



STATEMENT

ERT delegation meets Professor Mario Draghi to discuss measures to revive Europe's competitiveness

Milan, 10 January 2024: ERT welcomes that Professor Mario Draghi has been entrusted with the task¹ to draw up a plan to revitalise Europe's competitiveness. A delegation of European business leaders will meet him in Milan on Wednesday.

The Chairs and CEOs in ERT's Membership are significant employers leading European companies with operations worldwide. As innovators and investors in European regions, they have unique insights into the highly competitive global business environment at this time. A recent survey of ERT's Membership by The Conference Board² highlighted how heavily Europe's competitiveness is weighing on their confidence in the bloc.

As a cross-sectoral high-level forum, ERT's focus is on the long-term industrial outlook for Europe. Topics on the agenda of the private meeting include:

- **Pursuing turnaround in Europe's competitiveness:** As the digital and green transitions advance, ERT has highlighted its deep concerns in its recent vision paper³. ERT has called for a much more holistic approach to its competitiveness – by improving the coherence of the European regulatory environment, creating the right conditions for investment in the EU and deepening the Single Market.
- **Innovation:** Innovation is the driving force for future competitiveness and prosperity - and provides solutions for many global challenges society is facing. To remain competitive, Europe has to put the business case for innovation at the centre of policymaking. ERT's recommendations to improve Europe's innovation leadership are available [here](#).

The names of the CEOs & Chairs in the ERT delegation are listed on **the next page**.

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Note to Editors:

¹ As announced by European Commission President von der Leyen in her State of the European Union speech last September.

² To find out more about the results of The Conference Board's most recent (H2 2023) survey of the CEOs and Chairs in ERT, click [here](#).

³ To view ERT's vision paper *Securing Europe's place in a new world order*, click [here](#).

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About the European Round Table for Industry (ERT)

The European Round Table for Industry (ERT) is a forum that brings together around 60 Chief Executives and Chairs of leading multinational companies of European parentage, covering a wide range of industrial and technological sectors. ERT strives for a strong, open, and competitive Europe, with the EU and its Single Market as a driver for inclusive growth and sustainable prosperity. Companies of ERT Members have combined revenues exceeding €2 trillion, providing direct jobs to around 5 million people worldwide – of which half are in Europe – and sustaining millions of indirect jobs. They invest more than €60 billion annually in R&D, largely in Europe.

www.ert.eu

ERT delegation, Milan, 10 January 2024

Jean-François van Boxmeer	Chair, ERT Chairman, Vodafone Group
Dr Ilham Kadri	Chief Executive Officer, Syensqo
Dimitri Papalexopoulos	Chair, ERT Committee on Energy Transition & Climate Change Chair, TITAN Cement
Jim Hagemann Snabe	Chairman, Siemens
Jacob Wallenberg	Chair, ERT Committee on Trade & Market Access Chair, Investor AB

A full list of the membership of ERT is accessible [here](#).