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Plenary sitting

B9-0104/2023

8.2.2023

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statements by the Council and the Commission pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure on an EU strategy to boost industrial competitiveness, trade and quality jobs (2023/2513(RSP))

Christian Ehler on behalf of the PPE Group

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B9-0104/2023

European Parliament resolution on an EU strategy to boost industrial competitiveness, trade and quality jobs (2023/2513(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission communication of 11 December 2019 on the European Green Deal (COM(2019)0640),
- having regard to the Commission communication of 10 March 2020 entitled 'A New Industrial Strategy for Europe' (COM(2020)0102),
- having regard to the Commission communication of 5 May 2021 entitled 'Updating the 2020 New Industrial Strategy: Building a stronger Single Market for Europe's recovery' (COM(2021)0350),
- having regard to the International Energy Agency report of December 2022 entitled 'How to Avoid Gas Shortages in the European Union in 2023',
- having regard to the Commission communication of 24 September 2020 entitled 'A Capital Markets Union for people and businesses new action plan' (COM(2020)0590),
- having regard to its resolution of 15 September 2022 entitled 'Implementation of the Updated New Industrial Strategy for Europe: aligning spending to policy'¹,
- having regard to its resolution of 15 January 2020 on the European Green Deal²,
- having regard to its resolution of 25 November 2020 on a new industrial strategy for Europe³,
- having regard to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the prime medium-term objective of European industrial policy is to enable European industry to implement the energy, climate, environmental and digital transitions, while preserving its competitiveness on the global market, maintaining jobs in Europe and strengthening its ability to innovate and produce in Europe, particularly with regard to clean technologies;
- B. whereas industrial competitiveness is determined by the comparative productivity of an industry on the global market; whereas this productivity is determined by the industry's access to technology, skilled labour, finance and affordable and secure energy and raw materials, as well as by its innovative capacity; whereas the comparative position of the

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¹ Texts adopted, P9 TA(2022)0329.

² OJ C 270, 7.7.2021, p. 2.

³ OJ C 425, 20.10.2021, p. 43.

industry on the global market is determined by the competitiveness of its products in terms of price, quality and marketing on that market, as well as by the quality of the public governance of the political jurisdiction in which the industry is situated, including regulatory stability and clarity, the comparative regulatory burden and the opportunities for international trade offered by the jurisdiction;

- C. whereas in a changing geopolitical world, it is vital to strengthen European industrial competitiveness, including by reducing European dependence on third countries for critical and strategic materials, products and technologies, as well as to provide for affordable and secure energy for its industries;
- D. whereas the European single market is one of Europe's greatest assets, both for fostering competitiveness internally and for implementing a strong international trade policy to stimulate international competitiveness;
- E. whereas both capital expenditure and operational expenditure feed into the price competitiveness of industrial products; whereas for example, Europe's high energy prices put significant pressure on the global competitiveness of operational expenditure in Europe;
- F. whereas the EU is home to world-leading research institutions, engineering companies and a highly skilled labour force, making it a world leader in industrial innovation;
- 1. Welcomes the Commission communication of 1 February 2023 entitled 'A Green Deal Industrial Plan for the Net-Zero Age'⁴; believes, however, that the communication lacks focus and creativity and does not fully address the underlying problem; emphasises that the Green Deal failed to deliver a deal for European industry, as it did not provide a business case for the industrial transition in Europe; notes that, while the title of the communication implies that it is a broad plan to strengthen the competitiveness of all European industry in the context of the European Green Deal, its content solely focuses on the clean tech industry in Europe; strongly believes that Europe's industrial strategy should not only be designed for a potential industrial base in the future, but also for the existing industrial base present today, which provides jobs and economic growth for all Europeans;
- 2. Highlights that European industry is part of an open, export-oriented, capital intensive, social market economy that can only deliver prosperity for European citizens if it is competitive on and open to the global market; emphasises that this competitiveness needs to be fostered in a distinctly European fashion, based on a truly functioning single market that provides a level playing field for competition, and with respect for national sovereignty;
- 3. Notes that while production and design quality and being a leader in innovation are a solid basis for competitiveness, operational expenditure is also essential; highlights that the importance of operational expenditure in terms of competitiveness is greater for commodity products than for high-end or highly innovative products; considers that the European economy cannot provide jobs and prosperity by only depending on high-end

