EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Brussels, 28.8.2020 C(2020) 5971 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senat for its Opinion on the Communication on 'A New Industrial Strategy for Europe' {COM(2020) 102 final}.

It welcomes the Senat's support to the main priorities of the new industrial strategy, which aims to help Europe's industry lead the twin transitions towards climate neutrality and digital leadership, while driving Europe's competitiveness and its strategic autonomy at a time of moving geopolitical plates and increasing global competition.

The objectives of the strategy remain valid in the COVID-19 context and guide the European Recovery Plan {COM(2020) 456 final} presented in May.

Thanks to Europe's social market economy, economic growth goes hand-in-hand with improved social and living standards and good working conditions. The European Pillar of Social Rights will continue to be our compass and ensure the twin transitions are socially fair.

The Commission agrees with the Senat on the close relation between the industrial strategy and lifelong learning. As the twin transitions gather speed, millions of Europeans will have to upskill or reskill and new jobs will be created. Therefore, as announced in the New Industrial Strategy, the Commission has presented a new European Skills Agenda {COM(2020) 274 final} on 1 July.

Place-based innovation and experimentation shall be encouraged. This will allow regions and cities to develop and test new solutions with SMEs and consumers, drawing on their local characteristics, strengths and specialisms.

The Commission will take the position of the Senat into account for the development of measures to implement the New Industrial Strategy for Europe. It looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Dubravka ŠUICA Member of the Commission