



International Cooperation  
On Semiconductors

**Horizon Europe ICOS “*International Cooperation on Semiconductors*” :**  
**EU and non-EU strengths, weaknesses, dependencies,  
opportunities for international collaboration**

Francis Balestra - Grenoble INP/ CNRS/ SiNANO Institute

**Semicon Europa 2024 - November 12, 2024**



Funded by the European Union

# ICOS: International Cooperation On Semiconductors

- ICOS Project starts in January 2023 for three years, funded by the Horizon Europe research program.

**Coordinator**



**Technical co-Coordinator**



- An ambitious project in the framework of the European strategy for semiconductors.

# Partners & Advisory Boards

## ACADEMICS



## RTOS



## INDUSTRIAL ADVISORY BOARD



## ASSOCIATIONS & CONSULTING COMPANIES



## INDUSTRIALS



## INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD



# Motivation & Objectives

- **Semiconductors & Semiconductor-based photonics** are pivotal technologies for almost all existing industrial sectors, as demonstrated by the recent chips shortages
- **International cooperation** is key for **speeding up** technological innovation (e.g. ITRS/IRDS, IPSR-I, ECS-SRIA, NEREID), reducing **cost** by avoiding duplicated research, strengthening complex supply and value chains, and is encouraged by the new **strategies** of leading semiconductor countries

=> To build **balanced semiconductor partnerships** with like-minded countries

=> To set out cooperative framework on *initiatives of mutual interest*

=> To identify and support the establishment of the **most promising scientific international collaborations**

=> To support the growth of the European Semiconductor industry through **focused research alliances** based on awareness of advanced research activities

=> To strengthen **Europe's position** in global value chains in this area and to contribute to the **EU Chips Act, Green deal and Digital Agenda**