⁴ COM(2023)0062.

or highly innovative production;

- 4. Believes that a functioning EU single market cannot be built on protectionist measures or subsidies, but instead needs to be built on a policy and regulatory framework that promotes the single market as an attractive investment destination to ensure that the green and digital transitions can take place;
- 5. Restates its support for the EU's 2030 and 2050 environmental objectives, while recognising that the path towards these objectives needs to be based on a realistic plan to maintain European industrial competitiveness along the way; emphasises that the objectives require increasingly decoupling industrial productivity from the use of fossil fuels; recalls, however, that this is a process that was initiated only recently and that will continue in the coming decades; notes that Europe is a frontrunner in this respect, including through the shared ambition to be the first carbon-neutral continent globally; points out, however, that this also means that other continents continue to provide cheap, fossil-based energy to European industry; believes, in this regard, that the Commission is not correct in stating that 'the age of cheap fossil fuels is over' and that any European industrial plan needs to reflect the reality of the global market in which its industry competes, namely that cheap fossil fuels are still the norm for the short- and medium-term future;
- 6. Is concerned that the Commission's singular focus on Europe capturing the 'first mover advantage' for clean tech puts the long-term competitiveness of the European economy at risk; is alarmed by the absence of any substantive references to the digital transition in the Commission's industrial plan; strongly believes that it is long overdue for the Commission to develop an industrial policy that truly puts industrial competitiveness first;
- 7. Regrets that the EU has, once again, acted in reaction rather than proactively, and that only because of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) in the US and higher energy prices did Europe's industrial competitiveness become a priority on the European political agenda; believes that this should be a permanent, top EU priority if the EU wants to maintain its role as a central player in the global arena; is convinced that the Green Deal will not succeed if it does not deliver sufficient and good jobs in Europe; believes that unfair competition from the US and China goes to the heart of the Green Deal and that the EU needs to create a 'War Room' or special operation centre within the Commission for Green Deal investments to speed up decisions;

Industrial policy

8. Reiterates its call for a sector-by-sector analysis of the cumulative effect of higher prices for energy and raw materials, new legislation and the impact of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine; highlights that the Commission has had almost three years to develop transition pathways for the industrial ecosystems identified in the industrial strategy; is deeply concerned that most of these transition pathways have not been put in place yet and believes that this should be done as soon as possible; considers that the sector-specific analysis announced for the planned net-zero industry act could result in a renewed effort to deliver the transition pathways for all ecosystems; is cautious about the announced identification of 'goals for industrial capacity by 2030'; emphasises that

- these should not be goals like production targets or stockpiling requirements that would add to the burden on EU industry;
- 9. Highlights that regulating demand for low-carbon and decarbonised products and services in Europe does not guarantee that the demand will be met by European supply; considers that the regulatory agenda of the European Green Deal should have therefore originally included a real plan to ramp up European supply of low-carbon and decarbonised products and services; welcomes the Council's call on the Commission to develop a competitiveness agenda for Europe and does not consider the Green Deal Industrial Plan as presented to be a sufficient answer to this call;
- 10. Stresses that a functioning EU single market is an important asset to strengthen industrial resilience, Europe's attractiveness as an investment destination and the competitiveness of the EU, as well as to enhance the twin transitions as a basis for new growth in industrial sectors;
- 11. Notes that industrial operational expenditure in Europe is high compared to global competitors and that this is driven by high energy prices, a high regulatory burden and the costs of our social model; strongly believes that we cannot compromise on our social model; concludes, therefore, that it is of existential importance that the EU bring down the cost of energy and drastically reduce the regulatory burden on our industry;
- 12. Highlights the importance of InvestEU as an existing flagship programme of the Union and believes that it should be reinforced and expanded; welcomes the Commission's commitment to assessing how to do so; calls on the Commission to develop a proposal to expand the programme by creating an additional window for strategic investments to support projects that enhance the competitiveness of the Union's economy, rebuild productive capacity, decrease dependence on vulnerable supply chains and promote entrepreneurship, job creation and enhanced resilience in view of the climate and digital transitions; underlines that the upcoming revision of the multiannual financial framework (MFF) is a unique opportunity to accomplish such changes and to deliver on these policy objectives in the medium term; notes that unused Recovery and Resilience Facility loans must not be wasted and could be used to increase the InvestEU guarantee;
- 13. Recalls the importance of capitalisation instruments to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); expresses its concern about the fact that, according to the Commission's forecasts, the SME allocation in InvestEU will be exhausted by 2025, which highlights the need to reinforce it in the upcoming MFF midterm revision; recalls the importance of reviewing the InvestEU Regulation⁵ in order to broaden the scope of capital support through InvestEU to help enterprises besides SMEs, as well as those which have suffered from the impacts of the Russian invasion in Ukraine, the energy crisis, inflation and the IRA; insists on the importance of reducing bureaucracy and streamlining application processes; highlights that, in order to increase absorption capacity and help channel green investments in the right direction, planning capabilities needs to be developed and strengthened at Member-State level;

