

EF ECS –Conference 2020 (online)

Paneldiscussion:

“Global position of Europe – The COVID-19 crisis and emerging opportunities”

Austrian Interventions

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...a tour de force in 5 min...

General:

- Covid-19: a slow motion **stress test** for all **systemic elements** of society and economy
- Has indicated **potential** for deep **disruptions** (wrt **values** and priorities, **education**, **health** systems, work environments, **transport**, resilience of companies, supply of goods aso....) + generated huge **momentum for change**
- Has enforced existing (and hidden) **antagonism**
- Short term **boost** of and **sensitivity** for **digitalization** (+shortfalls)

On Complex Global Value Chains:

- KDT Industries **less effected** than others (at least in Austria)
- **Vulnerability** of supply and value chains: supply **delays** (materials + components) due to lock downs (canceled flights, border controls, stuck containers)
- **Ad hoc answer**: reorganize manufacturing planning process + raise **flexibility**
- **Recovery** (if any) **fast** – yet strong **impacts** in specific **sales markets** (automotive, aviation)

...a tour de force in 5 min...(II)

The way forward (digital economy for post Covid):

- Digital will **help** and **benefit** in all domains of recovery (health, education, retail...)
- Recovery might **accelerate Twin Transformation** (Green + Digital) + KDT could be at the **heart of BOTH**
- Focus on **European Value Chains** in critical domains are **key** (incl. global partnerships)
- Areas of **High Potential**: Edge-AI, SW and Embedded, **Sensorsystems** and power electronics. Make use of European **Data Economy**

The Digital transition and “Green Recovery”?:

- Austria very much in favor of **tripartite partnerships** (best in class so far) – **alignment** btw. **National + European strategies** = key
- IPCEI is just the beginning for an **European Industrial Policy**
- **Green**: KDT represents the very **best in the toolbox of mankind** to fight climate change
- **Green KDT** is important, yet **KDT4Green** is far more powerful: “green” functionalities in tech have to be reinvented