a Vision for 2030 \(Council conclusions, 27 May 2019\)](#)
- [Competitiveness Council, 27-28/05/2019](#)
- [European Council, 21-22/03/2019](#)

- **18 February**

### **Climate neutrality and artificial intelligence**

The Council held policy debates on two important topics for the future of the European Union:

- impact of artificial intelligence

- building a climate neutral economy

On the first subject, the Council adopted conclusions. Ministers underlined the crucial importance of fostering the development and use of artificial intelligence in Europe.

On the second topic, the Council discussed the industry-related aspects of the recent European Commission communication entitled "**A clean planet for all**". Ministers stressed that the EU industry will continue to be a key enabler to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- [Competitiveness Council, 18-19/02/2019](#)

- 2018

- **12 March**

### **Council prioritises EU industrial policy**

After holding a discussion on the topic, the Competitiveness Council adopted conclusions on a future **EU industrial policy strategy**.

The conclusions stress the urgent need for a long-term strategy for European industry in order to boost competitiveness, growth and innovation in Europe.

Our industrial policy is a strategic question for Europe – what we do now will determine where our economy and society will be in a decade. This underlines the need for us to have a broader, long-term and forward-looking approach. **Emil Karanikolov, Minister of Economy of Bulgaria**

- [EU industrial policy strategy: Council adopts conclusions \(press release, 12/03/2018\)](#)

- **29 November**

### **Council focuses on future of EU industry**

The Council adopted a set of conclusions stressing the need for a future **EU strategy on industrial policy**. This plan, the ministers agreed, should be comprehensive and structured for the longer term.

- [Outcome of the Competitiveness Council meeting, 29/11/2018](#)

- **27 September**

### **Rethinking EU industry: artificial intelligence and robotics**

The Council held a public debate on the need to **capture the potential of digitalisation and AI** in order to strengthen the innovation capacity of the EU industry.

- [Competitiveness Council, 27-28/09/2018](#)
- [Rethinking EU industry \(Austrian presidency\)](#)

- 2017

- **30 November**

### **Council calls for comprehensive EU industrial strategy**

The Competitiveness Council adopted conclusions on '**A renewed EU industrial policy strategy**'.

Ministers called on the Commission to develop a **comprehensive strategy** with a focus on 2030 and beyond. This should include medium to long-term objectives and indicators for industry and should be accompanied by an action plan with concrete measures.

The conclusions called on the Commission to present a progress report in time for the spring 2018 European Council.

- [Competitiveness Council, 30/11-01/12/2017](#)
- [A renewed EU industrial policy strategy \(European Commission\)](#)

- **19-20 October**

### **European Council supports leading role of EU industry**

EU leaders highlighted the need for the EU to support new forms of **entrepreneurship** and stimulate the **digital transformation** of industries and services.

In this context, the European Council called on the Commission to put forward the necessary initiatives enabling the EU to reaffirm the leading role of its industry.

- [European Council, 19-20/10/2017](#)

- **22-23 June**

### **EU leaders favour strong industrial base**

The European Council called for concrete action to ensure a strong and competitive industrial base for the single market.

EU leaders emphasised the importance of a well-functioning single market in **fostering growth, creating jobs, and promoting investments and innovation.**

- [European Council, 22-23/06/2017](#)

- **29-30 May**

### **Council calls for 'holistic' EU industrial strategy**

The Competitiveness Council called on the European Commission to provide a holistic EU industrial policy strategy in time for the European Council meeting in spring 2018.

Ministers agreed that the new strategy should place particular focus on:

- **SMEs** and start-ups
- **research, development and innovation**
- **digital transformation**
- tackling **unfair commercial practices**
- sustainable and affordable **energy sources.**
- [Competitiveness Council, 29-30/05/2017](#)