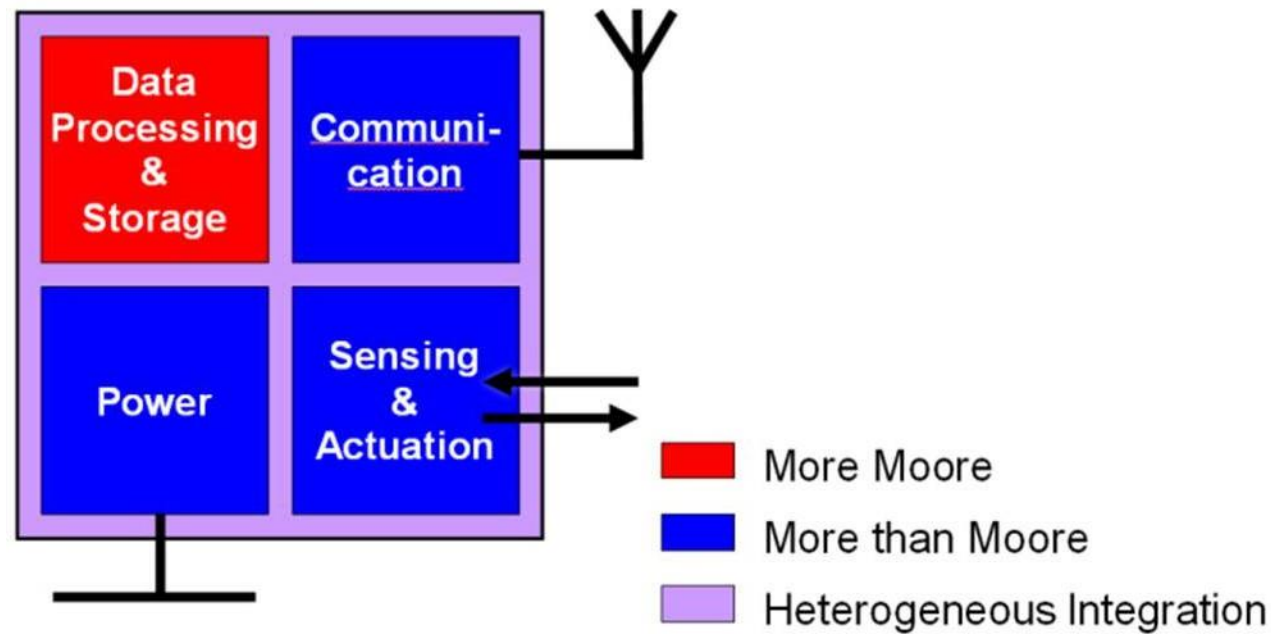
# Objectives of ICOS

## ■ Investigated countries:

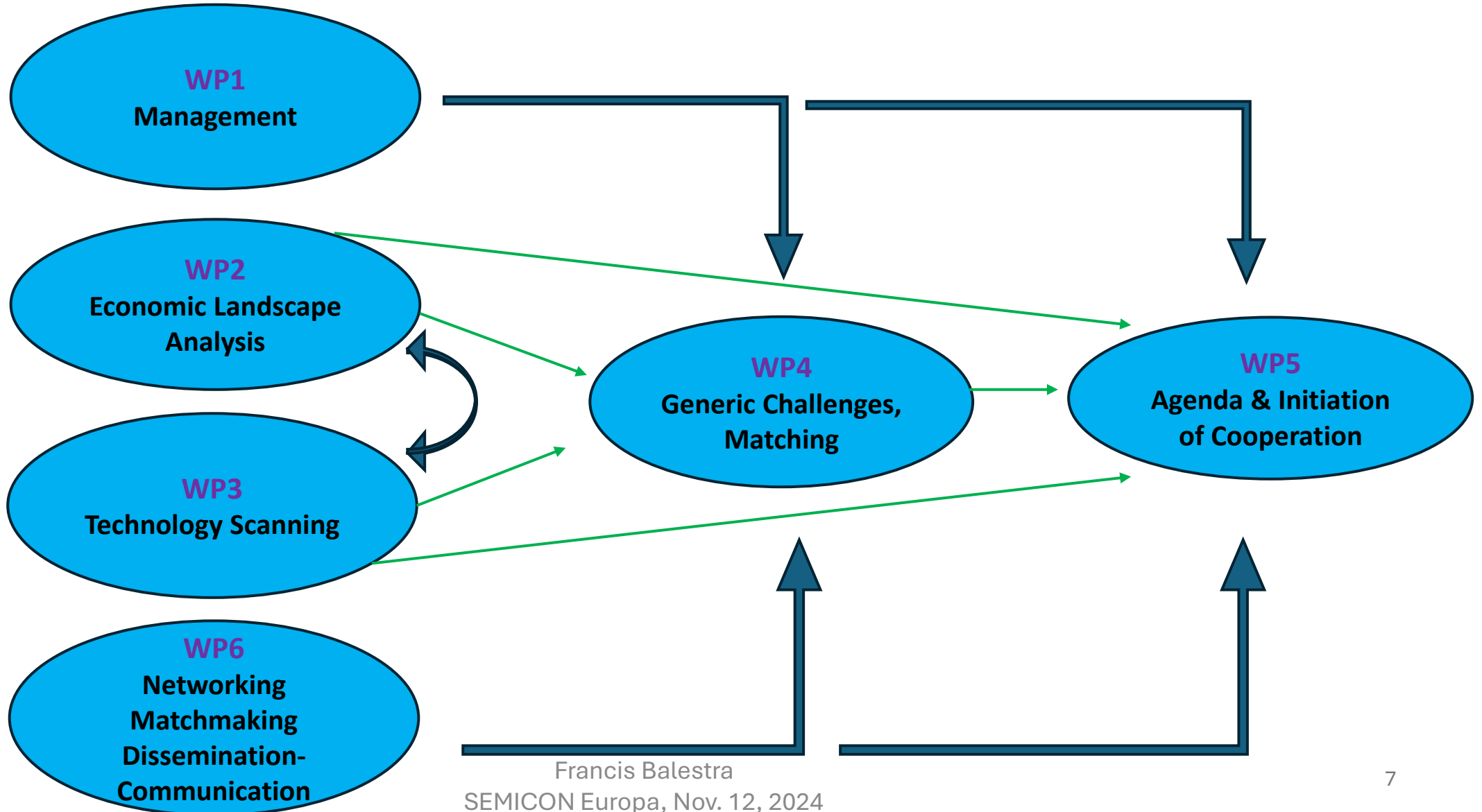
- The United States of America
- India
- The Republic of Korea
- Japan
- Taiwan
- Singapore
- China
- Canada (for some analysis)

## Main scientific topics

- Advanced computing & Advanced functionalities: sensing, RF & optical communications, optical devices, energy harvesting, power devices, ...



