

Mrs Ursula von der Leyen
President, European Commission
Berlaymont, 200 Rue De La Loi

Mr Charles Michel
President, European Council
Justus Lipsius, 175 Rue De La Loi

JOINT INDUSTRY LETTER

Brussels, 29 September 2022

DE-INDUSTRIALISATION OF EUROPE OR REVIVAL WITH UNIQUE CREATIVE SUPPORTS

Honorable Presidents,

European energy intensive industries are profoundly challenged by Europe's astronomical high energy and gas prices this summer. These bear no comparison or relation to energy costs in all our international partners' and competitors' local economies. Europe's manufacturing base's very existence is ever increasingly at stake.

We are, in fact, in danger of entering Europe's age of de-industrialisation.

The current manufacturing crisis and closures in Europe are quickly resulting in another crisis: the surge of lower cost imports into Europe capturing market share and prolonging temporary closures.

This crisis calls for unique and creative support measures. We cannot rely only on traditional state aids and or trade defence instruments. Both take too long to truly impact. Nor are they likely to address this emergency or the urgency to find solutions.

Thus, we call for new creative crisis instruments and actions rapidly deployed restoring our competitiveness. This should involve offensive and defensive type actions. Such actions must address the levels of market access, supported by statistical surveillance capabilities on imports to acutely monitor movements and conditions in our sectoral markets.

While industry appreciates the EU and Commission have moved with unprecedented speed on many dimensions of this 'war situation', our alert message herein is that the economic situation of Europe can get worse before it gets better.

We are very ready to engage with you at EU and Member State level in finding solutions - short and medium term. It is imperative that we work swiftly together to act upon solutions and thereby revival.

Sincerely yours,

Ingrid Jörg

President

European Aluminium

Alain Delcourt

President

Cerame-Unie

Andreas Steinbuechler

President

Fertilizers Europe

Geert Van Poelvoorde

President

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