



IN BRIEF



Winter 2018

The holiday season is well and truly here. And it looks like policymakers are as keen as the rest of us to tie up any loose ends and clear the desk before Christmas. The run-up to December 25th (or 24th, depending on your corner of Europe) has seen a flurry of activity in areas impacting the technology industries: a new Commission plan to coordinate the EU approach to AI, a political agreement reached on the Cybersecurity Act, and progress towards wrapping up the final Clean Energy files... a busy end to what has been an eventful 2018.

But once the festivities are over and we have rung in the new year, what can we expect from 2019? One thing is already certain: it will be a crucial 12 months for Europe. With the EU facing some of its biggest challenges to date, the Parliament elections in May will be a bellwether of citizens' faith in the European project. For Orgalime and the technology industries we represent, EU-level collaboration is the only way to succeed in a globalised world. So as elections approach, we will continue making the case for a Europe that works together to embrace innovation – and for a future EU framework that enables technology companies to deliver the economic growth and solutions to societal challenges that will improve quality of life for all Europeans.

Watch this space for more on our vision for the future of Europe in the new year. Until then, all that's left is for all of us at Orgalime to wish all of you a very happy and peaceful Christmas!



Know someone who would be interested in reading the latest on Orgalime's work? Feel free to share this newsletter with your network:



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Forward



Orgalime at EU Industry Days: register before 18 January to join us there!

The third annual [EU Industry Days](#) will be held on 5-6 February 2019, and Orgalime has once again been selected to host a stakeholder session – this time focusing on industrial AI. [Registration is now open](#) until 18 January.

Scheduled to take place on 6 February from 12:00 to 1:30 pm, [Orgalime's session](#) 'Industrial Artificial Intelligence (AI) – solutions for Europe's 2030 challenges' will shine a spotlight on a technology that is set to deliver enormous value for Europe's economy and citizens, but that often gets overlooked in the hype surrounding other forms of AI. Speakers will address this information gap by analysing how AI can boost Europe's competitiveness, while addressing societal challenges from climate change to mobility to healthcare – focusing on real-world applications and the role of the EU policy framework.

Secure your spot for the two-day event [here](#) and view the draft conference agenda [here](#). We look forward to seeing you there!



Working together for a brighter future: highlights from 'Collaborate to Better Compete'

With doom and gloom dominating the headlines, Orgalime's most recent event turned the tables to focus on the positives of working together. "For the companies we represent, collaboration is a driver of innovation, growth and job creation," underlined Director General Malte Lohan as he welcomed delegates to the 'Collaborate to Better Compete' conference on 13 November.

Against the backdrop of an uncharacteristically sunny Brussels skyline, the event brought over 100 delegates to the Panoramic Room of the Square meeting centre to talk about joining forces for a better future – with panellists tackling topics such as the benefits of a coordinated EU industrial strategy and a European approach to AI.

Read the key takeaways in our [event report](#), including links to photos from the day.



COP24 sends important signal — towards a global roadmap for bringing the Paris agreement to life

Last weekend's agreement of governments at the UN global climate summit in Katowice (COP24) marks an important step towards making the 2015 Paris climate accord operational. This is good news for the sectors represented by Orgalime, as underlined by Director General Malte Lohan: "Europe's technology industries welcome the progress made at global level and the EU's determination in driving international negotiations to a tangible outcome."

There is no time to waste in implementing the measures needed to deliver on the Paris agreement. This made it vital for the EU to finalise the remaining Clean Energy file on electricity market reform – so it was great to see Member States and the European Parliament agree on Europe's new electricity market framework just a few days after COP 24 concluded, a key step towards getting the energy transition going.

Plus, with this week's Energy and Environment Councils kicking off the debate on the EU 2050 long-term greenhouse gas emission reduction strategy, Europe has another opportunity to secure concrete action on its objectives. Clear investment signals will be crucial to boost innovation and investment in the low-carbon technologies needed to deliver the change.

For the full story, read our [press release](#) on the COP24 outcome – and our recommendations on the way forward for [electricity market design](#) and the [2050 long-term climate vision](#).



Joining forces in AI: Commission puts forward EU coordination plan

7 December saw the Commission publish its second Communication on AI this year: 'A Coordinated Plan on Artificial Intelligence'. Designed to encourage Member States to develop their own national strategy based on a common EU strategic framework, the plan addresses a number of key touchstones – from setting shared objectives and avoiding market fragmentation, to strengthening R&D and investment, to building a European data space.

Representing the technology industries leading the way in embedded industrial AI, Orgalime has welcomed this step forward. We are convinced that joining forces in this arena will enable the EU to become a global leader by harnessing the technology's full potential for Europe's economy and society.

For more, read our [top five recommendations](#) to policymakers and make sure to join [our session at EU Industry Days](#) to learn how AI is already delivering real-world benefits in our sectors and beyond.

EU steel safeguard investigation: joint statement from steel-using industries

The Commission has responded to US tariffs on European steel imports by imposing provisional safeguard measures with the stated aim of addressing the diversion of steel from other countries into the EU as a result of the US administration's actions. For downstream users of steel such as the technology industries represented by Orgalime, these safeguard measures could have a

potential negative economic impact.

This is why we have made a statement as part of a coalition of steel users – including the automotive, electricity transmission and distribution equipment, construction equipment, wind energy, agriculture machinery, home appliance, and packaging sectors – to express our continued concern regarding the Commission’s approach and urging caution for the next steps.

Read the statement in full [here](#).

TECHNOLOGY AT HEART

Spotlight on Sweden



In this series Orgalime, the European Technology Industries, presents stories showcasing how the companies we represent are shaping a future that’s good for Europe’s economy and society – and how the right policy framework can help them do even more.



ICYMI: Orgalime launches new series Technology at Heart

October saw the launch of ‘Technology at Heart’: our new series of case studies showcasing how the companies we represent are shaping a future that’s good for Europe’s economy and society – and how the right policy framework can help them do even more.

If you haven't yet done so, be sure to check out the first edition where the spotlight is on Sweden: we zoom in on a research project showing how industry-academia collaboration can multiply the impact of innovation – and we find out how Orgalime member Teknikföretagen is working with Swedish and EU policymakers to shape a framework to help their technology companies compete on the global stage.

Read the reports [online here](#) or download the PDF [here](#).

About Orgalime

Orgalime, the European Technology Industries, speaks for 45 trade federations representing the mechanical, electrical, electronic, metalworking & metal technologies industries of 23 European countries. The industry employs nearly 11 million people in the EU and in 2017 accounted for some €2000 billion of output. The industry represents over a quarter of the output of manufactured products and over a third of the manufactured exports of the European Union.



32

national member federations



13

associate members
(European sector associations)



23

countries represented



11 million

direct workers



2000 billion

turnover (in 2017)

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