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Accelerating Wind Energy Growth in Europe: A Call for Robust Industrial Policy

Abstract

Today wind energy plays a crucial role in meeting Europe's electricity demand, currently providing 17% of the total with the EU wanting this to be 43% by 2030. As European wind farms predominantly rely on European-made turbines, preserving existing manufacturing capacity while accommodating increased installation rates is imperative in order to ensure energy security for all Europeans.

Europe needs a robust industrial policy to meet these goals. Particularly at a time when we see increased competition from the US through the Inflation Reduction Act and from China's 'Made in China' industrial roadmap. The Net Zero Industry Act, which is the EU's attempt at creating an industry policy, does not go far enough. While innovation remains crucial, the focus should shift towards enhancing wind energy volumes through streamlined public funding initiatives. By emphasising the scaling up of wind energy projects, we can maximise the sector's potential and drive substantial contributions to Europe's clean energy goals.

Through coordinated efforts, policymakers and industry stakeholders can create a conducive environment to increase wind energy manufacturing capacity, accelerate deployment and successfully fulfil Europe's targets for a sustainable future.