

Industry under pressure:

TIME TO ACT NOW!

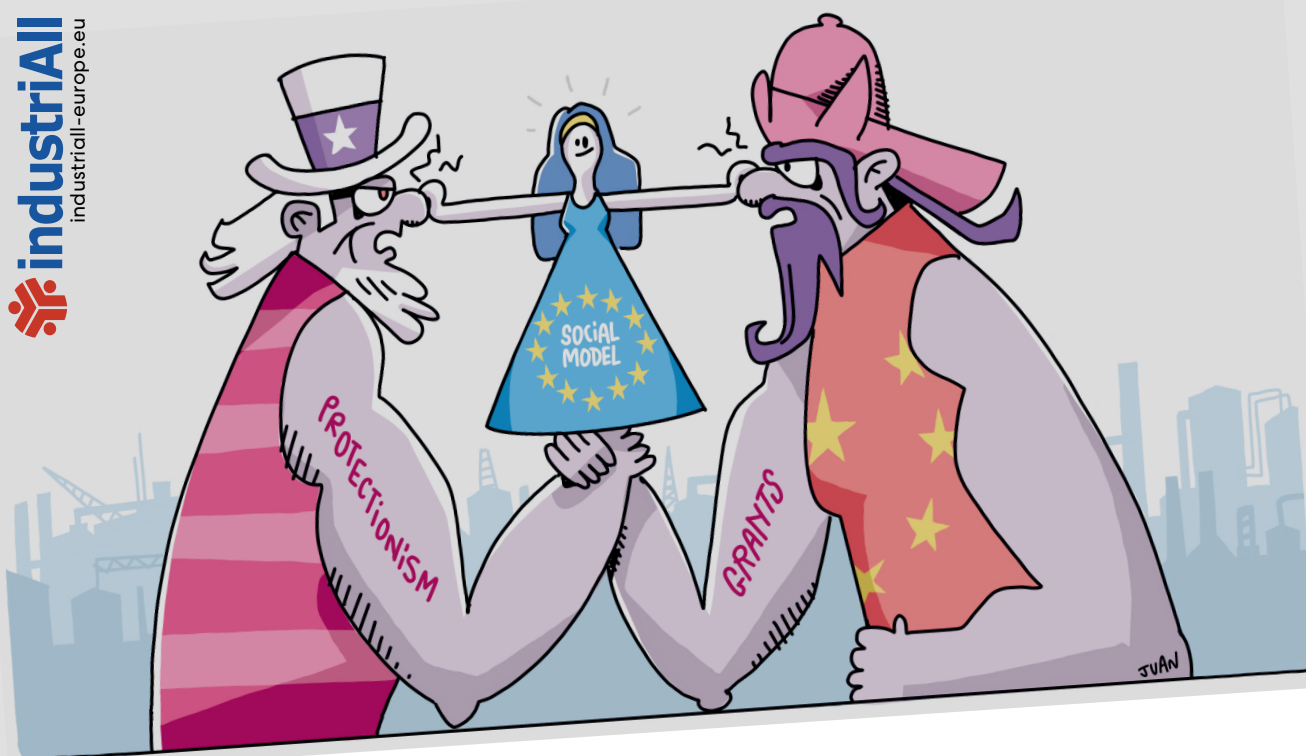


KEY REPORT CONCLUSIONS

Key findings from a review of 18 industry sectors and measures demanded by European trade unions to protect industry and good jobs.

- 1. URGENCY:** only 1 of 18 industries¹ is in fit shape. Investments are stalled and restructuring is underway in upstream and downstream sectors, with impacts on whole value chains. To reach climate targets, EIs must be rebuilt and strengthened but China and US are leading this industrial renaissance.
- 2. EUROPEAN ECONOMIC DECLINE IS A POLITICAL CHOICE.** Weakening Europe's social model and job quality is a political choice that undermines Europe's position as a stable investment location.
- 3. INVESTMENT GAP:** The EU Stability and Growth Pact is constraining the investment needed for industrial and social transformation.
- 4. DECLINING RDI POSITION:** We are losing tomorrow's products and industries. Europe is strong in basic research but weak in applied research. Total RDI spending is not keeping pace with technological developments.
- 5. LACK OF ECONOMIC AND LABOUR MARKET PLANNING:** Mandatory transition planning, with incentives for industry, is key to addressing labour and skills shortages.
- 6. RISING GLOBAL OVERCAPACITIES ARE FAILING FREE TRADE.** The borders of the internal market must be strengthened. As free and fair trade principles are compromised, Europe cannot give free access to its market.
- 7. ENERGY PRICES:** Europe needs a far more ambitious agenda on energy grids and pricing rules.
- 8. PROFIT MAXIMISATION STRATEGIES:** Profits are transferred to shareholders rather than reinvested in industrial activities. This must be urgently addressed through conditionalities on public spending.
- 9. SOVEREIGNTY AS DRIVER:** Strategic autonomy and strategic cooperation are now vital. Hoping for a return to business-as-usual means deindustrialisation and dependence.
- 10. THE CASE FOR EUROPE:** Europe remains an attractive place to invest – with a skilled workforce, the largest single market, world class research institutions, competitive businesses, political stability and strong outcomes in terms of education, life expectancy, equality and security. We must make the case for Europe again. With confidence!

¹ Europe only leads in aerospace. Sectors under review: aerospace, automotive, auto subcontractors, basic metals, cement, chemistry, defence, glass, oil & glass, oil refining, petrochemistry, pharmaceuticals, pulp & paper, semiconductors, solar energy, steel, telecoms, wind energy.



CORE TRADE UNION DEMANDS

→ **A REAL INVESTMENT AGENDA FOR OUR INDUSTRIES:**

- A Multiannual Financial Framework at the scale of investment needs
- Reassessing fiscal rules to allow investments in social and green priorities
- Investment commitments from companies – private sector investment must be increased and unlocked

→ **SOCIAL AND LOCAL CONTENT CONDITIONALITIES ON ALL PUBLIC SUPPORT TO INDUSTRY**, including in public procurement, to secure investment in sites.

→ **AN EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION MECHANISM**

similar to the SURE programme, which helped save jobs during the pandemic, to prevent irreversible losses of our industrial capacity.

→ **MANDATORY TRANSITION PLANNING** to ensure coordinated industrial and labour market planning for a Just Transition.

→ **ACTION ON GLOBAL OVERCAPACITIES & UNFAIR TRADE** to secure investments in Europe's transforming industries.

→ **A MORE AMBITIOUS AGENDA ON ENERGY GRIDS & PRICING RULES** to ensure affordable, low carbon energy for Europe's industries.