

# Crisis in European steel

**We call for urgent action by policymakers to help our industry overcome the market distorting effects of steel deflected to the EU since the 2018 imposition of steel import tariffs by the US.**

## Open letter

FROM 45 CEOs  
OF THE EUROPEAN  
STEEL INDUSTRY  
TO EU HEADS OF STATE  
AND GOVERNMENT  
AND TO THE EU  
INSTITUTIONS

There has been a sudden and markedly negative shift in the European steel industry's prospects. The severe consequences are now plain to see. Announcements have been made of plant closures or big cuts in production across the EU. Thousands of jobs are immediately at risk.

This crisis is underpinned by long-term trends. Global overcapacity in steel and the use of the EU market as a dumping ground for the world's excess capacity are at the root of the problem.

There are immediate concerns. Imports have more than doubled since 2013, reaching nearly 30 million tonnes in the wake of the imposition of the US steel import tariffs in 2018. EU steel demand has increased only marginally since 2013 and is expected to drop in 2019.

EU economic performance is faltering. Prices for raw materials and energy are high and volatile. CO<sub>2</sub> emission costs have risen sharply: they are now five times higher than at the beginning of 2018 and borne by EU steel producers but not by steel imports into the EU.

Europe's steel industry is in crisis because of these external factors – and yet as a strategic sector it underpins the survival of entire European value chains.

**We call on the EU Member States, European Parliament, and European Commission to:**

- **Work to stop the imports that are distorting the EU market. Take immediate action by strengthening the EU's steel safeguard measures, with effect as of 1 July 2019**
- **Convene an emergency meeting with the European steel industry to discuss solutions to ensure the sector survives in the face of imbalanced external pressures.**



ON BEHALF  
OF THE EUROPEAN  
STEEL INDUSTRY

**Aditya Mittal**  
CEO, ArcelorMittal Europe

**Mario Caldonazzo**  
CEO, Arvedi  
Vice-President, Federacciai

**Claire de Langeron**  
Déléguée Générale, Alliance des Minerais  
Minéraux et Métaux - A3M

**Markus Menges**  
Managing Director,  
Badische Stahlwerke GmbH

**Francesc Rubiralta Rubió**  
Chairman and CEO, CELSA Group

**Roeland Baan**  
President and CEO, Outokumpu Oyj

**Lorenzo Riva**  
CEO, Riva-Stahl GmbH

**Heinz Jörg Fuhrmann**  
CEO, Salzgitter AG

**Martin Lindqvist**  
President and CEO, SSAB AB

**Hans Fischer**  
CEO, Tata Steel Europe

**Andreas J. Goss**  
CEO, thyssenKrupp Steel Europe AG

**Herbert Eibensteiner**  
Head of the Steel Division and Member  
of the Management Board voestalpine AG

**Bernardo Velazquez Herreros**  
CEO, Acerinox  
President, UNESID Spanish Steel Association

**Timoteo Di Maulo**  
CEO, Aperam France

**Evgeny Tankhilevich**  
CEO, ISD Dunafer Danube Ironworks

**Bo-Erik Pers**  
Managing Director, Jernkontoret –  
The Swedish Steel Producers' Association

**José Enrique Freire Arteta**  
President, MEGASA Group

**Robert Mőger**  
Director, MVAE – Association  
of the Hungarian Steel Industry

**Markus Ritter**  
CEO, Marienhütte Stahl –  
und Walzwerk GmbH

**Kimmo Järvinen**  
Managing Director, Metallinjalostajat –  
Association of the Finnish Steel  
and Metal Producers

**Ben De Vos**  
CEO, NLMK International BV

**Daniel Urban**  
Executive Director, Ocelářská unie –  
Czech Steel Union

**Rolf Wendler**  
Commercial Director,  
Stahlwerk Thüringen GmbH

**Tim Hartmann**  
CEO, Dillinger and Saarstahl

**Jan Czudek**  
CEO, Třinecké železářny, a.s.

**James E. Bruno**  
President, U.S. Steel Kosice

**Gareth Stace**  
Director, UK Steel

**Dmitrij Ščuka**  
CEO and Chairman of the Board,  
Vitkovice Steel, a.s.

**Jerzy Kozicz**  
President, CMC Poland

**Ivan Jurkošek**  
General Manager, Štore Steel

**Anatolii Fediaiev**  
President, ISD Huta Częstochowa Sp. z o.o.

**Branislav Klocok**  
Managing Director, OFZ, a.s., Slovakia

**Anton Petrov**  
Chairman, Bulgarian Association  
of the Metallurgical Industry

**Manfred Van Vlierberghe**  
Chairman, Belgian Steel Association

**Stefan Dzienniak**  
President of the Board,  
Polish Steel Association

**Nikolaos Mariou**  
CEO, Sidenor Group

**Vasilios Goumas**  
Managing Director, Hellenic Halyvourgia

**Constantinos Ioannou**  
Director, Halyvourgiki Inc.

**Nicolaos I. Georgakellos**  
President, Hellenic Steelmakers Union

**Ionel Bors**  
President, UniRomSider – Romanian Steel  
Producer's Union

**Filippo Gottardis**  
Director, Officine Tecnosider

**Jürgen Alex**  
CEO, Deutsche Edelstahlwerke

**Vladimir Sotak**  
Chairman of the Board & CEO,  
Zeleziarne Podbrezova, a.s.

**Hans Jürgen Kerkhoff**  
President, Wirtschaftsvereinigung Stahl

**Geert Van Poelvoorde**  
President, EUROFER