



'Targeted support' for the glass industry announced by European Commission President Von der Leyen must materialize rapidly

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Amid the energy crisis in Europe, **Glass Alliance Europe welcomes the recognition by European Commission President Von der Leyen that *'targeted support is needed (...) like the glass makers across Europe'*** as part of her State of the European Union speech delivered this morning.

'It is encouraging for all actors in the glass sector to hear that, at the highest political level, there is a recognition that the glass industry needs to access energy in a continuous manner and at affordable costs.' declares Bertrand Cazes, Secretary General of Glass Alliance Europe.

The present energy crisis dangerously weakens Europe's glass industry with suspension of activities announced by some companies. It needs to remain viable to continue producing in Europe all glass products essential in many critical value chains such as the food, beverage, building and infrastructures, transport, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy sectors.

Beneath this recognition, Glass Alliance Europe recalls that energy costs represent a substantial share of glass production costs, yet the glass industry is so far entitled to no EU dedicated support scheme. The announced 'targeted support' should therefore be put in place rapidly and be designed to respond to the needs of the glass industry.

1°) Urgent and decisive actions to curb the price of natural gas are needed to provide relief to the glass industry, which is dependent on natural gas for heating its furnaces. *'Without mechanisms that drastically slash the price of gas, terribly harsh months ahead are to be feared in the glass sector.'* adds Bertrand Cazes.

2°) Glass Alliance Europe also calls on the European Commission to revise two state aid guidelines regimes, which it could do almost immediately:

- The guidelines on 'indirect costs under the EU ETS', to make sure that all glass sectors become eligible for indirect costs compensation for their soaring electricity costs.
- The guidelines on the 'temporary crisis framework', to extend their validity, increase the financial cap, and to relax qualification criteria, which dangerously delay the granting of support to industry.

Glass Alliance Europe remains available to support the European Commission in the design of effective targeted measures.



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About Glass Alliance Europe

Glass Alliance Europe is the European Alliance of Glass Industries. It is composed of 19 national glass associations and of the main sectors of the glass industries: container glass, flat glass, special glass, domestic glass and continuous filament glass fibres. Over Europe, glass-makers employ around 200,000 people.

Glass industries invest in research, develop and manufacture glass products fit for a sustainable, resource-efficient and low-carbon society such as energy-efficient windows, fully recyclable bottles and jars, weight-lightening continuous glass fibres, glass for photovoltaic modules, etc. Glass industries continuously invest in upgrading manufacturing installations to minimize the carbon content of products and increase their recycling.