

EU Industrial Strategy 2020: EuropaBio welcomes increased focus on competitiveness and resilience, driven by innovation and advanced technologies

EuropaBio response to the Communication on EU Industrial Strategy 2020

PRESS RELEASE

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Yesterday's Communication on the updated 2020 Industrial Strategy is a positive development for companies working in the biotechnology sector.

Global challenges like COVID-19 and climate change require a range of solutions, including those coming from innovative biotechnology. Life sciences and biotechnology will play a transformative role in securing the EU's competitive edge in health and sustainability.

“In the 14 months since the initial launch, the Industrial Strategy 2020 has been tested by COVID-19 for its ambition and robustness in building the Europe needed for our common future. EuropaBio is pleased to see a clear focus on priorities for European competences, competitiveness and leadership.”- says Dr Claire Skentelbery, Director General of EuropaBio.

EuropaBio supports the development of key performance indicators which should allow the Commission to measure industrial ecosystems' performance in terms of single market integration, productivity growth, international competitiveness, public and private investment, and R&D investment.

SMEs are the innovation engine needed to deliver novel technologies the future. EuropaBio, representing more than 2500 SMEs, knows the regulatory burdens that impact their development and prevent them from effective scaling up and market



access. The increased attention from the Commission, with proposed actions to support of SMEs is a strong step in the right direction.

“Europe should seize the opportunity to invest in innovative manufacturing to achieve the desired goals of a healthier society, robust medicines supply chain, sustainable industrial production and a globally competitive position.

This helps European healthcare and industrial biotech applications to deliver their full potential, within robust and agile IP, digital and regulatory frameworks.” - says Dr Claire Skentelbery, Director General of EuropaBio

EuropaBio supports the Commission in working towards diversifying supply chains and pursuing international partnerships to increase crisis preparedness.

EuropaBio also welcomes the Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEIs) initiative in areas where the market alone cannot deliver breakthrough innovation, with possible support from the EU budget.

The updated Industrial Strategy could contribute to a more competitive EU biotechnology sector and enhance Europe’s open strategic autonomy.

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About EuropaBio

EuropaBio, the European Association for Bioindustries, promotes an innovative and dynamic European biotechnology industry. EuropaBio and its members are committed to the socially responsible use of biotechnology to improve quality of life, to prevent, diagnose, treat and cure diseases, to improve the quality and quantity of food and feedstuffs and to move towards a biobased and zero-waste economy. EuropaBio represents corporate and associate members across sectors, plus national and regional biotechnology associations which, in turn, represent over 2500 biotech SMEs. Read more about our work at www.europabio.org.