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⁵ Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 (OJ L 107, 26.3.2021, p. 30).

- 14. Takes note of the announcement of a net-zero industry act; welcomes this initiative as it provides a renewed opportunity for the Commission to develop a real industrial policy that fosters European industrial competitiveness; expresses its concern about the seemingly limited focus on clean technologies;
- 15. Looks forward to the announced SME relief package; urges the Commission to be as ambitious as possible when designing this package and to speed up its adoption;
- 16. Takes note of the Commission's ambition to define simple and operational criteria for identifying net-zero supply-chain projects of strategic interest; warns against developing a complex bureaucratic system to select the projects; welcomes the Commission's intention to ensure accelerated permitting procedures for these projects; emphasises that it is unclear what funding would be available for these projects;
- 17. Takes note of the Commission's proposal for a critical raw materials act; recalls the importance of secure access to critical raw materials as a prerequisite for the ecological and digital transformations, for achieving our climate targets, for competitive value chains in Europe and for strengthening strategic independence; recalls further the need to build up recycling and stable secondary markets, as well as the need for research on substitutions of critical raw materials; insists on fully utilising the potential of domestic resources that respect adequate standards; strongly believes that strategic European projects need faster and more transparent permitting processes, access to new funding and a consistent policy framework;
- 18. Welcomes the emphasis of the Commission proposal on research and innovation to increase material efficiency; recalls the limited funds available under Horizon Europe and that any new initiatives should come with fresh funding for the programme;
- 19. Notes with worry the growing shortage of highly skilled engineers in Europe; emphasises that this is a challenge for European industry and academia; calls on the Commission to put forward a plan to improve Europe's attractiveness as a place of employment for engineers and academics;
- 20. Welcomes the European Year of Skills, as it highlights the skills challenge that European industry faces;
- 21. Underlines the importance of strengthening the competiveness of European economies and developing the right skill sets for the future in order to keep up with the demands of a modern labour market; highlights the need to reform and update education and training systems to adapt workers' qualifications to the requirements of the labour market, including as regards the green and digital transitions, and to make Europe the main entrepreneurial hotspot in the world;

Energy prices

22. Welcomes the fact that the Commission recognises that higher energy prices are a threat to European industrial competitiveness in the short term; emphasises that energy costs have been one of the key factors negatively impacting the ability of European industry to compete on the global market; is concerned that the additional pressure on operational expenditure caused by high energy prices is undermining European

