

SolarPower Europe

An Industrial Competitiveness
Strategy for the Solar Value Chain in
Europe



A European Solar Industrial Strategy

Context

- Production jobs are a political premium in Europe, especially those in the sectors with bright futures like solar
- Nevertheless no overarching industrial strategy exists for the development and growth of sectors like solar in Europe
- National support strategies are subject to approval from Brussels and the only major investment funding comes from the European level
- The state of play is critical with regular insolvencies of European manufacturers
- The European Commission wants an Industrial Forum to be set up to deliver an industrial development strategy for solar, and other associated technologies, and it will partner with SolarPower Europe on this
- **There is political appetite for an industrial strategy at the European level**

Current state of play for the creation of the Forum and Strategy

Following approval of SolarPower Europe's industrial policy position we have intensified engagement on the issue. Meetings have been held with:

- Vice-President Sefcovic, for the Energy Union, European Commission
- Hans van Steen, Advisor to the Director for RES DG ENER
- Paula Abreu Marques, Head of Unit, RES DG ENER
- Ambassador Roesgen, German Permanent Representation to the EU
- Alexis Dutertre, Deputy Ambassador, French Permanent Representation to the EU

The meetings have been positive, it is confirmed that the initiative should launch in 2017 around mid-November

DG ENER are currently working on a concept note and we are working closely with them on what the Forum and process should look like

What should the industrial strategy achieve?

The SolarPower Europe concept paper has the following objective: the EU taking the global leadership on the existing and next generation of solar technologies, manufacturing and services.

We have identified potential ways to achieve this, including:

1. The European solar industry should support 300,000 direct and indirect jobs by 2030, from around 120,000 today
2. R&D&I is adequately supported over the coming decade, across the value chain, especially in segments where Europe is currently a front-runner
3. European-based technology and service providers are present in all major emerging markets and support a substantial share of the European market
4. Ensure that at least 70% of the overall solar value chain remains in Europe

But this is still up for discussion and you can determine what the deliverables should be

What can SolarPower Europe do?

Industrial Strategy Task Force

7 subgroups covering key elements of the value chain

Key objectives:

- Exploring opportunities for new financing schemes and/or access to existing ones
- Exploring opportunities for state aid and local tax exemptions
- Improving access to third country markets
- Dedicated trade missions



Next Steps

SolarPower Europe will work with the Commission to establish the first meeting of the industrial Forum in November

This will be high level and will agree specific directions for the work of the taskforce to develop the industrial strategy

In 2018 the taskforce will work with the Commission to deliver the strategy and the objectives agreed in November 2017

This is your chance to influence the way Europe deals with solar industrial growth