



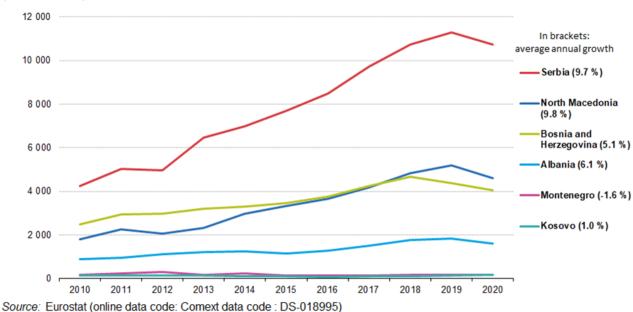
JUST TRANSITION(S) IN SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

22 MARCH 2022

TWIN TRANSITIONS IN SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

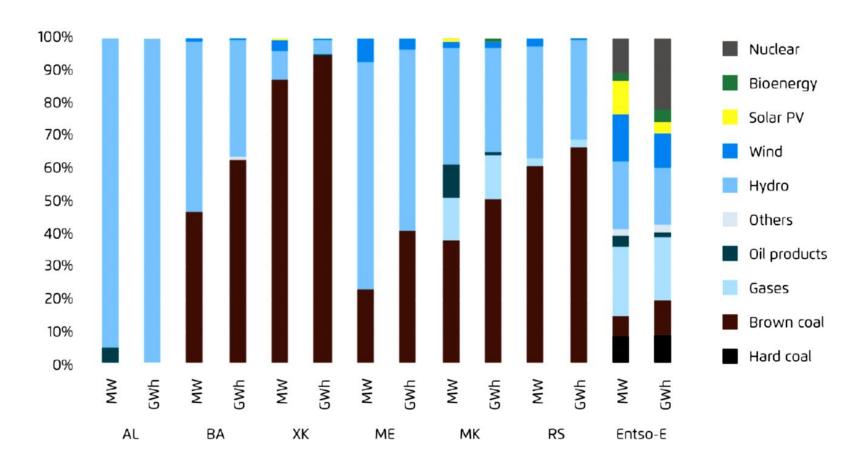
- Digital transition:
 - Economic specialization
 - Labour costs
 - Lessons from the "New Member States" in Central and Eastern Europe
- Green transition:
 - Direct impact of EU regulations
 - Indirect impact of EU regulations
 - "Catching up" has a different and much more urgent meaning

EU imports from Western Balkan Countries, 2010 - 2020 (EUR million)



THE ENERGY MIX IN SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

Figure 3: 2018 power mix of WB-6 countries and the ENTSO-E aggregate²⁰





THE ENERGY TRANSITION INVOLVES HUGE EMPLOYMENT SHIFTS

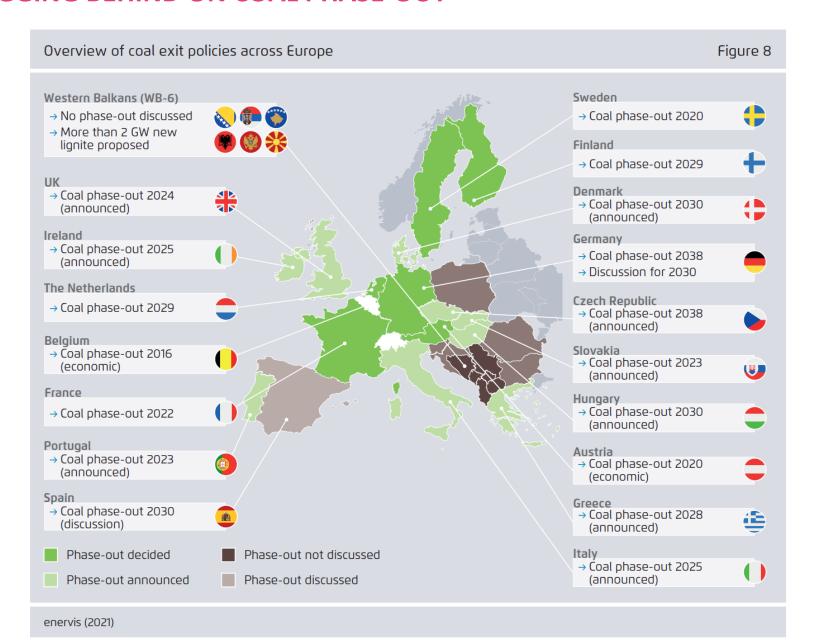
Figure 1.15 ► Employment growth in clean energy and related areas to 2030





