



2020/2076(INI)

6.4.2020

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on International Trade

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

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

Rapporteur for opinion: Markus Buchheit

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on International Trade calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Takes note of the Commission's initiatives to support European SMEs' access to international markets; stresses, however, that SMEs have to deal with too many regulations and burdens and excessive bureaucracy; stresses that SMEs are kept at a competitive disadvantage by investing in climate neutrality to comply with the Green Deal while trying to remain competitive and thrive on export markets;
2. Calls on the Commission to focus on domestic productivity within Europe, in order to establish less dependence on vulnerable supply chains in core industry sectors such as the tech and telecommunications, medical products and pharmaceuticals sectors, especially in times of global crisis, and to remain competitive on the global markets;
3. Supports, in principle, the initiative to reinforce a rule-based multilateral trading system; expresses its concern, however, about the functioning of the WTO, owing to some international actors abusing their market power;
4. Calls on the Commission to work towards effective and operational procurement that allows the EU to take swift, targeted and compelling measures and increase leverage to negotiate reciprocity and market opening;
5. Calls for the reinforcement of the safeguard instruments in order to make them more efficient and better adapted to protect European industry and to tackle market distortions effectively;
6. Calls on the Commission to consider the urgent enforcement of intellectual property rights and the involvement of all actors in the fight against infringement and counterfeiting as key objectives of the intellectual property action plan;
7. Calls on the Commission to strengthen the screening of foreign direct investment and to protect access to strategic industries, infrastructure, key enabling technologies, or any other assets in the interests of security and cybersecurity.