- industrial competitiveness and good jobs in Europe; calls for further efforts to lower energy prices for European industry in the short term;
- 23. Takes note of the December 2022 estimation of the International Energy Agency that European and global natural gas markets are not yet out of the danger zone and that additional factors (including that Russian supplies could fall further, liquefied natural gas markets will be tight and unseasonably mild temperatures may not last) indicate a gas supply-demand gap of 57 bcm, which is only partly covered by current initiatives; calls on the Commission and the Member States, in this context, to take all necessary measures and use all available energy sources to make affordable energy available to European industry; calls on the Commission to come up with additional plans to ensure secure and affordable energy supplies for next winter;
- 24. Underlines that to avoid a situation with sudden and steep increases in energy prices and a disruption of supplies in the future, Europe needs to act now and step up strategic investments in its energy infrastructure; considers that this requires completing the Energy Union, strengthening and deepening the internal European energy market, developing the still-lacking interconnections between Member States for gas, hydrogen and electricity and investing in the energy grids of the Member States; underlines the importance of kick-starting the hydrogen market by making hydrogen production faster and less bureaucratic, as well as by urgently developing a plan to create a backbone for hydrogen infrastructure and to implement carbon capture and storage/utilisation solutions; believes that carbon contracts of difference should be considered as means to speed up investments;
- 25. Welcomes, in this regard, the announcements in the Green Deal Industrial Plan regarding infrastructure; considers that European energy infrastructure and a functioning Energy Union, including a more integrated energy market, are essential to ensure a secure and affordable energy supply for European industry; welcomes, in this regard, the Commission's announcement of its intention to use the full scope of the revised TEN-E Regulation⁶, including using dedicated hydrogen assets converted from natural gas to transport or store a pre-defined blend of hydrogen with natural gas or bio methane during the transition period;
- 26. Stresses that investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy infrastructure, particularly cross-border projects, should be accelerated to avoid future energy shocks to the EU economy, including investments through the NextGenerationEU recovery plan and REPowerEU; calls on the Commission and the Member States to prioritise and fast-track procedures for key cross-border energy infrastructure projects, focusing in particular on increasing the flows from west to east and removing current bottlenecks; calls for the establishment of a European energy resource inventory to collect information from the Member States on their available and potential energy resources to better coordinate, to accelerate necessary procedures and to optimise the energy grid; considers that, on this basis, Member States could develop

⁶ Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1364/2006/EC and amending Regulations (EC) No 713/2009, (EC) No 714/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009 (OJ L 115, 25.4.2013, p. 39).

- their 'go-to' areas in line with the REPowerEU plan;
- Strongly support the announced development of a hydrogen backbone; emphasises that the European hydrogen backbone initiative creates an opportunity to accelerate the decarbonisation of the energy sector by efficiently integrating substantial volumes of additional renewable and low-carbon energy into the system and by connecting regions with abundant supply potential with centres of demand; highlights, moreover, that the European hydrogen backbone has the potential to revitalise Europe's industrial economy, while ensuring energy system resilience, increased energy independence and security of supply across Europe; believes that the net-zero industry act should set out a clear roadmap on how to develop this backbone, including how it should be financed; strongly condemns the fact that the most recent draft for a delegated act on hydrogen would triple the cost of producing hydrogen in Europe, as this would destroy the business case for producing hydrogen in Europe; notes that, when creating a hydrogen network, repurposing needs to be supported by constructing new infrastructure and by blending hydrogen with natural gas to support the initial uptake of hydrogen in areas without dedicated infrastructure; considers that the speed of the transition depends on several factors, such as the permitting and regulatory processes and the timeframe in which the current infrastructure can be repurposed; highlights that, considering the lack of dedicated hydrogen infrastructure, blending is a useful tool to accelerate hydrogen production while infrastructure is still being built; notes that allowing blending at interconnectors is important to avoid stopping cross-border flows and that blending of renewable and low-carbon gases provides for a cost-efficient, swift first step towards energy system decarbonisation;

Regulatory burden

- 28. Highlights the need to reduce unnecessary administrative burdens for companies, especially SMEs and start-ups, while maintaining the highest standards for consumers, workers and health and environmental protection;
- 29. Warmly welcomes the Commission's ambition to provide a predictable, consistent and simplified regulatory environment; strongly supports the Commission's introduction of the competitiveness test, as part of its preparation for new legislation; believes that this test, along with the innovation principle, should be firmly embedded in the institutional framework of the Commission; urges the Commission to ensure that these efforts lead to both quantitative and qualitative improvements in the regulatory burden for our industry, as well as to improvements in other factors that determine industrial competitiveness;
- 30. Continues to support the 'one in, one out' principle to stabilise the regulatory burden in the EU at the current level; believes, however, that this level is still too high and calls on the Commission to develop a more ambitious Better Regulation agenda, which should lead to at least a 20 % reduction of the regulatory burden for European industry;
- 31. Supports the primary regulatory agenda of the European Green Deal, including the Fit For 55 package, as it sets out a clear regulatory framework for European industry to deliver on the EU's 2030 and 2050 objectives; notes that compliance with these regulations will require significant investments from European industry at a time in

which it is also facing historically high energy prices and inflation; believes, therefore, that any further regulatory pressure to invest should be avoided in order to ensure that our industry can invest in the 2030 and 2050 objectives, while maintaining its competitiveness; calls, in this context, for a halt to any increase in the regulatory burden and calls on the Commission to reconsider its legislative agenda by postponing all legislative proposals that will impact our industry and that are not urgently needed; welcomes, in this context, the outcomes of the negotiations on the Emissions Trading System and the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, notably that Parliament's push for a later phase-out was successful, creating breathing space for our industry to invest in the green and digital transitions;

