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**NOTE**

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From: Commission  
To: Council

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Subject: Strategic value chains: Report of the Strategic Forum on Important Projects  
of Common European Interest  
*Information from the Commission*

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Delegations will find attached a Commission note on Strategic value chains with a view to the meeting of the Competitiveness Council on 28 November 2019.

**Strategic value chains:****Report of the Strategic Forum on Important Projects of Common European Interest***Information from the Commission*

The Competitiveness Council stressed, in its conclusions on an "EU industrial policy strategy: A vision for 2030"<sup>1</sup> in May 2019, the importance of strong European industrial value chains in a global context for improving industrial competitiveness and strategic autonomy. It also underlined the importance of Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEIs) as a relevant tool for supporting strategic value chains at EU level.

The Strategic Forum on Important Projects of Common European Interest is a high-level expert group set up by the European Commission in March 2018 and announced in the renewed EU industrial policy strategy a year earlier. Their work builds on successful examples of two existing initiatives on strategic value chains, where cross-border cooperation in Europe is already ongoing<sup>2</sup>.

The Strategic Forum, which consists of 45 members representing Member States, industry and the research community, analysed several European industrial value chains, and selected six strategic value chains with a common vision for joint actions and investments between EU, Member States and industry. The identified areas have been prioritised based on their potential impact on Europe's industrial competitiveness, climate ambitions, strategic autonomy and security as well as the willingness of Member States and industry to develop joint coordinated actions in each area.

The six identified key strategic value chains are: connected, clean and autonomous vehicles, smart health, low-CO2 emission industry, hydrogen technologies and systems, Industrial Internet of Things, cybersecurity.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/39507/st09706-en19.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> These include the European Batteries Alliance and an IPCEI in microelectronics, an €8 billion investment project enabled by public support from 4 Member States.

The Strategic Forum's report was published<sup>3</sup> on 5 November 2019. It identifies enabling actions for the six selected strategic value chains, which range from joint investments, consolidation of Single Market through regulations and standards to development of new skills. It also calls for a permanent agile governance process to identify emerging strategic value chains and to monitor and evaluate the progress of work on these value chains.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/37824>