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The Foresight College was created by the Agence Hauts-de-France 2020-2040 to be a space for analysis and dialogue on the issues of tomorrow, to help implementing regional policies: the aim is to anticipate in order to build the future.

Quel avenir pour l'industrie régionale ?

The Future of Industry



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Everything you need to know about the forward-looking project "Quel avenir pour l'industrie régionale"

To subscribe to the newsletter of the college:

<https://bit.ly/41jrPah>

 English version



The approach



Why a project on industry?

The work that has been carried out deals with the question of the changes that the regional industry is facing today, and the factors that could make it evolve significantly in the longer term.

The main objective has been to develop a significant survey of the topic, with an analysis aimed both at highlighting variables (or factors of change) that could have a positive influence and anticipating those that could have an unfavourable effect on activity and employment. The underlying aim is to shed light on possible developments in the industry over time through a better understanding of the dynamics at work, but also to identify possible threats.

This work was motivated by a twofold observation, that of the central role played by industry as a catalyst of economic dynamism through a knock-on effect on other sectors, but also that there was - at least before the health crisis and its induced effects - a form of economic recovery irrigating other types of territories than big cities, primarily small and medium-sized towns.



Outline of a trend scenario for the industry

The final stage of the work consisted of an exercise to present a trend scenario for the development of the industry. This involved working on an objective evolution of the trend hypotheses for each of the six thematic blocks. The resulting graphical representation constitutes a vision of the future of the industry which has a high probability of occurring, with possible nuances (positive inflections on the right-hand side of the diagram; negative inflections on the left-hand side).

It should be noted that beyond this proposal for a trend scenario, the final report has been put together in such a way that its content can be reused with other reading keys. The work on the possible combinations between the hypotheses can give rise to different scenarios: breakthrough, constrained, desired... the content can thus be reused as required.



29 factors of change identified collectively

Various forward-looking workshops (Lille, Dunkerque, etc.) and sittings brought together 70 regional players from everywhere (local authorities, researchers, urban planning agencies, institutional partners) to determine together the factors of change at work in the industry.

This cycle of forward-looking workshops was completed by a series of hearings with key players in the region.

With all the material collected, the foresight project was able to identify a system of 6 thematic blocks composed of 29 variables pinpointed as being influential on the regional industry.

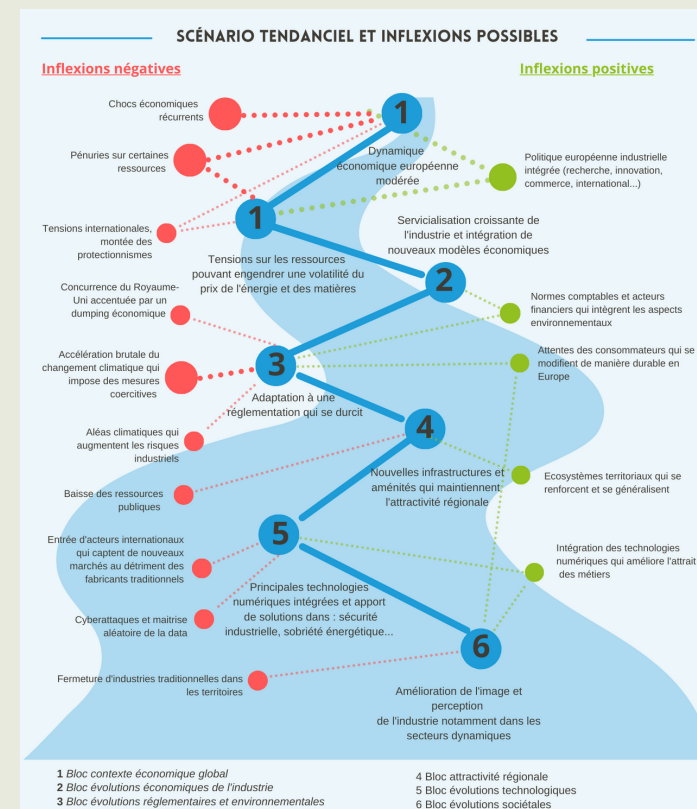


Establishing ongoing transformations and imagine possible evolutionary trajectories

Each of the 29 variables identified was the subject of a detailed analysis of its past, present and future evolution, and, where possible, regionalised. Micro-scenarios of change were elaborated collectively.

These different variables were then linked together in order to better understand the interrelationships and influences between them and to identify possible future antagonisms or points of conflict in the system.

A block entry (based on the 6 themes) also allowed the development of different trajectories and a highlighting of the challenges the industry will have to face.



Find the synthesis of this project and the trend scenario below:

<https://bit.ly/3YRmrJP>

<https://bit.ly/3lqH6xB>