# ICOS Concept



**ICOS**  
International Cooperation  
On Semiconductors



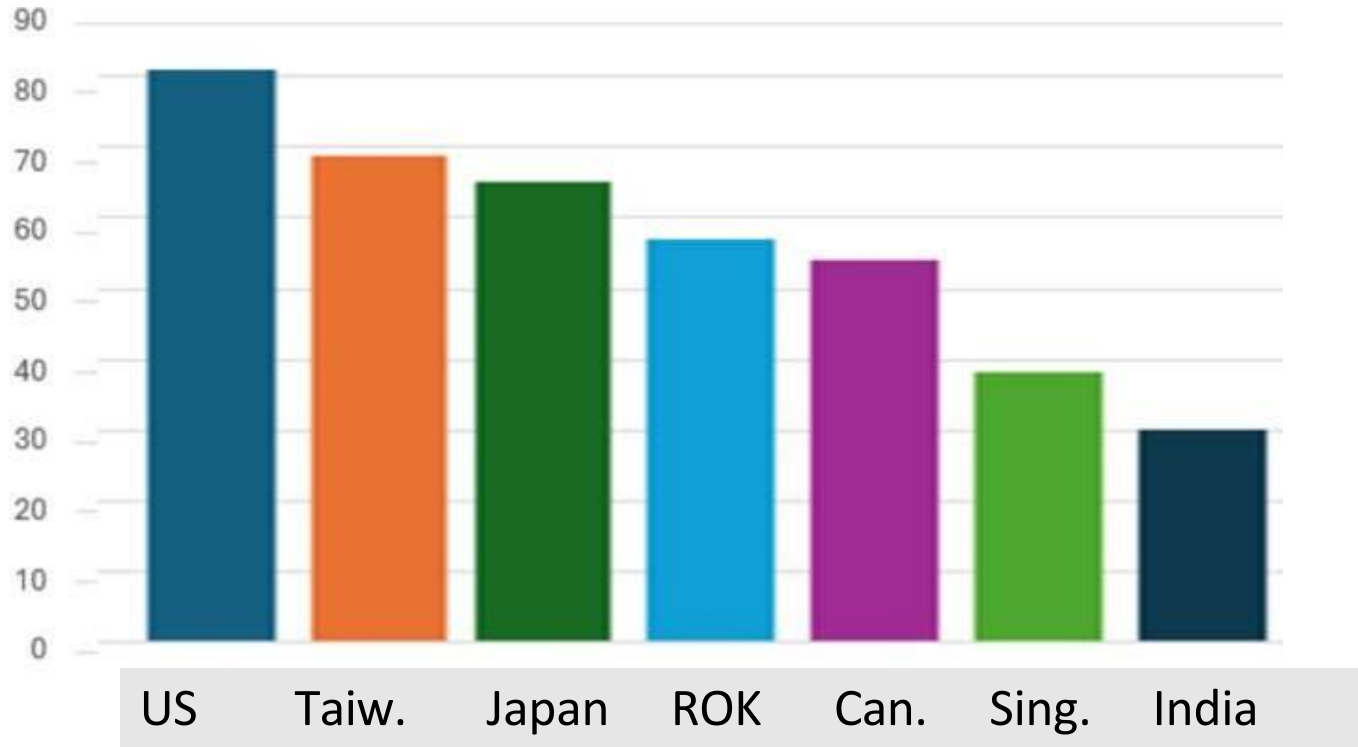
 **SURVEY**

**CALL FOR PARTICIPATION**

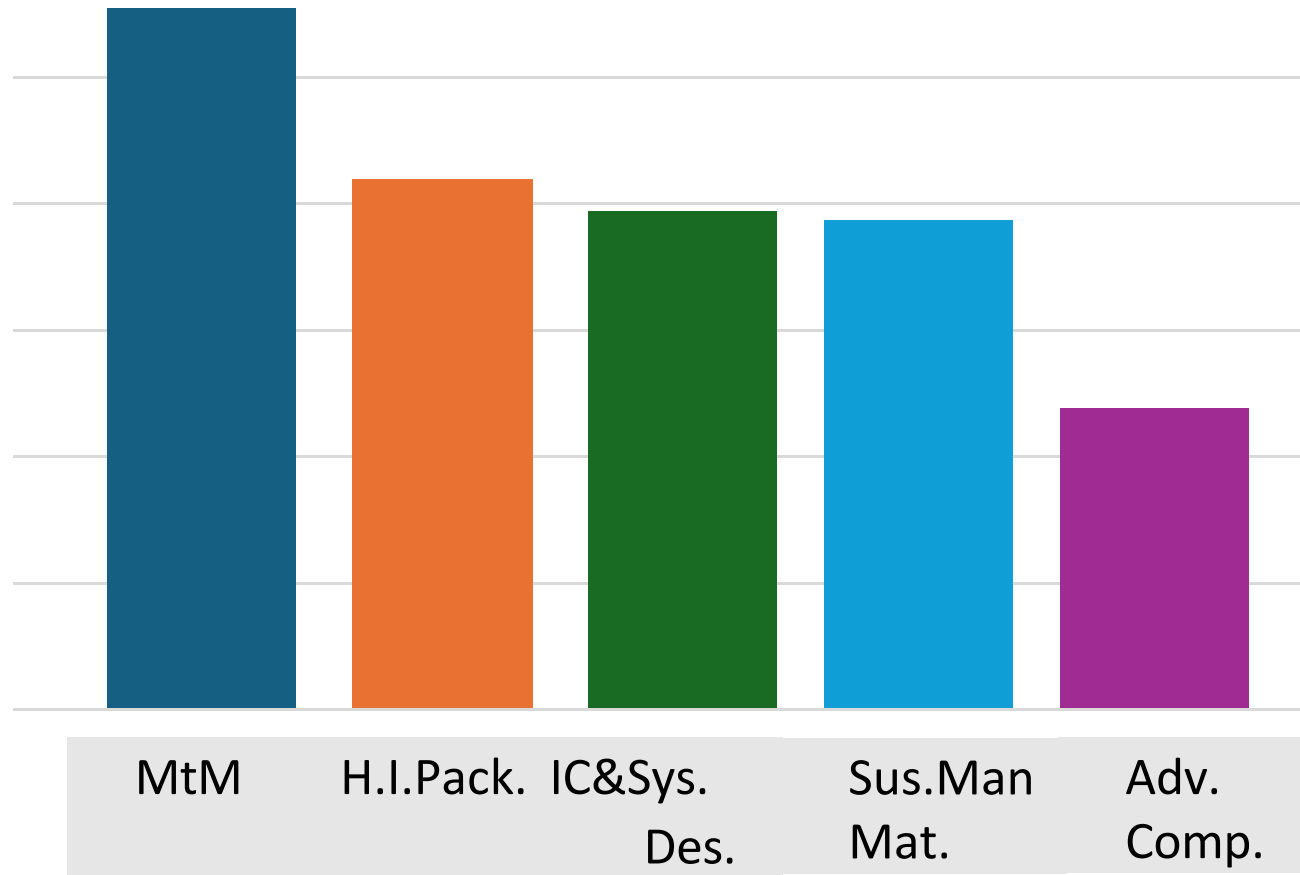
**STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK ON EU  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON  
SEMICONDUCTORS**

 [icos-semiconductors.eu](https://icos-semiconductors.eu)

