



GLOBAL BUSINESS MONITOR

INDUSTRIAL AND REGIONAL TRENDS

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The Department of World Economy of the National Research University Higher School of Economics presents “Global Business Monitor: Industrial and Regional Trends”.

The Report will be published four times a year in electronic form. Its goal is to identify the current areas of transformation of the world's leading companies from developed and developing countries under the influence of key global trends, which are digitalization, the “green agenda”, sanctions policy, etc.

2024 began in the **global automotive industry** with a slowdown in the transition of major manufacturers to electric cars and more active investigations by Western countries into Chinese exports.

The **global steel industry** continues the transition to “green steel”, involving all market players — consumers, regulators, energy suppliers and producers themselves; companies are forced to restructure amid increased competition and rising energy prices.

The transport and logistics sector is undergoing a new round of restructuring as a result of weakening demand, high operating costs, falling prices and overcapacity in a number of transport modes.

In the **global pharmaceutical industry**, major players have stepped up collaboration and divestment of non-core business assets.

Companies in the **information technology (IT) sector** are carrying out massive staff reductions and betting on the development of artificial intelligence (AI).

In the **semiconductor industry**, the U.S. – China trade war is engaging more and more countries; subsidies to promote domestic semiconductor industry are observed in both developed and developing countries.

A number of Asian **consumer electronics** companies are integrating into electric vehicles; but Apple is scrapping its self-driving electric car project it has been working on for more than 10 years.

Software vendors are pursuing a wave of integrations and strategic partnerships with companies in other IT industries and telecoms to develop data centers, cloud solutions and AI technologies.

Platform businesses continue to face antitrust opposition from watchdogs.

The world's largest **telecom companies** are cooperating more intensively with the IT sector amid low demand; the highly competitive European market is forcing operators to consolidate.

The **oil and gas sector** is experiencing a slowdown in the “green transition”; the number of mergers and acquisitions in the industry is increasing, both for the purpose of development and diversification, as well as for business restructuring purposes.

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