

Europe’s Manufacturing Innovation Community Calls for Strong “Made in Europe” Initiative to Drive Innovation, Sovereignty, and Sustainability

Brussels, 15 April 2026, Europe’s advanced manufacturing community has presented a new strategic vision signed by **more than 80** organisations calling for stronger investment in manufacturing innovation under the next EU research and innovation cycle (2028–2034).

Manufacturing is a cornerstone of Europe’s economy, employing around **30 million people**, generating **over €2 trillion in value added**, and accounting for **around 80% of EU exports**. The sector also drives roughly **60% of private-sector R&D in Europe**, making it central to Europe’s industrial competitiveness.

To address rising global competition and geopolitical uncertainty, the vision calls for a reinforced **“Made in Europe” initiative**, supported by **Framework Programme 10 (FP10)** and the **European Competitiveness Fund**, to accelerate industrial innovation and strengthen Europe’s technological leadership.

The strategy highlights **five key research and innovation priorities for 2028–2034**:

- Innovation and industrial scaling
- Strategic autonomy and resilience
- Circular and climate-neutral production
- Digitalisation, automation and industrial AI
- Workforce skills and human-centric transformation

“Europe must transform its research excellence into globally competitive manufacturing,” said *Zeljko Pazin*, Executive Director of the European Factories of the Future Research Association (EFFRA). “A strong ‘Made in Europe’ initiative can reinforce Europe’s industrial leadership while supporting sustainable growth and high-quality jobs.”

The manufacturing community stands ready to work with policymakers to ensure that Europe’s next research and innovation programmes deliver tangible industrial impact.

About EFFRA

The European Factories of the Future Research Association (EFFRA) represents the private side of the **Made in Europe** partnership and brings together industry, research organisations, universities, and SMEs working to advance next-generation manufacturing technologies in Europe.