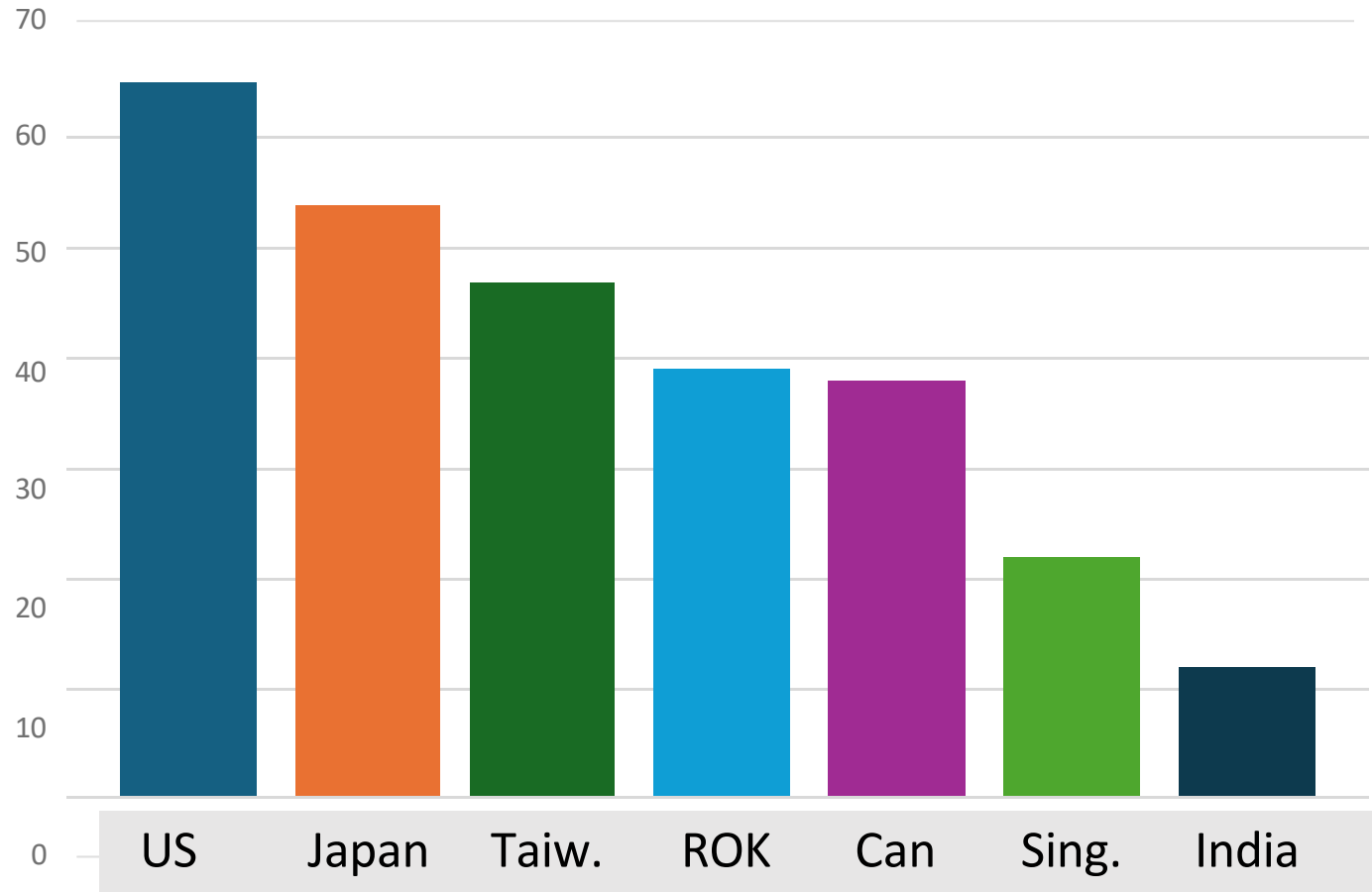
# Countries for cooperation



