

## Scaleups drive innovation and can close policy gaps

Policy brief on Scaling up technology startups

Scaleups are defined as "all enterprises with average annualised growth greater than 20% per annum, over three years, whereby growth can be measured by the number of employees or by turnover"



Pursuing technological strategic autonomy, the EU requires an entrepreneurial ecosystem where tech companies can quickly scale up and compete successfully at a global level.

The EU needs to invest in tech scaleups' growth by strengthening access to finance, markets and talent



Recent EU programmes provide access to growth funding and new markets for innovative scaleups and digital entrepreneurs. More efforts need to be made to tackle the fragmentation of the EU products and service markets, coupled with that of the financial markets in the EU.

Europe should strive to be globally attractive by having stronger demand for innovation. Policies have not yet gained sufficient traction or made any significant advances so far. Mechanisms to enhance demand for innovation are known, but measures to capture the vast potential of demand-side measures are currently insufficient.

Vast numbers of financial measures have been launched in EU Member States, but most of them focus on startups and early stage, rather than scaleups. There is a gap in the availability of later stage finance.

National programmes mostly target the access to finance and the internationalisation challenge of scaleups. Recent measures strengthen support to scaleups to achieve technological strategic autonomy.



## Policy measures to support scaleups should be coordinated across European, national and regional levels



The EU should continue and strengthen its efforts to develop the single European market. At the same time coordinated policy measures can be taken across European, national and regional level:

- Stronger support for and use of demand policy measures
- European wide trading platforms for scaleups or new hybrid growth funding instruments for scaleups
- Common principles for the attraction of entrepreneurial talent and skilled workforce

## About the Advanced Technologies for Industry (ATI) project

The ATI project – funded by the European Commission – supports the **implementation** of Europe's new growth strategy with a systematic monitoring of **technological trends** and reliable, **up-to-date data** on advanced technologies.



The **Policy Briefs** analyse national and regional policy measures focused on a specific policy challenge, technological area or mode of implementation and explore policy tools that have been designed and implemented with the aim of fostering the generation and uptake of advanced technologies. The reports provide a comparative analysis of some of the most relevant national and regional examples on the policy landscape in the EU. They highlight the lessons learnt based on existing policy evaluations, monitoring or any other learning process and will present both good practices and potentially the bad ones. In the case of novel policy initiatives, they focus on the key challenges in the design process.



For more information, read the full Policy Brief on Scaling up technology startups here: https://ati.ec.europa.eu/reports/policy-briefs/scaling-technology-startups