350,000 jobs created by European tech firms in 5 years

Europe’s technology industries are growing fast: turnover is up 5% in 2017, and 2018 is set to mark the fifth consecutive year of growth. In the same period, these firms have created 350,000 jobs, with the industries now directly employing over 11 million people. But as storm clouds loom on the economic horizon, how can Europe chart a course for continued success?

2,171 billion
Forecast turnover for Europe’s technology industries in 2018

11.2 million
Employed by Europe’s technology industries in 2018

€567 billion
EU technology industry exports (2016)

2017 (estimated)
2018 (forecast)
5%
3.5%

Clearly, the technology industries are a central pillar of the EU economy. But with rising political uncertainty fuelled by populism and anti-globalism, and increasingly fierce competition for industrial investment from the US and China, past success will no longer be a guarantor of future growth.

Malte Lohan, Orgalime Director General

The best time to fix the roof is when the sun is shining. We may have strong momentum to build on right now, but unresolved regulatory baggage will quickly weigh us down when times get tougher. This is the moment to work on getting the EU policy framework right for the future.

Malte Lohan, Orgalime Director General

Note: Our economists estimated these numbers based on Eurostat data. 2018 forecasts are estimates based on the data currently available.


2 Orgalime, the European Technology Industries, speaks for 45 trade federations representing the mechanical engineering, electrical, electronics and metal technology industries of 23 European countries. The companies represented by Orgalime are at the forefront of the digital transformation of industry, enabling innovation across sectors to deliver solutions to major societal challenges – in areas as diverse as energy resource efficiency, mobility, the circular economy and healthcare. At EU level, Orgalime promotes a holistic industrial strategy that connects the dots between policy areas, with the aim of building on Europe’s industry’s competitive strengths to support innovation and strengthen manufacturing investment.

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