

CONSTRUCTION

2050 Alliance

Position Paper on “Made in EU”

As a sector that is by nature predominantly local and that builds Europe largely with European companies, the Construction 2050 Alliance welcomes the initiative of European Commission Executive Vice-President Stéphane Séjourné on European Preference and the objective to foster “Made in EU” within the forthcoming Industrial Accelerator Act.

To make this ambition effective, however, it is essential that the full breadth of value chains and downstream sectors is taken into account, including existing and future situations of economic dependency.

Active engagement from EU Member States is indispensable to set the right conditions for the construction industry to become the backbone of an industrial renaissance in Europe.

What we are calling for:

1. “Made in EU” starts with minerals
2. Supply chains must be strengthened
3. Europe needs simplification that enables business

In a global context in which Europe must reinforce its economic strength, ensure resilient infrastructure and reduce dependencies on third countries, the European construction industry can play a decisive role. Creating additional demand for products and services “Made in EU” must start with strengthening Europe’s raw materials security. This requires scaling up domestic extraction, sustainable processing and recycling capacities for all raw materials, combined with diversified and balanced global partnerships, as highlighted in the [Antwerp Declaration](#).

While the Critical Raw Materials Act represents an important first step, it addresses only a limited share of Europe’s raw materials needs. Additional measures are urgently required to ensure that construction raw materials are given appropriate priority, notably through improved land-use planning and significantly streamlined permitting procedures for new sites and the extension of

existing ones. The increased attention to the availability of construction raw materials is a positive development. However, the potential of secondary raw materials alone will not be sufficient to offset the growing pressure resulting from volatile raw material supplies, as already identified in the European Strategy for Housing Construction. In this regard, determined and coordinated action is required from EU Member States to ensure Europe's stable supply with raw materials over the long term, as well as unlock the potential for housing construction.

A credible "Made in the EU" approach must also go hand in hand with strengthening value chains and downstream sectors, particularly where current or future economic dependencies exist. In this respect, the EU and its Member States should actively promote demand for products made in Europe, notably through public procurement policies and increased transparency on the origin of products.

At the same time, the regulatory burden on EU businesses continues to weigh heavily on competitiveness and investment. Together with high energy costs, excessive and complex regulation remains one of the main obstacles to long-term investment in Europe. According to the Draghi Report, the annual investment shortfall required to close gaps in innovation, infrastructure, the twin transition and economic resilience amounts to €750–800 billion. Reducing regulatory burden and administrative complexity therefore requires urgent action, especially at a time when Europe's economic strength is increasingly inseparable from its security.

About the Construction 2050 Alliance

The Construction 2050 Alliance is a partnership established in 2020 made of more than 50 European organizations representing the actors of the built environment working together to advance the needs and priorities of the wider construction and built-environment sector at the European level.

The Construction 2050 Alliance has been established to coordinate common political messages of the construction value chain and raise the political importance of the sector at the European level.