Dear President von der Leyen,
Dear Commissioner Séjourné,
Dear Commissioner Hoekstra,
Dear Commissioner Šefčovič,

As Members of the European Parliament, we wish to express our deep concern regarding the current trajectory of the Industrial Accelerator Act. In its present form, the proposal would establish lead markets for low-carbon steel without any obligation for European content. We believe this approach risks contradicting the fundamental rationale of the Clean Industrial Deal, which aims to align ambitious climate objectives with a resilient and competitive European industrial base.

For lead markets to be effective, they must offer strong and reliable incentives for companies to invest in low-carbon steel production within the European Union. Without European content requirements, there is a real risk that European public funds will subsidise imports from third countries, while domestic producers remain uncertain about investing in large-scale decarbonisation projects within Europe.

Meanwhile, global competitors are rapidly scaling up their low-carbon steel production, with a clear focus on the European market. Trade defence instruments and the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism alone are insufficient to ensure that the green steel consumed in Europe is produced in Europe. If lead markets are not linked to domestic production, they may end up accelerating decarbonisation elsewhere while further weakening Europe's industrial base.

You have consistently emphasised that Europe's industrial future must be built on a strong "Made in the EU" principle. The steel sector, more than most, exemplifies this vision, as it underpins Europe's infrastructure, the energy transition, defence capabilities, and key manufacturing value chains.

In light of these considerations, we strongly believe that the current proposal should be revised. The Industrial Accelerator Act must include European content requirements for low-carbon steel to ensure that lead markets genuinely stimulate investment, production, and high-quality industrial employment within the Union.

At a moment when Europe faces significant economic pressures and industrial jobs are being lost across the Union, it would be extremely difficult to explain to workers and citizens why European public funds are supporting steel production outside the EU. Such an outcome would further undermine trust in Europe's industrial strategy and in the European project as a whole.

For these reasons, we urge the Commission to reconsider its approach as a matter of urgency and to act without delay.

Yours sincerely,