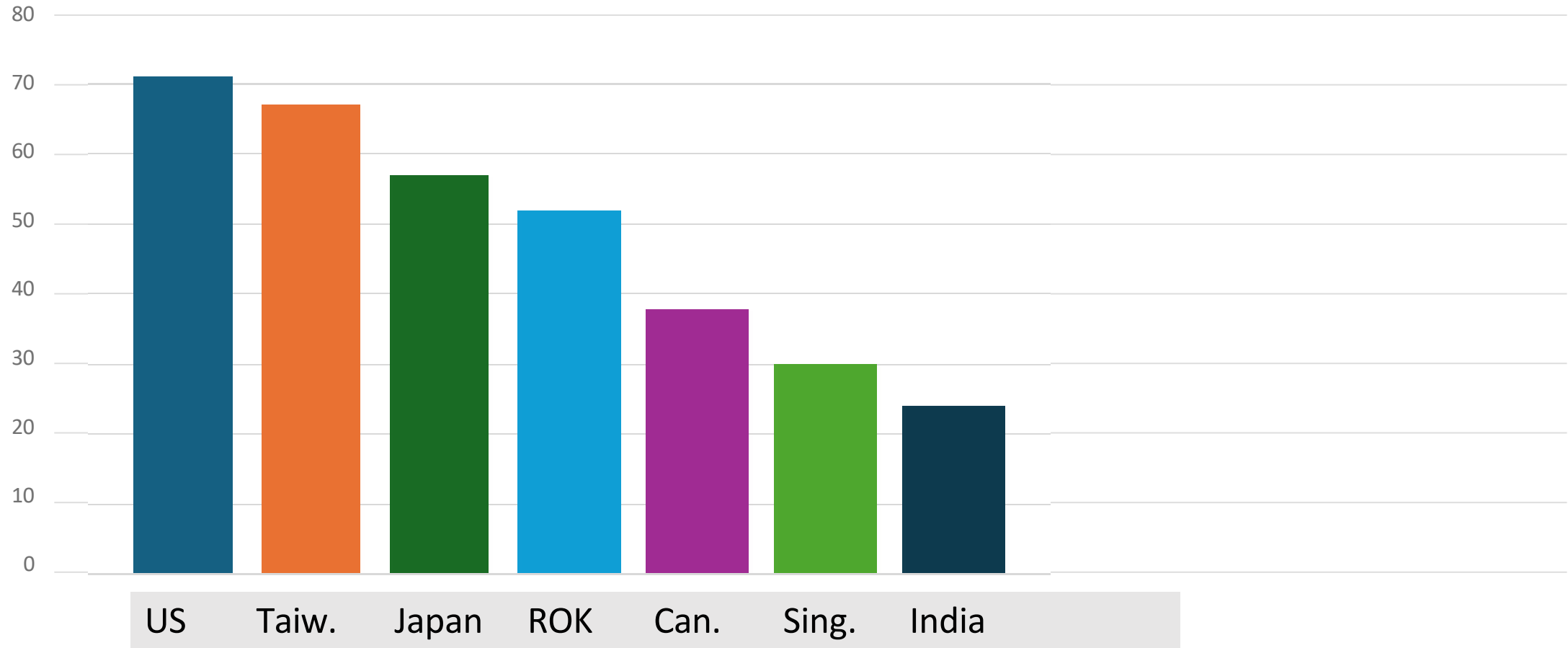
# Topics for cooperation (average of the 7 countries)



