

Antwerp Declaration Community Urges EU Leaders to Deliver Emergency Measures as Europe's Competitiveness Crisis Deepens



Antwerp, 11 February 2026 — Ahead of the European Council meeting in Alden Biesen, the Antwerp Declaration Community - representing more than 1,300 companies, associations and trade unions across Europe - called on EU Heads of State and Government to take urgent and bold action to restore Europe's industrial competitiveness, safeguard high-quality jobs for European workers, and turn the Clean Industrial Deal into outcomes felt on factory floors in 2026.

The call was made at the European Industry Summit, which brought together over 500 business leaders, 30 factory workers, and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, under the auspices of Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, French President Macron, Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof, Austrian Chancellor Christian Stocker Senior, and EU leaders including Executive Vice Presidents Teresa Ribera and Stéphane Séjourné, Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra, also joined, underscoring the political urgency of Europe's industrial crisis.

The Community calls on EU leaders to ensure that the Alden Biesen meeting becomes the moment when Europe commits to bold, coordinated measures that restore industrial competitiveness, and secure high-quality jobs for future generations with visible results in 2026.

Glass Alliance Europe took part in the discussions, represented by Michel Giannuzzi - President of FEVE – the European Container Glass Federation, alongside Carlo Pirrone, FEVE and Glass Alliance Europe Secretary-General, to exchange views on industrial policy, competitiveness and the future of European manufacturing, and to underline the need for clarity, resolve and a strong sense of purpose at EU level.

Antwerp Call to Action [The Antwerp Declaration - The Antwerp call to Alden Biesen](#)
FEVE Press Release <https://feve.org/glass-news/>

