The new European Industrial Policy in Europe and its impact on territorial cohesion

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Recent years have witnessed a revamp of industrial policy in the European Union (EU) discourse and policy agenda. Previously to the 2008 Great Recession, industrial policy had been put aside emphasizing the need of a correct functioning of the common market as a prerequisite for aggregate economic growth in the EU. The Great Recession first, and the recent comeback of geopolitics in the policy arena have pushed back industrial strategy at the core of the EU agenda.

So far the role of industrial strategy in the EU has been questioned mostly in terms of its effectiveness and in terms of the more suitable instrument. The paper investigates the recent evolution of the European Industrial Policy (EIP) within the context of the overall European economic policy approach and its impact in terms of territorial inequality and therefore its relationship with the Cohesion Policy.