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LAGGING BEHIND ON COAL PHASE-OUT



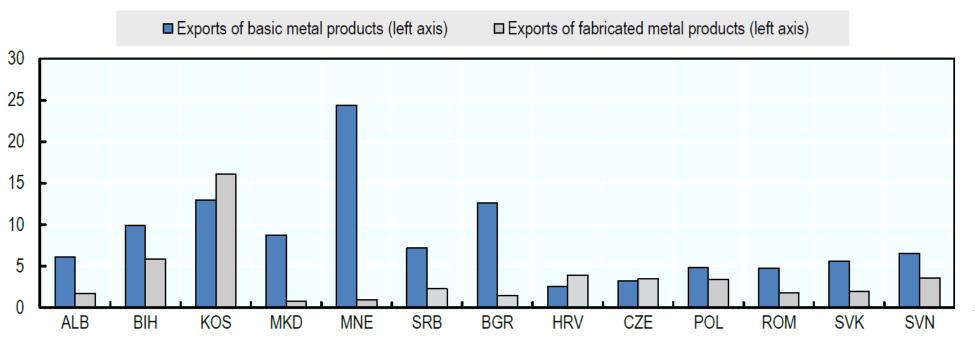


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EU CARBON BORDER ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM COULD SERIOUSLY IMPACT THE REGION'S METALLURGICAL INDUSTRY

Figure 3.5. Metal processing sector exports from the WB and CEE (2016)

% of total exports



FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT PLAYS A COMPARATIVELY HUGE ROLE IN SOME SEE COUNTRIES

Figure 2 / FDI inflows in CESEE economies during 2010-2019 (% of GDP)

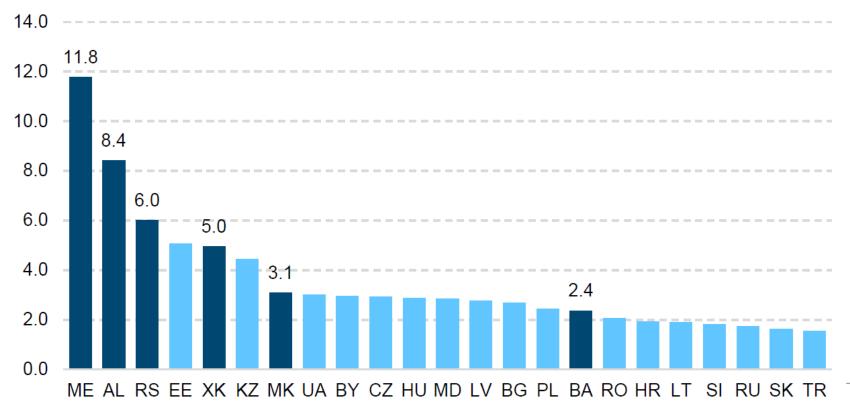
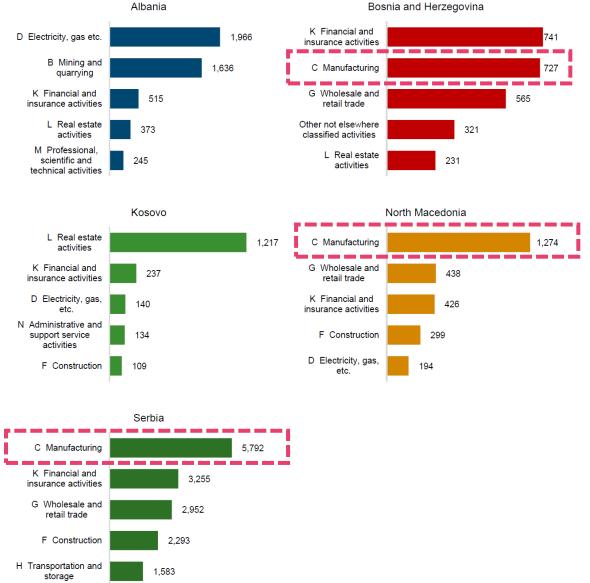




Figure 7 / Top 5 sectors for FDI inflows in the WB economies (EUR million)

