

Antwerp Declaration: why EXCA signed it

On 20 February 2024 in Antwerp, 73 industry leaders from 20 industrial sectors signed the '**The Antwerp Declaration for a European Industrial Deal**'. As of today, the Declaration has been signed by 1088 companies and trade associations spanning 25 industrial sectors¹.

The Antwerp Declaration **calls for Member State Governments, the European Commission and Parliament to recognise the urgent need for clarity, predictability, and confidence in Europe and its industrial policy**. In difficult economic circumstances, the Declaration outlines **10 urgent actions for restoration of competitiveness and keeping jobs in Europe**, whilst making European industry resilient and more sustainable, further supporting the climate goals indicated in the Green Deal.

Why EXCA supports the Antwerp Declaration:

A substantial number of signatories is essential to maintain significant pressure on the upcoming Commission and Parliament, ensuring they prioritize fulfilling the main requests outlined in the Declaration, including:

- Putting a **new Industrial Deal** at the core of the new Strategic Agenda for 2024-2029.
 - Supporting an "**Omnibus proposal to take corrective measures on all relevant existing EU regulation**" not aligned with the Industrial Deal.
 - Including a strong public funding Chapter with a **Clean Tech Deployment Fund**.
 - Developing a new spirit of law making, preventing overreporting, staying tuned with industry reality, and systematically applying a **Competitiveness Check and European Innovation Stress Test** against with each new legislation and policy initiative should be evaluated.
 - **Boosting demand for net zero, low carbon and circular products.**
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