





The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies

Hybrid conference

European strategic autonomy and the green transition: What industrial and technological strategies?

Thursday, 2nd March, 9h00-10h30

French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) and online

27 rue de la Procession 75740 Paris

Working Language: English

The invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and consequent supply chain disruptions in the energy sector have exposed critical vulnerabilities in the European Union's broader strategic autonomy agenda and bolstered efforts at lessening strategic dependency on third states in a variety of areas -from raw materials, batteries and active pharmaceutical ingredients to hydrogen, semiconductors, and cloud and edge technologies. The challenge, which the EU needs to address in the new geopolitical context and against the background of Sino-American rivalry is of paramount importance. The EU's industrial and technological strategy will only allow the EU to achieve digital, green and resilient transformation if the block can secure access to strategic materials, develop autonomous technologies and ensure global competitiveness. What is the scope of the EU's dependency on third states in those areas? How has the war in Ukraine affected the EU's position in global supply chains? How can the EU further diversity supplies of critical raw materials? With which countries should it strengthen diplomatic ties? How can it boost technological innovation and ensure global competitiveness, while advancing its green transition agenda?

This hybrid conference, organised by the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe (Vienna) and the French Institute of International Relations (Paris), in cooperation with the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) will discuss these questions and many others.

Opening

Dietmar Schweisgut, Secretary General of the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe

Discussion

Alice Pannier, Head of the Geopolitics of Technology program at the French Institute of International Relations, Paris

Mario Holzner, Director of the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw), Vienna

Désirée Rückert, Economist at European Investment Bank, Luxembourg

Modération: **Dominique David**, President of the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe and Advisor to the Executive Chairman of the French Institute of International Relations, Paris