DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on a New Industrial Strategy for Europe
(2020/2076(INI))

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(*) Associated committee – Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure
SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

A. whereas the EU industrial sector, while having the potential to contribute to environmental protection, has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic and needs support for its recovery;

B. whereas non-EU competitors often take advantage of less stringent climate and environmental regulations and lower labour costs;

C. whereas tax competition between Member States leads to asymmetries within the single market which are exploited by multinationals engaging in aggressive tax planning, thereby depriving economies where the value is generated of resources needed for the transition;

1. Calls on the Commission to consider the impact of COVID-19 by eventually reviewing targets to facilitate industrial recovery;

2. Stresses that, while forcing its industries and citizens to contribute to extremely ambitious climate goals, the EU should strive for sustainability without compromising competitiveness and socio-economic well-being or discriminating against any technology that contributes to the transition;

3. Calls for coherent EU policies to reduce overlaps and improve the enforcement of existing legislation, and for simplified EU funding in light of the difficulties experienced in particular by micro-SMEs;

4. Calls for a predictable intellectual property framework as this is key to incentivising investments and the promotion of innovative solutions contributing, in particular, to reducing GHG\textsuperscript{1} emissions;

5. Stresses that a global level playing field is needed; calls for a revision of the EU ETS\textsuperscript{2} and a CBAM\textsuperscript{3} to allow for a smart reshoring of manufacturing and shorter value chains, and to avoid carbon leakage;

6. Calls for better coordinated FTAs\textsuperscript{4} to foster consistency between trade, customs, market surveillance and industrial policies; calls for prioritising the implementation of, in particular, the EU regulations on product safety for imported products.

\textsuperscript{1} Greenhouse gas emissions
\textsuperscript{2} EU Emissions Trading System
\textsuperscript{3} Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
\textsuperscript{4} Free Trade Agreements