

CECAPI Position Paper regarding the European Standardisation Strategy newly published on 2022 February 2nd

CECAPI globally supports the orientations given by the European Commission.

- Standardisation shall actively support the strategic industrial priorities of the European Union: these priorities, such as digital transformation and green transition, are completely part of CECAPI activities
- Review the governance of ESOs to make them even more inclusive (to SMEs and start-ups in particular) and representative of the European interest (to avoid an excessive influence of companies outside Europe): CECAPI is gathering national associations which members are for a lot of them SMEs, CECAPI supports initiatives aiming at helping SMEs and start-ups to participate more easily in standards erection. CECAPI is an European association of manufacturers and support the defence of the European interest through the standardisation.
- On the international field, European should coordinate to reinforce their influence and continue to be "standard setter" and not "standard taker": CECAPI is a platform allowing coordination of European manufacturers associations thus helping the European influence at international level.
- Research and innovation should be closer to standardisation: in the innovative business sector of CECAPI, standardisation has always been supporting innovation, allowing a faster and stronger deployment.
- Attract experts and renew the standardisation community: CECAPI fully supports these objectives and acts through its national members (standardisation training, national initiatives, deployment of the IEC professional...)

Some points of attention highlighted by CECAPI:

- It is key that standardization remains market oriented, close to the updated available technologies, usages and markets.
- Industry shall be very present in the definition and update of the standardization strategy. CECAPI is volunteer to participate, with all the industry, in the implementation of this European standardization strategy.
- CECAPI supports the global objective of the High-Level Forum. Details are missing regarding the way it will be implemented. CECAPI and all industries shall be actively contributing to this High-Level Forum.
- It is key for CECAPI to restore an efficient process for harmonization and citation of standard. NLF has proved how efficient it is for the development of a safe, fair and innovative European market. We cannot encourage more the TF between EC/EFTA and ESOs to conclude positively its work and allow timely citation of standards to support the regulation. Trusting the standardization system, its consensus rule, its inclusiveness, its transparency, shall be the preferred choice for the European Commission to define how to answer to the essential requirements with market oriented and up to date solutions.
- It remains key to ensure as much as possible alignment of European and international standards to allow European industry and specifically CECAPI members to address the world-wide markets.