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**PRESS RELEASE**

Brussels, 04 July 2017

## Joint Letter from over 50 solar PV Organizations raises Alarm about the Importance of PV Manufacturing in Europe

- **Over 50 Companies/Organizations signed in less than a week**
- **Solar photovoltaics (PV) is a sector of strategic importance for the EU economy, providing energy independence**

Over 50 companies/organizations have signed a letter initiated by ETIP PV, EUREC and SOLARUNITED which is addressed to policymakers of all EU member states. The petition calls on political leaders to "help preserve a sustainable and globally competitive European PV manufacturing industry".

The letter highlights that solar photovoltaics (PV) is a sector of strategic importance for the EU economy, providing energy independence, industrial jobs and economic growth. Europe since two decades is leading in technological development, state-of-the-art manufacturing (industry 4.0), sustainability of production and quality and efficiency of solar products. There is hardly any other sector in the EU which received as much public dedication and thrilled more young people, engineers and scientists.

Due to recent developments, the PV industry is deeply concerned about loosing core parts of the value chain which affects all other parts and puts R&D activities and maintenance of EU's technological leading role at risk. The aim is to prevent loosing production sites in Europe and to keep PV's innovation ecosystem intact.



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Together with the support of a unique R&D ecosystem this is the basis for the EU manufacturing industry to keep its significant technological advantage towards industrial followers outside Europe.

To maintain solar R&D in Europe, researchers and manufacturers called in the petition for urgent action in 7 requests.

**Endorsing Organizations:**

- Absolico
- ACCELIOS Solar
- Allianz BIPV
- ARCSIS
- aurinka photovoltaic group
- Becquerel Institute
- BISOL Group
- Crosslux SAS
- CSEM
- Elettrorava
- ENERSON
- Energy Restructuring Agency
- Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands
- EU ProSun
- eurac research
- European Energy Research Alliance
- EXASUN
- Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE
- Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Systems and Device Technology
- French research federation on Photovoltaics
- GS2X
- Imec
- INES National Solar Energy Institute



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- Institute of Research and Development on Photovoltaic Energy
- Institute for Solar Energy Research Hamelin (ISFH)
- Institute of Solar Energy of the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid
- Keen on Green!
- Lasercenter Munich University of Applied Sciences
- Lithuanian PV technology cluster
- Malta College of Arts Science and Technology
- NexWafe
- NorSun
- Norwegian crystals
- Open Renewables
- Polysecure
- PVA TePla
- Research Centre for Sustainable Energy (FOSS)
- Silicio FerrSolar
- Singulus Technologies AG
- Slovenian Photovoltaic Association
- Solliance Solar Research
- Solar United
- Spanish Photovoltaic Technology Platform
- TECNALIA
- University of Ljubljana
- University of Salford Manchester
- Valencia Nanophotonics Technology Center
- WIP Renewable Energies

A PDF version of this letter can be downloaded here: <http://www.etip-pv.eu>.

### Sign the petition

Representatives of organizations that would like to publicly endorse the petition can send an e-mail at [sofia.arancon@wip-munich.de](mailto:sofia.arancon@wip-munich.de) containing a brief statement of endorsement, the organization's name, address, logo, and website and the details of a contact person. Please note that only the organization's logo, name and website will be visible on our list.



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**Note to editors:**

The European Technology and Innovation Platform Photovoltaics (ETIP PV) is a continuation of the European PV Technology Platform (EU PVTP) and the Solar European Industry Initiative (SEII) in a single platform under the new SET Plan governance. The ETIP PV's mission is in line with the Energy Union and the SET Plan priorities with focus on "Renewable technologies at the heart of the new energy system" and Europe to become "number 1 in renewables". ETIP PV gathers all the relevant stakeholders of the PV sector, with arrangements for cooperative discussions with member states (MS), associated countries (AC), and the Commission services. Its main role is to provide consensus-based strategic advice on all issues relevant to progressing research and innovation (R&I) efforts.

**For further information please contact:**

Bernhard Krause, ETIP PV Secretariat ([info@etip-pv.eu](mailto:info@etip-pv.eu))

[www.etip-pv.eu](http://www.etip-pv.eu)



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