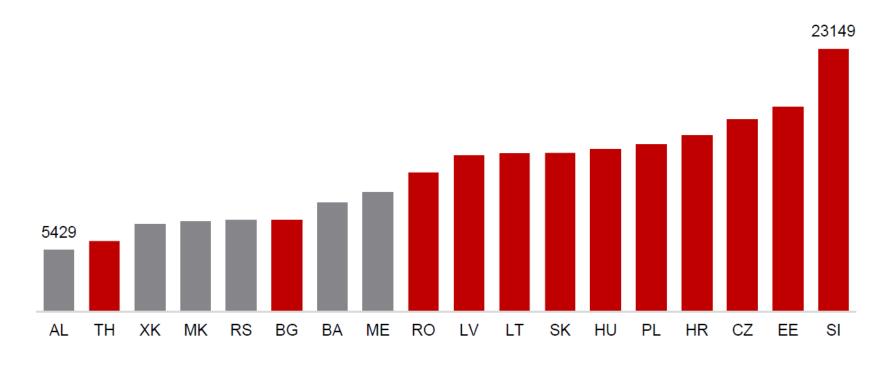


MANUFACTURING FDI IS A KEY CHANNEL FOR INTEGRATION IN EU VALUE CHAINS



LABOUR COST IS REGARDED AS THE REGION'S PRIMARY COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Figure 16 / Average annual gross wages (USD), average for 2017-2019

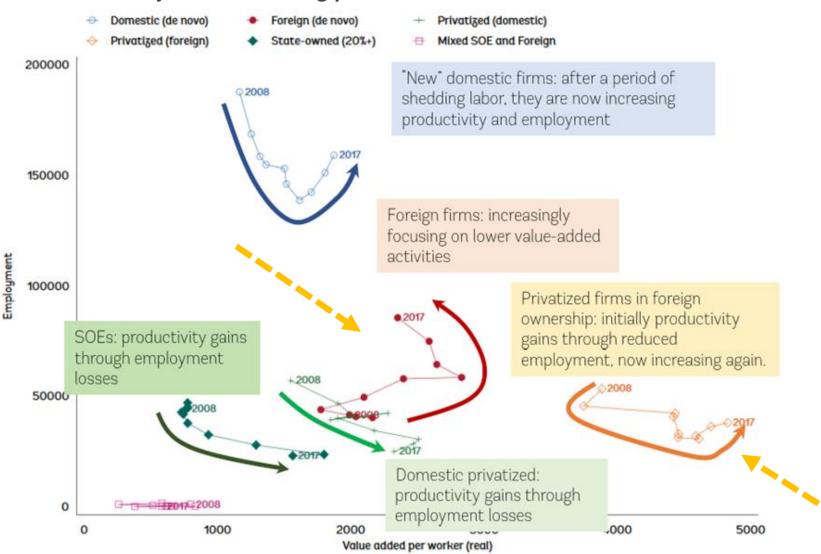


Source: wiiw and ILO.



INVESTMENTS ARE NOT FOCUSING ON NEW TECHNOLOGIES

Serbia: FDI jobs are increasingly concentrated in lower value-added sectors



"HARD WORK", BUT LOW SKILL REQUIREMENTS

Table 2 / Low needs for IT and language skills among Western Balkans firms

	Albania	Bosnia-Herzegovina	Kosovo	Serbia
What are the top three	e ranked skills for "Non-rout	ine" type workers? (out of	12 skills)	·
Highest	Conscientious	Conscientious	Conscientious	Job specific technical
Second	Stable, stress resistant	Innovative	Innovative	Conscientious
Third	Numerate	Stable, stress resistant	Numerate	Stable, stress resistant
What is the ranking of	"new economy" skills when	making decisions regarding	hiring or retaining "Non-r	outine" type workers? (out
12 skills)				
Advanced computer	11	11	9	10
English	7	10	8	11
What are the top three	e ranked skills for "Routine"	type workers? (out of 12 sk	ills)	
Highest	Conscientious	Conscientious	Conscientious	Conscientious
Second	Stable, stress resistant	Stable, stress resistant	Innovative	Stable, stress resistant
Third	Job specific technical	Interpersonal skills	Interpersonal skills	Job specific technical
What is the ranking of	"new economy" skills for ac	cessing and processing info	mation for "Routine" type	workers? (out of 12 skills)
English	10	10	9	12
Digital literacy	11	11	12	9

