Spanish companies support a green and competitive European economy
The European Green Deal was approved in 2020 as a growth strategy with broad social and political consensus, aiming to leverage the economic, industrial, and employment opportunities derived from a green and digital transition, without leaving anyone behind.

Recently, there have been proposals aimed at slowing down sustainability policies in the European Union, based on a perception that associates them with high costs or limitations to economic growth.

Today, we can confirm that, thanks to digitalization and the technological revolution in clean energies—renewables, batteries, heat pumps—the decarbonization of the energy base of a large part of the economy is already competitive, and in hard-to-abate sectors, investment in innovation is leading to the development of very promising technologies.

This process also provides greater energy independence for Europe and more and better jobs. The International Energy Agency estimates that two green jobs are created for every job lost in the fossil economy—in Spain, the favourable balance would be greater as we are a country that imports almost all of its hydrocarbons—and that one-third of European GDP growth in the last two years has been due to clean energy.

The transition to a green economy is an unstoppable trend worldwide, which can be accelerated or slowed down, but cannot be reversed. In China, more renewables are being installed and more electric vehicles are being sold than in the rest of the world combined; in response, the United States has launched the IRA, the largest economic stimulus package in its history aimed at the clean industry, and the same is being done by the United Kingdom, Japan, South Korea, and India, among other countries. In the EU, the Net-Zero Industry Act has just been approved, whose implementation should represent a huge opportunity for Europe and, above all, for Spain.

This new economy will lead to a true technological and industrial revolution, as it will require new clean technologies and innovative processes, and the first to lead and gain competitiveness will clearly have global industrial leadership (“the first mover advantage”) that lays the foundations for a more prosperous society.
In this context, the Spanish companies grouped in the **Spanish Green Growth Group** understand that it is time to **reaffirm the commitment to a green and competitive economy in Europe**. To this end, we call for:

1. **A decisive commitment to the European Single Market.** We believe that the only way to compete globally and successfully address the planned challenges (competitiveness, supply security, sustainability...) is to have a large European market that allows scaling solutions and forging robust competitive advantages.

2. **Strengthening European leadership in the green economy.** Not only for environmental awareness but for a clear strategic interest in assuming industrial leadership in all global cutting-edge technologies, which will directly benefit citizens with lower and secure prices, and more and better jobs. All of this will contribute to a more just society that leaves no one behind.

3. **A policy framework that fosters a conducive environment for present and planned investments,** providing certainty to economic agents, with appropriate incentive schemes and streamlining administrative and regulatory processes.

4. **Financial and economic instruments** that allow **SMEs** to also take advantage of all the opportunities associated with this transition.

We need a **STRONGER, GREENER, and MORE COMPETITIVE EUROPE**.