

## Clean Industrial Deal: Europe must follow ambition with action to secure electric vehicle leadership

Brussels, 26 February 2025. E-Mobility Europe calls on the European Commission to follow-up today's Clean Industrial Deal with the concrete and paradigm-shifting actions that will be needed next for Europe to definitively establish itself as a global Electric Vehicle leader.

Chris Heron, E-Mobility Europe Secretary General, commented: *"Today's Clean Industrial Deal vision needs to really hit home, so we in Europe are not left by our rivals in the global race for electric vehicle industrial leadership. Europe's renewed competitiveness and simplification focus is welcome. Next it needs backing by tangible action to really secure our foothold in batteries, materials, and new technologies"*.

The Clean Industrial Deal is launched in a year where Europe's electric vehicle ambition is under pressure, with political calls to weaken key targets, supply chain investments at risk, and rising geopolitical turbulence. Meanwhile, China continues expanding its global electric vehicle lead after decades of substantial value chain investment - with 50% of its car sales now either electric or plug-in, and 90% of global battery production under its control.

Heron continued: *"Now is the time for Europe to commit fully to electric vehicles and their supply chain. Hundreds and thousands of potential new jobs are dependent on us getting this transition right. Our three key asks of Europe are to double-down on the 2035 pathway, profoundly reform clean tech finance, and future-proof the grid. Today's Deal is a welcome start, but all three areas will need firmer action ahead"*.

On the 2035 target for zero-emission car sales, the European Commission is currently considering "flexibilities" to 2025's CO2 limits. Pushing back this year's ambition would have a chilling effect on Europe's value chain investment goals, while handing a further lead to China and hindering Europe's energy security efforts.

On clean tech finance, Europe urgently needs to secure its local battery investments and their jobs after a difficult year of scale-up challenges. Today's Deal commits to make national state aid speedier and more focussed. But Europe is still missing a true alternative to the product-based financing of the US's Inflation Reduction Act, and its support for both capital and operating costs. Member States will need to step-up significantly in the next two years.

And on grids, Europe must be ready for the demands of its future electrified economy, including the influx of electric vehicles. The announced Grid Action Plan will need to urgently reduce connection times for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, at the same time as accelerating the overall investments needed.

Heron concluded: *"Europe will achieve long-term automotive industrial leadership only through staying firm in its electric vehicle commitment, while boldly tackling the real roadblocks ahead. E-Mobility Europe is ready to support that mission"*.

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**About E-Mobility Europe:**

E-Mobility Europe is the voice for Europe's collective electric vehicle ecosystem (formerly AVERE), with a membership including national EV associations, vehicle manufacturer, supply chain, fleet owners, and technology providers.

E-Mobility Europe advocates for Europe's successful transition to electric vehicles, in a way that benefits both the region's people and its industries.