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The Imperative of International Cooperation for EU Competitiveness and Resilience in Technology-Driven Industries

By Matthias Bauer, Renata Zilli and Dyuti Pandya, Director, Researcher, and Research Associate at ECIPE respectively.

Brussels, 15 November 2023 - The European Union (EU) must prioritise global industry collaborations and regulatory cooperation to encourage competitiveness and resilience in critical technology-driven industries.

International cooperation in economic and security affairs, as exemplified by EU participation in global value chains of advanced semiconductors, the traditional EU approach to industry-led technology standardisation, and EU involvement in the international F-35 fighter development program, is critical for leveraging industry expertise, sharing technological advancements, and collectively addressing challenges in strategic sectors, thereby enhancing Europe's economic resilience and security capabilities.

In an era of increasing globalisation and technological advancement, the EU must strengthen its partnerships with global allies in high-tech sectors crucial for the economy and defence. Global R&D collaboration is a cornerstone of innovation and efficiency in technology-driven industries. By actively promoting cross-border industry collaborations and regulatory cooperation with trusted international partners, the EU will ultimately strengthen its global role and contribute to geopolitical stability.

"EU policymakers should recognise that protectionist industrial policies hinder competition and market-driven innovation. The EU must uphold its commitment to open markets and global cooperation to strengthen Europe's position in the global

marketplace," concludes Matthias Bauer, lead author of the report. ***"The EU should much more actively promote collaboration and regulatory cooperation with trusted international partners to strengthen its own global role. In a world characterised by continual change and global geopolitical challenges, cooperation with traditional economic and security allies is pivotal for peace and the reinforcement of international relations."***

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