

Ms Margrethe Vestager Executive Vice President European Commission Rue de la Loi 200 B-1049 Brussels

European Round Table for Industry

16 September 2020

Request for a meeting

Dear Executive Vice President,

I am pleased to write to you in my new capacity as Chair of the Committee on Competition Policy of the European Round Table for Industry (ERT).

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, the focus of political and business leaders has arguably been on devising ways to adapt to the crisis and developing solutions for the economic recovery.

I commend the reaction of the European Commission, including the services of DG COMP, for the swift response and guidance. As you may have seen, ERT has published a <u>statement</u> on 10 June fully backing the Commission's MFF proposal as well as the Next Generation EU package, and we have been advocating in the capitals for these.

One year after ERT's previous meeting with you on 30 September as well as the launch of our publication "Competing at Scale" in October 2019, I look forward to continuing the dialogue with you on a number of policy initiatives that will be crucial to achieving the European economic recovery. The twin transition can only succeed with a strong and competitive EU industry at its core.

You have embarked on an impressive review of competition policies. Our Competition Policy Working Group experts have intensified the ongoing – and in our view very constructive – dialogue with your services through regular Workshops, on horizontal cooperation (29 April), the New Competition Tool (1 July) as well as foreign subsidies and market definitions (4 September).

The Competition Policy Working Group experts have consequently also submitted responses to the ongoing consultations.

I would very much appreciate the opportunity to take stock with you and discuss the opportunities of the current review. Would you have time for a (virtual) meeting in October or early November?

Thanking you in advance for your time and interest, we look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Chair of the ERT Committee on Competition Policy

Chairman of AkzoNobel and of Unilever

Adera

Cc: Ms Kim Jørgensen, Ms Linsey McCallum, Mr Olivier Guersent