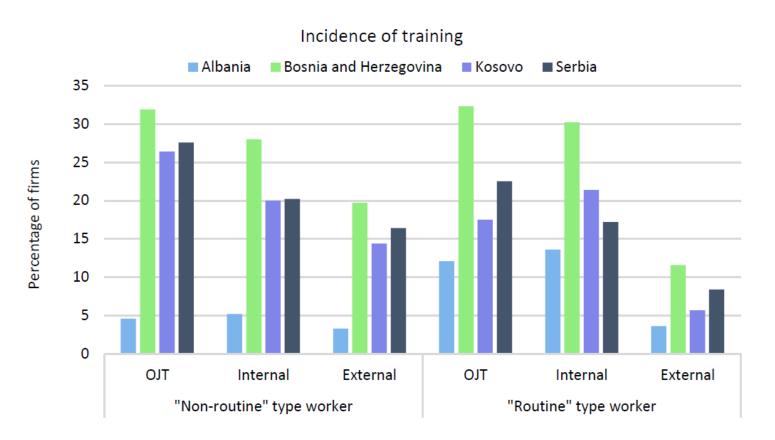
Note: Advanced computer knowledge is included among skills for "Non-routine" type workers, and basic computer skills (digital literacy) for "Routine" type workers. Results for North Macedonia cannot be compared due to methodological differences.

Source: Estimates based on STEP Employer Surveys.



UPSKILLING IS NOT ON EMPLOYERS' MINDS

Figure 16 / A majority of firms do not provide training to their staff



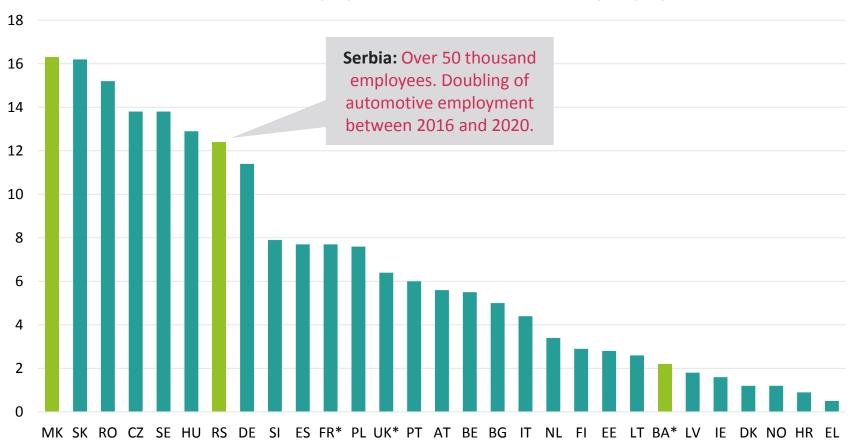
Note: OJT = On-the-job training.

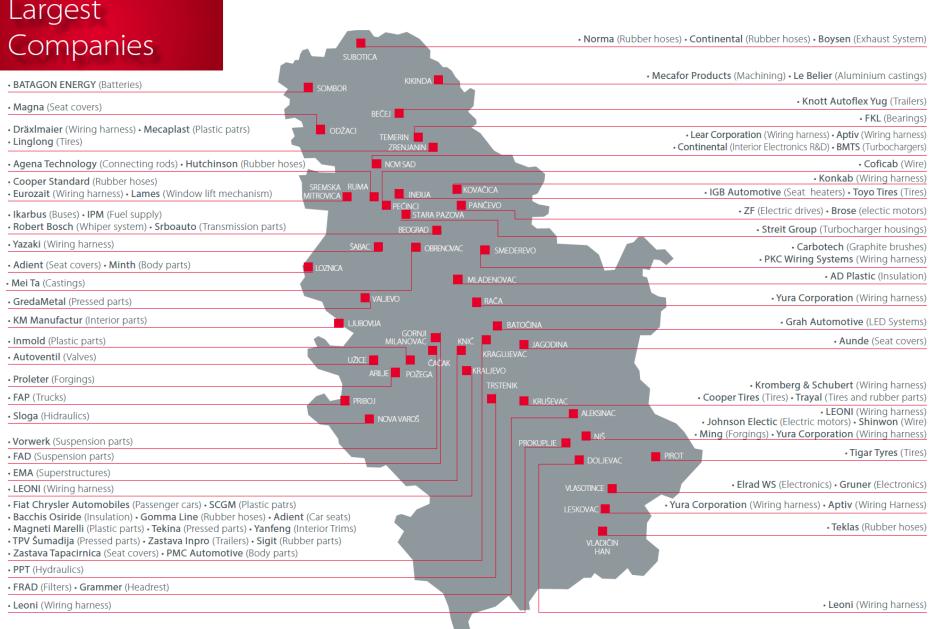
Source. Estimates based on STEP Employer Surveys.



THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY IS ALREADY A SIGNIFICANT SOURCE OF EMPLOYMENT

Automotive sector employment (% of total manufacturing employment)



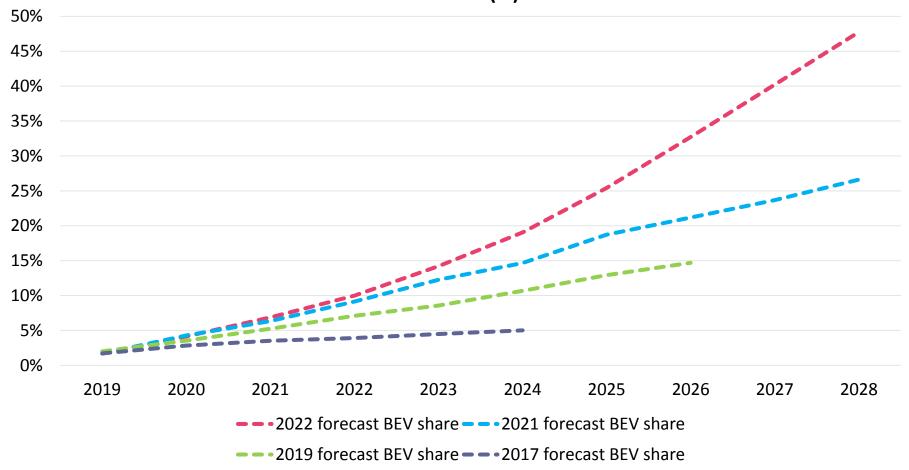




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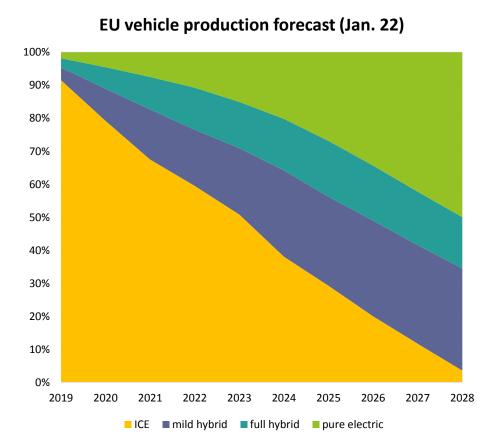
POWERTRAIN ELECTRIFICATION CONTINUES TO ACCELERATE

Forecast of battery electric vehicle market share compared to previous years' forecasts (%)

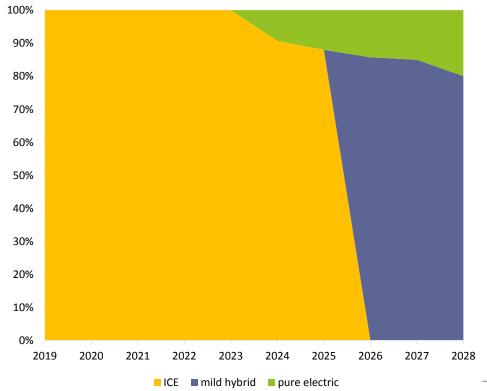




SEE TRANSITION FOLLOWS EU TRENDS, WITH SOME DELAY

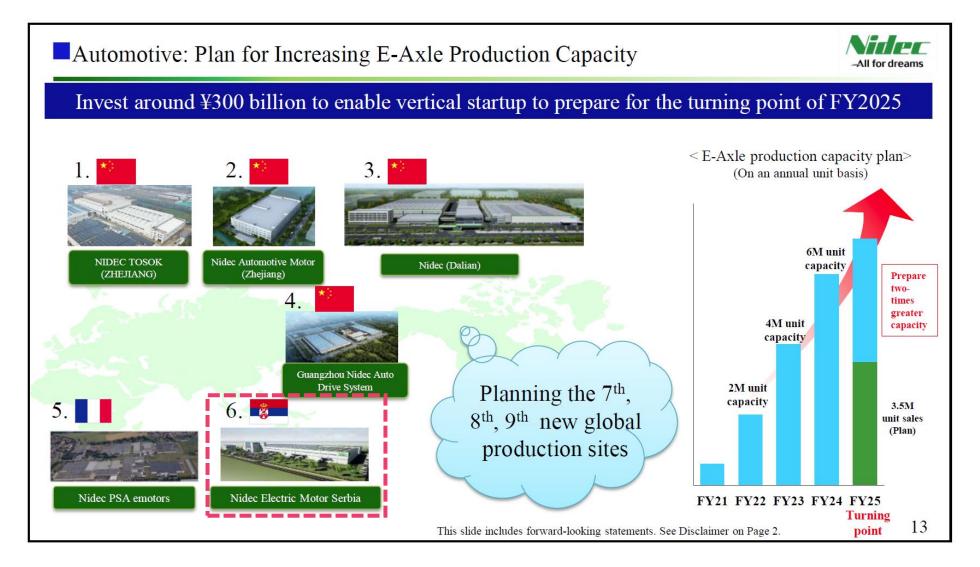


Serbia light vehicle production forecast (Jan. 22)



