

## Event outline

Strengthening the EU's industrial resilience and sovereignty in strategic global supply chains is an agreed objective of the von der Leyen Commission. Tensions and challenges however remain on the tools and measures to achieve this.

This webinar, chaired on the Intergroup's behalf by MEP **Maria da Graça Carvalho** comes in the backdrop of the recent Competitiveness [Council Conclusions](#) on “a recovery advancing the transition towards a more dynamic, resilient and competitive European industry” adopted last 16 November 2020. The European Commission's Impact Assessment of its 2030 Targets Communication recognises the strong risks for those industrial sectors which are most exposed to international trade and competition in a scenario of fragmented global climate action.

The webinar will focus on the material dimension of the global energy transition and the challenges for the European Aluminium industry stemming from the EU 2030 Targets Plan Communication. Speakers include representatives from the World Bank, the European Commission and the European Parliament.

The outcome of the discussion will feed into the EU institution's ongoing work on the revised EU industrial Strategy and the upcoming “Fit for 55 Package”, both due during the first semester of 2021.

## Agenda and speakers' biographies

The event is moderated by **Frédéric Simon**, Editor, Energy & Environment, Euractiv

### 13:00: Welcome address

- **Maria da Graça Carvalho**, Co-Chair

### 13:05: Statement from MEPs

- **Simona Bonafé**, Co-Chair
- **Christophe Grudler**
- **Susana Solís Pérez**
- **Anna-Michelle Assimakopoulou**

### 13:20: Presentation of World Bank Report: *"The Mineral Intensity of the Clean Energy Transition"*

- **Daniele La Porta**, Senior Mining Specialist, World Bank Group

### 13:30: Aluminium: strategic value chain for the transition to a low carbon and circular economy

- **Emilio Braghi**, European Aluminium Chairman

### 13:40: Presentation of the priorities of the Portuguese Presidency in the field of EU Climate Policy and Industrial Competitiveness

- **Pedro LOURTIE**, Deputy Ambassador - Permanent Representative of Portugal to the European Union (Videomessage)

### 13:50: View from the Commissioner

- **Peter Handley**, Head of Unit - Energy Intensive Industries and Raw Materials, DG GROW, European Commission

### 14:00: Q&A with MEPs and audience

### 14:25: Wrap up and conclusions

- **Maria da Graça Carvalho**, Co-Chair

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## BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS AND PANELLISTS



**Frédéric Simon**, Editor, *Energy & Environment at Euractiv*

Frédéric Simon is editor at Euractiv, the leading online media specialised in EU affairs. Frédéric joined EURACTIV in 2003 as a reporter and has since covered every aspect of EU policy, ranging from telecoms to economic and financial affairs, agriculture, transport, energy and climate legislation. Frédéric joined the company's senior management in 2008 as managing editor, then as publisher overseeing editorial teams in Brussels, Paris, and Berlin as well as the company's IT department. Since 2017, he has returned to journalism, leading EURACTIV's coverage on energy and environment while continuing to write about high-level politics. For ten years, Frédéric was also Brussels correspondent for France24, the 24/7 international TV channel. Mr Simon graduated in journalism from Brussels University (ULB) in 1998 and holds a Master's degree in EU politics from the Institut d'Etudes Européennes (IEE) in Brussels.



**Maria da Graça Carvalho**, MEP (EPP/Portugal) & co-chair of the Intergroup

Maria da Graça Carvalho is currently a member of the European Parliament. She was a senior advisor of Commissioner for Research, Science and Previously, she was a member of the European Parliament, between July 2009 and May 2014. In that capacity, she was one of the rapporteurs of Horizon 2020. She was also Principal Adviser to President Barroso in the fields of Science, Higher Education, Innovation, Research Policy, Energy, Environment and Climate Change from 2006 to 2009. She served as a Minister of Science and Higher Education of the XV Constitutional Government of Portugal and Minister of Science, Innovation and Higher Education of the XVI Constitutional Government. She is a Full Professor at Instituto Superior Técnico (University of Lisbon).



**Simona Bonafé**, MEP (S&D/Italy) & co-chair of the Intergroup

Simona Bonafé started her political activity in 2002 with The Daisy party after graduated in political science at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan. In 2004 she was appointed Councillor for the Environment in Scandicci, a role she held until 2013. From 2007, she also worked as a journalist for the newspapers *Corriere di Firenze* and *Europa*. She was elected to the Italian parliament in 2013 with the Democratic Party, and in 2014 she was elected Member of the European Parliament (MEP) with the same party. As member of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats group, she has since been serving on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. In this capacity, she is the parliament's rapporteur on the EU Circular Economy Package and represented the Parliament at the 2016 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Marrakesh.

