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## **POST-PANDEMIC PRODUCTION RELOCATION: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CEE COUNTRIES?**

Here are the **main points addressed** in this Coface study:

### **A favourable context**

Foreign trade and inclusion in supply chains had already increased for Central & Eastern Europe (CEE) in recent years, boosted by most of its countries' decision to join the European Union (EU) in 2004.

### **Strong assets**

- An educated workforce
- Geographical proximity to Western Europe
- Low labour costs
- Relatively good infrastructure
- A stable business climate
- Improving productivity through greater use of automation and "robotization".

### **Various sectors concerned**

- The automotive industry, the industrial backbone of the region
- But also: the production of machinery, chemicals, and electrical & electronic equipment, as well as the transport and storage sectors
- And new opportunities: outsourcing of services through digitalization and a large ICT talent pool

### **However, investments are necessary**

New investments are needed for the region to gain a favourable position, especially in terms of automation and digitalization.

**Grzegorz Sielewicz, Coface's Central & Eastern Europe economist** and author of this study, is available for further information.

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