- 32. Welcomes the Commission's announced ambition to lower the permitting burden on industry; feels positively about the notion of national 'one-stop shops' for permitting issues for industry; notes, however, that even the most effective permitting system is a burden for industry and that deregulation is a more effective tool to lower that burden;
- 33. Warns against introducing new regulatory burdens or permitting requirements in the announced critical raw materials act; believes that, while European environmental standards are of the utmost importance for the European way of life, overly stringent regulation will force extraction activities out of Europe, killing jobs in Europe, making European industry more dependent on non-European suppliers and increasing the environmental damage caused by these activities;
- 34. Believes that, as part of the green transition, it is important to promote sustainable consumption and enable consumers to fully participate in the circular economy by ensuring that they are provided with adequate information about the sustainability of products, in particular their durability and reparability; highlights that the Commission's proposal on empowering consumers in the green transition is welcome in this regard, but that there must be proportionate rules to ensure that manufacturers and traders can remain competitive and that SMEs can play a strong role in promoting sustainable consumption without facing an excessive regulatory burden; recognises the aim of the proposed ecodesign regulation to make all products (expect food and pharma) on the single market more durable, reusable, reparable, upgradable, recyclable and generally less harmful to the environment; underlines that this legislation must not have a negative impact on the competitiveness of economic actors, especially SMEs, when it creates obligations to meet the ecodesign criteria;

State aid / competition policy / public procurement

- 35. Is deeply convinced that the strong regulation of State aid in the single market is an essential part of Europe's economic well-being, as it facilitates robust competition on a level playing field free of distortions;
- 36. Is profoundly worried about the processing time required for setting up important projects of common European interest, as well as about the long waiting time for Commission decisions on State aid notifications; calls on the Commission to reform and streamline the notification system so that any notification that has not received a negative reply within six months is automatically approved;
- 37. Stresses that EU competition rules and State aid rules should be simplified and should

allow for flexibilities in order to achieve Europe's strategic objectives; regrets that the recent update of the Guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy did not live up to that standard; welcomes, in this regard, the consultation on the Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework, while stressing that the provisions must be limited in time, scope and volume; emphasises that the cost of doing business in Europe should be considered when establishing the amounts of State aid allowed;

- 38. Considers that the definition and analysis of the relevant market for the purposes of merger control cases need to be reviewed to better take into account developments on an international level and to allow the creation of European champions in strategic sectors;
- 39. Notes that existing State aid rules should be made more agile, particularly as regards transformative technologies and energy infrastructure investments, and should allow for experimentation with tax credits; insists, nevertheless, that all decisions should be taken in a coordinated manner to preserve the functioning of the single market; believes that those Member States that cannot afford tax rebates should be able to take necessary funds from their structural funds;
- 40. Stresses that the Member States should unleash the full potential of the existing green public procurement instruments to empower all levels of governance to make smart and strategic procurement choices and strengthen the EU's industrial base; calls, in this regard, on the Commission to issue strategic guidance on public procurement as soon as possible, as this guidance was supposed to be delivered in the first three months of 2022; calls on the Commission to maintain the current framework for public procurement procedures, which already allows flexibility and smart choices;

