<u>WP7 Dezvoltare digitală, industrie și spațiu 2023-</u> 2024

Progress in digital and industrial technologies, including in space, shape all sectors of the economy and society. They transform the way industry develops, creates new products and services, and are central to any sustainable future. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the necessity to strengthen Europe's industria I base, enhancing its resilience and flexibility both in terms of technologies and supply chains to reduce EU dependencies on third countries. It has also created a new urgency around addressing key societal challenges like sustainability or inclusiveness. In a globalised world of heightened uncertainties and volatile geopolitical interests, what is at stake is not only Europe's prosperity and economic competitiveness, but also its ability to autonomously source and provide crucial raw materials, technologies and services that are safe and secure for industry as a whole. This is not about protectionism. This is about upholding EU's strategic interests and guaranteeing security of supply.