

## 8th Friends of Industry Ministerial Meeting

Monday, 3rd November 2025, 10:30 – 14:00

Radialsystem

Holzmarktstr. 33, 10243 Berlin

09:30 **Check-In**

Welcome coffee & bilateral exchange

10:00 **Press Statement**

10:30 **Opening Session**

Katherina Reiche, Minister BMWE

Stephan Séjourné, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission (tbc)

11:00 **Policy Discussion**

Strengthening Competitiveness of the European Industry  
– Measures needed

Pitch by Prof. Dr. Justus Haucap (tbc)

Director of the Düsseldorf Institute for Competition Economies (DICE)

Discussion

Policy Questions:

What economic barriers most significantly impact the competitiveness of European industries? Please name the three most urgent measures which need to be taken by the European Commission?

What is needed to support the digital transition of industry within a global challenging competitive framework? How can we exploit the potential value added of digitalisation in the industry in Europe?

How can we reduce bureaucratic burden – beyond the Omnibus proposals?

12:30 **Adoption of Declaration and Family Photo**

13:00 **Working Lunch on Minister-level**  
Securing the resilience of our industry and EU's defence capabilities

Policy Questions:

Do we need EU preference to secure resilience? How can it be realized in an unbureaucratic, effective and targeted way?

How can we exploit the full potential of spillover effects from defence investment for our industry with the aim of boosting innovation?

Please note that the delegation size will be 1 + 2 (Minister and two delegates) for each delegation.

The Conference will be held in English. The Delegations may be accompanied by an interpreter. In this case, they are invited to report it to the following contact [friendsindustry@bmwe.bund.de](mailto:friendsindustry@bmwe.bund.de).

Any questions about the programme and organisation of the Conference can be addressed to the same address.