



World Manufacturing Forum

**WMF**

PRESS RELEASE

## THE 2019 WORLD MANUFACTURING FORUM: A GLOBAL EVENTS' CLUSTER ON MANUFACTURING

Cernobbio, 09/26/2019

Three days of meetings, debates and discussions on manufacturing between large, medium and small enterprises, institutions, academia, researchers and policy makers from all over the world: this is the seventh edition of the World Manufacturing Forum in Cernobbio, the event organized by Confindustria Lombardia, IMS, Milan Polytechnic and with the support of the Lombardy Region.

The 2019 edition, entitled '**New skills for future manufacturing**', focuses on the topic of professional skills by proposing solutions and a long-term vision thanks to the WMF Report 2019, and it also stands as a platform for proposals for a competitive industrial policy: on the stage of Villa Erba the dialogue between the Four Motors of Europe started by Lombardy has in fact taken shape.

The President of the WMFoundation **Alberto Ribolla** inaugurated the event: "At the World Manufacturing Forum companies find the answers to the questions they are asking about the future: in the midst of the 4th industrial revolution, to complete this change focused on people, we must govern this path by ensuring compatibility between three fundamental factors for the future of our societies: economic, social, environmental. There is no real prosperity if the economic indicators grow at the expense of the environment, natural resources and territories. And there is no future if the industry does not begin to share the prosperity within our societies in a non-dogmatic manner" declared **Ribolla** from the WMF stage.

Ribolla then indicated the path that the industry should follow to overcome the current manufacturing crisis: "No tariffs, no sanctions, involvement of developing countries, strengthening of global value chains by enhancing the macro areas that have homogeneous production systems and investment in skills 4.0, enlargement of markets helping less fortunate nations to emerge creating new classes that can, with their demand, increase the market and consequently the global well-being" concluded Alberto Ribolla.

During the first day of the Annual Meeting, moderated by journalists **Andrea Cabrini** and **Andrew Spannaus**, speakers included: **Marco Bonometti**, President of Confindustria Lombardia, **Fabrizio Sala**, Vice President of the Lombardy Region, **Sophie Cruz**, Regional Councillor Auvergne Region of Rhone-Alpes, **Mireia Borell**, Secretary for International and EU Affairs Region of Catalonia, **Éric Dequenne**, Vice-President, International Affairs at Investissement Québec, **Renate Hornung-Draus**, Director of the German Confederation of Employers BDA, **Beniamino Quintieri**, President of SACE, **Jeroen Heijs**, Director of Industrial Policy, Ministry of Economy of the Netherlands, **Mehmet Fatih Kacir**,

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Deputy Minister for Industry and Technology Turkey, **Ahmed Taha Elborai**, Deputy Minister for Trade and Industry Egypt, **Jun Ni**, Professor University of Michigan, **Rhonda Barnet**, President of AVIT Manufacturing, **Ester Lynch**, Vice Secretary General Trade Union European Trade Union Confederation, **Francisco Betti**, World Economic Forum, **Tony Bond**, CIO Great Place to Work, **James E. Heppelmann**, PTC President and CEO.

Tomorrow is the third and final day of the World Manufacturing Forum with, among others, the speeches by Confindustria President **Vincenzo Boccia**, **Thérèse de Liedekerke**, Vice Director of Business Europe, **Olga Memedovic**, UNIDO, **Lloyd F. Colegrove**, The Dow Chemical Company, **Max Lemke**, DG Connect - European Commission.

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