Dear Commissioner Valean

Recent disasters caused by extreme weather events across the world – flooding, heat waves and wild fires – and the report of the IPCC are an unmistakable call for action: Humanity needs to accelerate the fight against the climate crisis. With regard to the upcoming COP 26 in Glasgow, we – The CEO Alliance for Europe’s Recovery, Reform, and Resilience (R3) - would like to emphasize our conviction on a joint need for action of leaders in politics and business. The CEO Alliance is a group of leading European companies representing different industries. We and our 1.6 million employees all stand ready to strongly support the European Union’s way forward to reach the Paris Climate Goals.

For that, we would like to invite you as high level representatives of the European citizens to a collaborative, open discussion on

- Contributions of the industry to the transformation of Europe towards climate neutrality, in particular pan-European cross-sector projects
- Approaches to accelerate the transformation, in particular how to translate targets into implementation
- Potential messages towards citizens, political decision makers and industry prior to the COP 26, to emphasize the sense of urgency and for a positive, compelling narrative for Europe

We would like to build on our discussions with Vice President Frans Timmermans on Oct 01, 2020 and on March 18, 2021. We stand committed to provide valuable, actionable input to the EU institutions and Member States to achieve our joint goals in the transition of energy, transport and industrial sectors.

We are looking forward to continue our dialogue.

Best regards,

in the name of members of the CEO Alliance for Europe’s Recovery, Reform and Resilience

CEO Alliance for Europe: our offering to collaborate for a more resilient, prosperous and sustainable Europe – with strong messages for the COP26

Who we are – a cross-industry Action Tank of like-minded companies

The CEO Alliance for Europe’s Recovery, Reform, and Resilience (R3) is a group of leading European companies representing different industries. We and our 1.6 million employees all stand ready to strongly support the European Union’s Recovery Plan “Next Generation EU” (NGEU) to kick-start the economies in short-term, but also prepare for the longer-term transformation to build a more resilient, digitalized, prosperous and sustainable Europe for future generations. In particular, we share the EU’s goal of climate neutrality by 2050. We are convinced that the ambitious climate targets of the EU Green Deal (EUGD) and in particular, GHG emission reductions of at least minus 55% by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels) are achievable – if the emission reduction measures are implemented across all sectors and in cross-sectoral collaboration.
The CEO Alliance is truly an “Action Tank”: The CEO Alliance members have already pledged to invest more than EUR 100 billion over the next ten years in their respective decarbonization roadmaps to help reach these targets. Every member has defined its own strategy to address decarbonization. In order to reach the respective CO₂ targets across entire value chains, each member depends on other companies and industry sectors. Consequently, we as Alliance are first movers for pan-European Joint Projects with strong emphasis on cross-sector collaboration and ecosystems. In the last months, we have won European leaders in the areas of digital/ connectivity and in low carbon steel – today, CEO Alliance represents 12 companies: ABB, AkzoNobel, E.ON, Enel, Ericsson, H₂ Green Steel, Iberdrola, Philips, SAP, Scania, Schneider Electric and Volkswagen.