



PRESS RELEASE

Institutional Appointment

Alfonso Hidalgo de Calcerrada, Director of Economic Studies at UNESID, appointed new Chairman of the Economic Committee of the World Steel Association

- This marks the first time a Spanish representative has chaired this key international committee for the steel industry.
- Alfonso Hidalgo de Calcerrada brings extensive experience in sectoral economic analysis, with 15 years at the Spanish Steelmakers Association (UNESID).



From left to right: Martin Jakob Georg Theuringer, outgoing Chair of the Economics Committee at World Steel and representative of the German Steel Association; Edwin Basson, Director General of World Steel; and Alfonso Hidalgo de Calcerrada, Director of Economic Studies at UNESID and newly appointed Chair of the Economics Committee at World Steel.

Madrid, May 23, 2025 – The Spanish Steelmakers Association, UNESID, has announced that Alfonso Hidalgo de Calcerrada, the association's Director of Economic Studies, has been appointed the new Chairman of the Economic Committee of the World Steel Association, the international organization that brings together more than 140 steel producers, national and regional associations, and related companies, responsible for 85% of global steel production.



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This appointment represents important recognition of the technical and economic analysis work carried out by UNESID and strengthens the Spanish presence in international forums that define the strategies and economic outlooks of the global steel industry.

Alfonso Hidalgo de Calcerrada holds a degree in Agricultural Engineering from ETSI in Madrid, an MBA from IE Business School, and an MSc in Finance from Birkbeck, University of London. He has extensive experience in macroeconomic analysis, steel markets, and international trade. For the past 15 years, he has led UNESID's Economic Studies department, preparing economic reports, sectoral studies, and coordinating the association's participation in international bodies.

The World Steel Association, headquartered in Brussels and Beijing, is the leading global organization in the steel sector. Through its technical and economic committees, it produces market forecasts, trend reports, and sustainability and energy transition policies in a sector considered strategic for global industrial and energy autonomy.

The main objective of the Committee is to provide timely information on trends in the steel market and key strategic issues that affect the future of the steel industry. It is committed to delivering the most reliable forecasts for steel demand. Its short- and medium-term demand forecasts aim to serve as authoritative tools to support informed decision-making by member companies.

This Committee is made up of major steel companies, with representation from the main regions of the world. It includes experts in economics and forecasting, as well as senior executives in areas such as strategy, marketing, and finance, who contribute to the analysis and understanding of the steel industry. The main national and regional steel associations are also active members of the Committee.

The Committee meets twice a year (in March and September) to discuss and update short-term forecasts, as well as to address key structural and strategic issues affecting global steel demand.

About UNESID

UNESID is the association representing Spain's steel producers and companies involved in the first transformation of steel. It comprises 46 companies employing around 60,000 people directly and indirectly, with the sector generating nearly €15 billion in annual revenue.

The steel industry forms the backbone of the metal-mechanical and construction value chain. Automobiles, all types of machinery, and infrastructure rely heavily on steel. Spanish steelmakers produce approximately 11.4 million tonnes of steel annually, exporting 7.6 million tonnes.

Each tonne of steel produced involves €7 in environmental investments. Spain's steel industry is a leader in recycling, transforming around 9.3 million tonnes of scrap into new steel each year. It also uses resources efficiently, reusing nearly 80% of the waste and by-products generated in the process, and achieving a water recirculation rate of over 90%. Steelmaking is a model of the circular economy.

Occupational safety, innovation, efficiency, and sustainability are the guiding principles of the sector's strategy. It is recognized as a key player in the new green economy and is working intensively to achieve the decarbonization of the industry.

For more information, visit: www.unesid.org

PROA Comunicación

Luis Barreda

Tel. + 34 658 031 569

luis.barreda@proacomunicacion.es