

European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
1049 Brussels

Dear President of the European Commission,
Dear Ms. von der Leyen,

In 2021, the world has faced the challenge of an ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and in parallel, the increasingly visible, and even devastating consequences of global warming. The implications for Europe are clear: Within the next years, an enormous effort by society, politics and industry will be needed to overcome short term economic effects from the pandemic as well as to reach the long term goal of becoming the first climate neutral continent by 2050.

Undoubtedly, now is the time for action and cooperation. That is why we founded the **CEO Alliance for Europe's Recovery, Reform, and Resilience**, uniting 14 leading European companies representing main industry sectors, with ~1.6 million employees and ~EUR 560 billion annual revenue. In 2021, the CEO Alliance for Europe was further joined by Ericsson, H2 Green Steel, Skanska and UniCredit – a notable strengthening of the CEO Alliance. As an “Action Tank” – the first of its kind – we use our broad platform to realize the groundwork needed for green ecosystems to grow all over Europe. We consider the challenges ahead as opportunities for our future. We see ourselves as advocates for a transformation towards a more prosperous, digitalized, sustainable, decarbonized and resilient Europe. Our joint projects focus on the future competitiveness of green technologies.

Just recently, two of our Alliance members announced a role model project for the EU Green Deal: The Swedish H2GreenSteel and the Spanish Iberdrola are planning to build a renewable hydrogen plant on the Iberian Peninsula together, enabling the **production of green steel at scale**. The planned facility's 1 gigawatt (GW) of electrolysis capacity would far outstrip the roughly 0.3 GW currently in operation globally. With that, and total investments in the range of EUR 2.3 bn, it will be a visible contribution to the EU's target of 40 GW electrolyzer capacity by 2030.

Not less important and equally contributing to the EU Green Deal will be the decarbonization of heavy duty transport through electrification. This year's Joint Venture announcement by Scania, through its owner Traton, Daimler and Volvo with a commitment of 500 million Euros will support the rapid build-up of **cross-EU charging infrastructure for heavy duty trucks** across Europe. This and other projects show, that with joint forces, an accelerated transformation is possible. For E.ON's green hydrogen “H2. Ruhr” project, the cooperation with CEO Alliance members across borders and across sectors (ABB, Enel, Iberdrola and SAP) will play a key role in the implementation, e.g. for renewable power to produce green hydrogen and green ammonia, and to build relevant European-wide value chains (hydrogen valleys, transport power grids, shipping of ammonia, and more).

Beyond major CEO Alliance initiatives, the members pursue additional bilateral partnerships on renewable power, electrification and digitalization.

As we are jointly investing in pan-European and cross-sectoral projects, we are also **offering collaborative exchange to policy leaders** along the way. Whilst our joint projects focus on the future competitiveness of green technologies, our **policy recommendations** aim at supporting a progressive regulatory approach, e.g. the evolution of the EU ETS or the EU's Renovation Wave.

It is the interplay of both, private sector investment and progressive regulatory frameworks that will accelerate this transformation, starting with a fast implementation of the EU Commission's FitFor55 package as it stands today. Looking forward to the coming years 2022 and 2023 we are convinced, the trio presidency (France, Czech Republic and Sweden) is predestined to emphasize collaboration and unite EU member states behind the EU Green Deal. With industries' and political commitment, with purposeful regulatory frameworks at European and national level and with substantial private investment, we can jointly bring the EU Green Deal from a vision into reality.

That is why we would like to continue the dialogue with you also in 2022 to support the journey of Europe towards a more prosperous, digitalized, sustainable, decarbonized and resilient future.

On behalf of the CEO Alliance



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