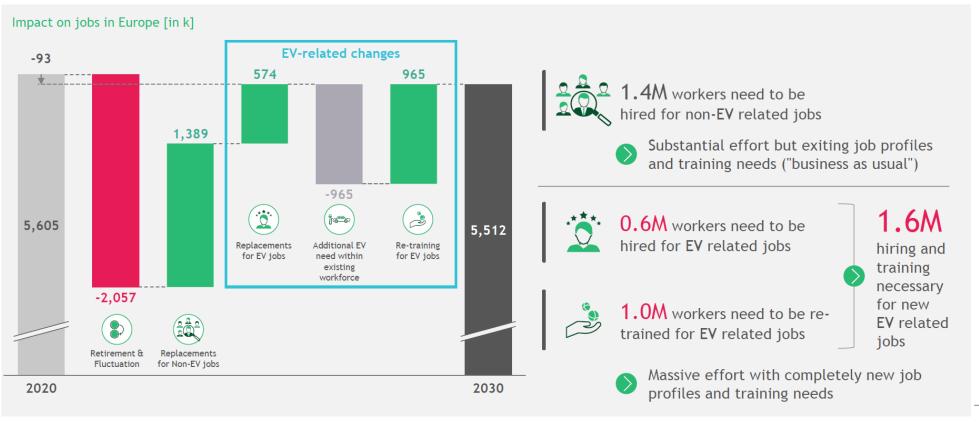
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THE NEW EV SUPPLY CHAIN COULD HAVE A NEW GEOGRAPHY



EV TRANSITION INVOLVES SHIFT IN JOB CONTENT AND SKILLS

Assessment of employment developments in the European automotive industry

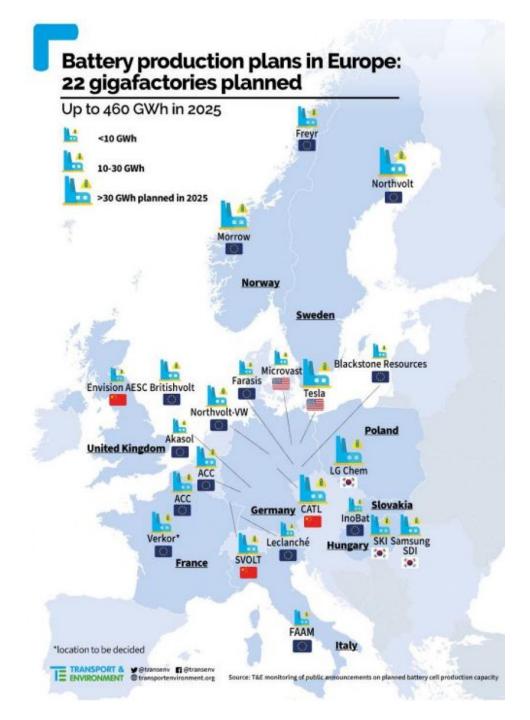


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Source: Boston Consulting Group (2021)

THE RISK OF JOB QUALITY DEGRADATION

- Rush by EU states to develop local EV battery capabilities.
- Battery production regarded as high valueadded activity.
- Job transitions from combustion engine technology to EV supply chain.
- This transition should lead to a reduced number of jobs in powertrain manufacturing.
 - Recent estimates are for approximately 60 thousand jobs in battery manufacturing across Europe.
 - Direct ICE technology employment is much more numerous.
- Job quality is almost never addressed in relation to EV battery manufacturing.
- The example of the Samsung battery plant in Hungary suggests significant degradation of job quality vs. legacy ICE technology.



HOW TO ENSURE A JUST TRANSITION?

- ▶ Risk of exacerbating a "low-road" developmental trajectory?
 - Low productivity
 - Low wages
 - Weak states
 - Bad jobs and low standards of living
- Opportunities of accelerating convergence?
 - Technological leap
 - Increased productivity
 - Better jobs and standards of living
- ▶ A European issue, in the broadest sense possible.
- Learning from trade union experiences across Europe, both good and bad.

















FRANCE

ESPAGNE

ROUMANIE