

# Launch of the Automotive Regions Alliance strengthens industrial ecosystems

- **Under the EU Committee of the Regions (CoR), the Automotive Regions Alliance (ARA) has been created to support a fair and successful mobility transition for regions along the entire value chain, guaranteeing that no region is left behind.**
- **The Automotive Skills Alliance (ASA), of which CLEPA, ACEA, CECRA and ETRMA are founding members, is a key initiative in support of the sector transformation through identifying needs for a skilled workforce and facilitating the regional implementation in close cooperation with industry, academia and regions.**
- **The automotive sector welcomes the initiative by the European CoR to establish the ARA and proposes a strategic partnership between the ASA and ARA, given the synergies and shared goals to facilitate the green and digital sector transformation.**

*Brussels* - A new Automotive Regions Alliance launched on 30 June under the flag of the European Committee of the Regions, putting important institutional weight behind a fair and successful mobility transition for regions along the entire value chain, guaranteeing that no region is left behind.

The Alliance aims to bring together regions with strong automotive and supply industries that want to play an active role in the decarbonisation of the transport sector and contribute to the objectives of the European Green Deal, while strengthening regional industrial ecosystems and value creation, as well as ensuring economic and social cohesion in every European territory impacted by the transition. The ARA launched during the June Plenary Session of the European Committee of the Regions, in the presence of **Nicolas Schmit**, European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights.

The automotive sector welcomes the initiative and looks forward to strengthening the link between the Automotive Regions Alliance and the Automotive Skills Alliance, the sectorial initiative under the Pact for Skills that supports the upskilling and reskilling of the automotive workforce to facilitate the green and digital transformation.

CLEPA Secretary General **Sigrid de Vries**, also representing the **Automotive Skills Alliance** and the broader value chain, noted in her speech, “The automotive industry is one of the most important industrial sectors in Europe, and fully endorses the Green Deal objectives. The

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automotive regions have a crucial role in making the transformation a success: they bring the local knowledge and network to ensure the transition is green, as well as just and resilient.

The green and digital transformation, and the speed of such a transition, represents significant challenges for all of us along the supply chain. The transformation requires dialogue, co-creation, and a dedicated funding mechanism and platform to discuss and implement the transition pathway. It is important we bring the pledge to life that nobody is left behind. Our workers are an essential asset not only for industry, but for Europe.”

The Automotive Skills Alliance counts more than 90 partners including automotive industry, social partners, academia but also regions. The collaboration between the two alliances should support the different initiatives that are being developed in the automotive regions, while coordinating the transformation of the workforce through the whole value chain.