

TO: Mr Wopke Hoekstra
Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and
Clean Growth,
European Commission

Wednesday, 18 December 2024

Dear Commissioner Hoekstra,

The European steel industry is in an unprecedented crisis, with thousands of job cuts being recently announced, and billions of euros in decarbonisation plans currently being halted. On behalf of the European Steel Association (EUROFER), we want to request a **meeting with you and the [REDACTED] of European steel companies** at the beginning of next year, possibly still in January, to discuss urgent solutions aimed at keeping our sector competitive and bringing forward the necessary investments in decarbonisation.

The EU steel sector is suffering from the **ongoing energy and raw material crises**, while the EU market is once again being flooded by cheap foreign steel. It is estimated that **around 100 million tonnes of Chinese steel** are flooding major markets at dumping prices, with **global steel excess capacity reaching a record-high 560 million tonnes**. In addition, **high energy prices are further eroding our competitiveness and prove an unsurmountable barrier to investments in new low carbon production processes that rely on electricity and hydrogen**. This situation is proving catastrophic for the EU steel sector and its workers.

The meeting would provide us with the possibility to present our key proposals and exchange on:

- Carbon Border Adjustment and necessary adjustment to ensure its effectiveness and guarantee a reliable regulatory framework for green investment
- Measures to bring down energy prices and ensure industry can benefit from the increasing share of renewable energy
- Trade policy and measures necessary to avoid a collapse of the sector

We have recently addressed a letter to President von der Leyen and Executive Vice-President Séjourné, calling for a high-level **“European Steel Summit”** to be organised by the European Commission at the beginning of next year. The Summit would be instrumental in preparing the announced “Steel and Metals Action Plan”, as well as other initiatives aiming to lower energy prices, secure the effectiveness of CBAM, access to raw materials, and to boost investments. We express our hope that this proposal will be also supported by you in the college. For your information, we attach the social partners’ [“Steel Action Plan”](#), recently agreed by IndustriAll Europe and EUROFER.

We thank you for considering our meeting request and we look forward to your positive response.

Yours sincerely,



The European Steel Association (EUROFER)