

## **European industrial energy consumers call for a dialogue and pragmatic actions on energy security and affordability**

*Brussels, xx March 2022 – The geopolitical events at the borders of Europe are of high concerns to all of us seeking peace, security, and prosperity in Europe. We strongly condemn the invasion of Ukraine by Russia that is currently underway. This is a clear violation of international rules, and it poses a real threat to peace and security in Europe and beyond.*

*These geopolitical events are also generating unprecedented challenges for Europe's industry. Concerns over the security, affordability and sustainability of energy sourcing have never been as acute as today. The events have further precipitated Europe in a profound energy crisis that compromises the future of Europe's industrial base and the independence of its economy.*

*For months, the European industry has been suffering from persistently and exceedingly high energy prices in Europe. Hopes of a reflux in energy price have vanished with recent events, thus endangering the viability of many industrial operations. Risks of natural gas shortages generate extra threats for Europe's continuous process industries. Industrial hazards and serious damages to industrial assets can result from low energy supply in some industries.*

*In this highly complex geopolitical context, European industrial energy consumers appreciate that the European Commission is paying particular attention to energy security and affordability issues. Today's communication from the European Commission is welcome in this regard. Urgent actions are needed in the short term alleviating the burden on industries in order to face a crisis whose evolutions and impacts are unpredictable.*

*The European industrial energy consumers stand ready to work with EU decision-makers to design together the adjustments to the EU energy and climate policy that are needed in the face of this new situation. In these uncertain times, we need to avoid additional shocks and provide predictability to European industry.*

*Let's work pragmatically together to shield European industry and make sure we can deliver on the EU's long-term sustainability and climate-neutrality objectives.*