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**Christophe Grudler, MEP (Renew Europe/France)**

Christophe Grudler, born on 9 April 1965 in Belfort, is a French politician and a journalist, who was elected as a Member of the European Parliament in 2019. He has since been serving in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy as Vice-coordinator for the group Renew Europe, on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Subcommittee on Security and Defence. In addition to his committee assignments, Mr. Grudler is part of the Parliament's delegation for Northern cooperation and for relations with Switzerland, Norway and the EU-Iceland Joint Parliamentary Committee and the European Economic Area (EEA) Joint Parliamentary Committee. Besides these activities, Mr. Grudler is also Vice-president of the European Parliament Intergroup Sky & Space.



**Susana Solís Pérez, MEP (Renew Europe/Spain)**

Susana Solís Pérez is a Spanish engineer and politician. She has over 18 years of professional experience in several multinationals in Germany (Mercedes Benz, Robert Bosch) and Spain (Rexel, Essilor and Johnson & Johnson). In 2019 she was elected as a Member of the European Parliament. She is a member of the Committee on Regional Development (REGI), as well as a substitute member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE). In 2020, she joined the Special Committee on Artificial Intelligence in Digital Age. She is also a member of the following intergroups: European Industry; SMEs; Artificial Intelligence and Digital Policy.



**Anna-Michelle Asimakopoulou, MEP (EPP/Greece)**

Anna Michelle Asimakopoulou is an economist and an attorney-at-law. She worked for several years as an attorney in the USA, specializing in financial transactions and international banking law; as an external expert for the European Commission, and as a manager in consulting companies in Brussels and Luxembourg. She was the Director of an NGO based in Ioannina, Greece. Elected at the European Parliament in 2019, MEP Asimakopoulou serves as vice-chair of the Committee on International Trade and is a member of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Intelligence in the Digital Age and the Science and Technology Options Assessment Panel. She has also served as Deputy Mayor of the City of Ioannina and was the first woman to be elected as a member of the Greek Parliament for the district of Ioannina in 2012. She was re-elected in 2015 from the district of Athens B.

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**Peter Handley, Head of the Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials Unit, DG GROW**

Peter Handley is, since September 2017, Head of the Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials Unit in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Growth. He was previously Head of the Resource Efficiency Unit at the Secretariat-General, where he was responsible for coordination of Energy Union, 2030 climate and energy package, low emission mobility strategy and the circular economy. He holds a degree from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (France) and a degree from the University of Bristol.



**Daniele La Porta, Senior Mining Specialist, World Bank Group**

Daniele La Porta is a Brazilian Senior Mining Specialist within the World Bank Group in Washington D.C. In this role, she manages projects in Colombia, Sierra Leone, Romania, Brazil, and Liberia. She also co-leads the Bank's knowledge products on innovative areas, such as Mining and Climate Change, Deep Sea Mining, and the preparation of innovative Public-Private Partnerships in the water and mining sectors. With degrees in Geology and Environmental Management, Daniele has extensive experience working with developing countries to ensure natural resources achieve more sustainable outcomes. Daniele began her mining career in 1995, exploring for diamonds and base metals in Brazil. She then shifted her work to other areas in the geosciences. She now advises and works with governments on institutional reforms and crafting strong governance policies.



**Emilio Braghi, Senior Vice President and President, Novelis Europe**

Emilio Braghi is Senior Vice President and President, Novelis Europe. In his role, which he assumed in September 2016, he oversees ten European facilities for recycling and manufacturing aluminium for several sectors, including automotive, building, packaging and transportation. Previously, Emilio was Vice President, Operations, Novelis North America. Before that, he served as Vice President, Sales and Operations for Novelis Asia, with responsibility for all commercial and manufacturing activities in the region. He joined the Asia leadership team in March 2012 as Vice President, Operations, he served as Vice President and General Manager of the Specialties value stream in Europe. From 2006 to 2012, he held various general management roles with Novelis Europe's Litho and Painted Products value streams. Prior to the formation of Novelis, Emilio had been with Alcan since 1999, where he began as Sales Manager, Europe. Emilio graduated in engineering and industrial production technologies from the *Politecnico di Milano*.

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**Pedro Lourtie**, *Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal to the EU*

Pedro Lourtie holds a Degree in Economics (University of Lisbon - ISEG) and a Master in European Economic Studies from the Bruges College of Europe, where he was also a Research Assistant after finishing his studies. In 1995, he joined the Portuguese Diplomatic Service, starting at the Directorate for Multilateral Political Directorate and soon after, from 1995 until 1999, as Adviser to the Secretary of State for European Affairs. In 1999, he is posted to the Permanent Representation of Portugal to the EU in Brussel and moved in 2004 to Washington as Political Counsellor in the Delegation of t

he European Commission to the United States. He held several positions, namely as Diplomatic Adviser to the Prime Minister and, later, as his Chief of Staff. From October 2009 until June 2011, he is Secretary of State for European Affairs in the Portuguese Government. In that period, from 2010 until 2011, he was also the President of the Portuguese National Commission for Human Rights. In 2012 he is posted as Consul General of Portugal in Paris and in 2015 as Ambassador to Tunisia. Since 2016, Ambassador Pedro Lourtie is the Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal to the European Union.