Trade policy

- 41. Stresses that, to maintain and increase the competiveness of Europe's industries, the EU should increase trade opportunities; considers it important, in this regard, that the EU partner up with countries that can fulfil our supply needs without exploiting EU dependencies; calls for the urgent ratification of the free trade agreements that have been finalised and that are still under negotiation;
- 42. Recognises the aim of the proposed corporate sustainability due diligence directive to ensure that businesses operating in the single market respect human rights and environmental standards in their supply chains; stresses that it is still the responsibility of individual states to actually combat human rights violations worldwide; underlines that any corporate sustainability due diligence obligations must not undermine the competitiveness of European companies; recognises the risk that European companies may shut down their own operations in third countries or terminate their business relationships with direct business suppliers in third countries if the regulatory burden is considered to be too costly;
- 43. Notes that important steps have been taken to advance the transatlantic trade agenda along a positive, forward-looking path, since the EU-US summit in June 2021, notably the setting up of the EU-US Trade and Technology Council to strengthen our cooperation and deliver concrete outcomes in the short term and beyond in order to promote strong, resilient, and reliable transatlantic trade relations; underlines that a

- priority for the EU is to achieve outcomes that facilitate trade in the transatlantic marketplace in concrete ways;
- 44. Is convinced that a strong export solution in the context of the reforms of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and the EU Emissions Trading System is necessary, especially in the wake of the US IRA;
- 45. Stresses that we need to deliver permanent solutions to bilateral disputes, notably by fully normalising transatlantic trade in steel and aluminium and by finding an agreement on a global sustainable arrangement on steel and aluminium;
- 46. Stresses the need for an urgent reform of the World Trade Organization to ensure its effectiveness and preserve the rules-based global trade system;
- 47. Stresses the need to build Green Deal diplomacy with a dedicated envoy to identify strategic partnerships that would allow our economy better access to critical raw materials;
- 48. Underlines the importance of implementing foreign investment screening more quickly to create resilience and strengthen strategic supply chains;

IRA response

- 49. Recognises that the US IRA poses a challenge to Europe as an investment destination for industry, because it offers more attractive investment incentives for clean technology production; highlights that the US IRA methodologically challenges Europe's approach to the green transition, because it creates a business case for an industrial transformation towards sustainability, while the EU Green Deal has so far failed to deliver this; stresses therefore that the EU needs to strengthen the incentivising parts of its legislative framework;
- of the IRA on European industry and its competiveness, taking into consideration the current challenges as regards stretched supply chains and the high costs of energy, transport and raw materials; calls on the Commission to work with the USA to make the implementation of the IRA as compatible with European interests as possible, especially to ensure that the EU is covered by the exceptions provided for in the IRA for countries with a free trade cooperation and that European products are eligible for tax credits in the same way as US products, and to ensure full transparency; calls on the Commission to work with like-minded countries to influence the implementation of the IRA, especially in strategic sectors like the automotive sector; underlines that the EU should be ready to file a complaint against the IRA through the dispute settlement system if it continues to be discriminatory in its implementation;
- 51. Highlights that it is important for the EU to lead on strategic technologies; underlines that the EU cannot and should not compete on state subsidies with the USA and China; highlights the multiple advantages of operating through the EU budget rather than through uncoordinated national action; points out the need to mobilise available money from EU funds and programmes as a first step to strengthen the EU technology base, skill sets and other initiatives that enhance EU competiveness;

52. Highlights that new political initiatives, objectives and tasks funded through the EU budget, including both EU-wide and cross-border projects, must be financed with additional fresh money; points out that any new additional funds, both in the medium and long term, should be incorporated into the MFF; calls therefore on the Commission to carry out a clear assessment of the costs and investment gaps in the context of the IRA and to take the assessment into account in the in-depth revision of the functioning of the current MFF; highlights the MFF midterm revision as a timely and unique opportunity to incorporate any new funds into the EU budget;

Next steps

- 53. Urges the Commission to further strengthen its plan for European industrial competitiveness, taking into account the fact that the Green Deal Industrial Plan does not fully address the failure of the European Green Deal to create a business case for industrial transformation in Europe;
- 54. Believes that this plan should include a halt to any increase in the regulatory burden and a renewed Better Regulation agenda that lowers the regulatory burden for European industry by 20 %; calls on the Commission to also include a plan to ensure that the resources provided for in the Recovery and Resilience Facility are used to the maximum extent possible by the Commission and the Member States under the existing legislative framework to address the funding gaps identified in the context of the IRA, such as the lack of cross-border energy infrastructure projects;

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55. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and candidate countries, the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, the Court of Auditors, the Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, for distribution to subnational parliaments and councils, the Council of Europe and the United Nations.