



Open Letter to Executive Vice President Stéphane Séjourné, Executive Vice President Teresa Ribera and Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra

MEPs support a new process to make the Clean Industrial Deal inclusive and adapted to all energy intensive companies and SMEs in Europe

We, the Members of the European Parliament signing this letter, wish to emphasize the importance of leaving no one behind as a fundamental aspect of the European Green Deal. This social dimension has been pivotal in shaping the energy and climate legislation during the past European Commission's mandate, and it is imperative that the upcoming Clean Industrial Deal upholds this guiding principle. All energy intensive sectors, particularly those operating in multi-site business facilities, industries disconnected from larger industrial sites and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), all with their skilled workforce, must be included in our policy-making processes.

Based on previous experiences with similar attempts by the European Commission, and following the consequences of the energy crisis that particularly affected gas intensive sectors and SMEs, it is absolutely necessary that this new policy must be inclusive for all energy intensive industries including specifically ceramic multi-site companies and SMEs by ensuring a level-playing field and enforceability.

We stress that one of the major challenges in formulating an EU industrial policy has been the diversity within the energy intensive industry ecosystem. There exists a fundamental gap between large energy-intensives with operations in single industrial zones and the smaller, regional and often multi-site players such as those of the European ceramic industry sector.

We believe that we cannot longer overlook the specific needs and the considerable importance of such businesses. Policy and regulatory designs must be adapted to these realities, ensuring support for small- and medium-sized, decentralized companies that contribute significantly to regional economic value and quality employment. Without an inclusive approach, the new deal for industry risks failing to fulfill its promise of re-industrialization.

We do also recall that Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, in her political guidelines, acknowledged the critical role of SMEs in creating quality jobs grounded in local communities throughout the EU, as well as the complexities they face.

We therefore urge the European Commission to consider a new coordinated and structured platform devoted to enhancing the dialogue with SMEs and regional and decentralized energy intensives as an integral part of the upcoming Clean Industrial Deal strategy.

We call on the European Commission to utilize this platform to focus on key areas for these sectors and enterprises **from administrative burden and simplification to regulation, access to affordable energy and finance.** It is essential to involve trade unions and all other relevant stakeholders in this collaborative effort.

By establishing a transparent and inclusive mechanism, this dialogue should lead to a package of initiatives dedicated to the specifics of these regional and local businesses by 2026 at the very latest, also considering emergency measures whenever needed. This can take the shape of a new Pact proposed by the European Commission.

We, the undersigned MEPs, ask for an inclusive Clean Industrial Deal and stand ready to support this initiative by contributing to the regulatory assessment, facilitating public debates at national and European level and evaluating initiatives and policy options in preparation for the launch of this critical **“Clean SME’s & Local Energy Intensive Industry” Pact.**

Elisabetta Gualmini – Chair of EP Ceramics
Forum (Italy, S&D)

Pascal Arimont (Belgium, EPP)

Wouter Beke (Belgium, EPP)

Stefano Bonaccini (Italy, S&D)

Jaroslav Bžoch (Czechia, PfE)

Stefano Cavedagna (Italy, ECR)

Caterina Chinnici (Italy, EPP)

Annalisa Corrado (Italy, S&D)

Elena Donazzan (Italy, ECR)

Carlo Fidanza (Italy, ECR)

Sandra Gómez Lopez (Spain, S&D)

Nicolás González Casares (Spain, S&D)

Giorgio Gori (Italy, S&D)

Maria Grapini (Romania, S&D)

Hannes Heide (Austria, S&D)

Krzysztof Hetman (Poland, EPP)

Romana Jerković (Croatia, S&D)

Radan Kanev (Bulgaria, EPP)

Ondřej Knotek (Czechia, PfE)

Ondřej Kovarik (Czechia, PfE)

Ondřej Krutílek (Czechia, ECR)

Camilla Laureti (Italy, S&D)

Giuseppe Lupo (Italy, S&D)

Elżbieta Łukacijewska (Poland, EPP)

Lukas Mandl (Austria, EPP)

Vicent Marzà Ibanez (Spain, Greens/European
Free Alliance)

Letizia Moratti (Italy, EPP)

Alessandra Moretti (Italy, S&D)

Jana Nagyova (Czechia, PfE)

Dario Nardella (Italy, S&D)

Victor Negrescu (Romania, S&D)

Mirosława Nykiel (Poland, EPP)

Branislav Ondruš (Slovakia, NI)

Leire Pajín Iraola (Spain, S&D)

Aldo Patriciello (Italy, PfE)

Giuseppina Picierno (Italy, S&D)

Nicola Procaccini (Italy, ECR)

Massimiliano Salini (Italy, EPP)

Antonella Sberna (Italy, ECR)

Günther Sidl (Austria, S&D)

Christine Singer (Germany, Renew Europe)

Sander Smit (Netherlands, EPP)

Susana Solís Pérez (Spain)

Irene Tinagli (Italy, S&D)

Matej Tonin (Slovenia, EPP)

Raffaele Topo (Italy, S&D)

Flavio Tosi (Italy, EPP)

Filip Turek (Czechia, PfE)

Inese Vaidere (Latvia, EPP)

Jessika van Leeuwen (Netherlands, EPP)

Marie-Pierre Vedrenne (France, Renew
Europe)

Angelika Winzig (Austria, EPP)

Alessandro Zan (Italy, S&D)

Tomáš Zdechovský (Czechia, EPP)

Milan Zver (Slovenia, EPP)