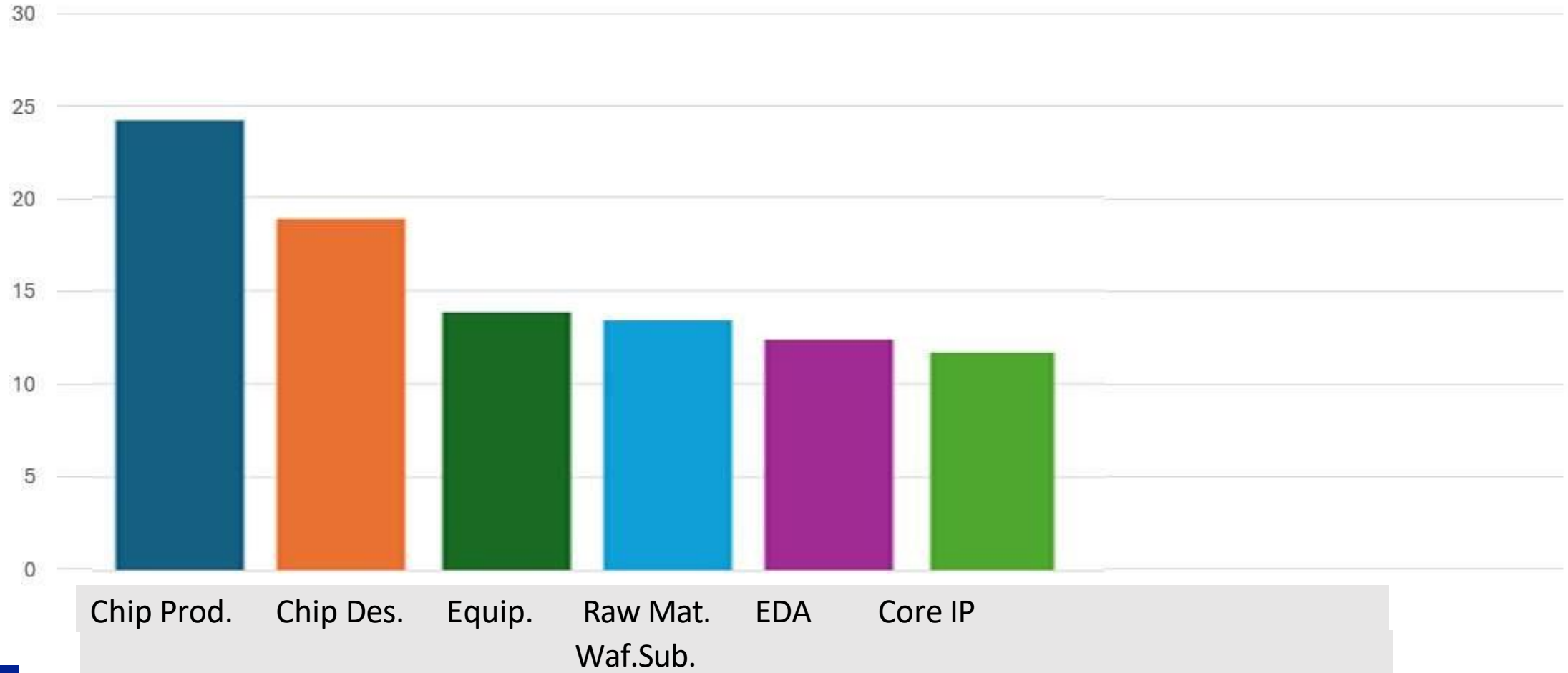
# Access to Research Infrastructures



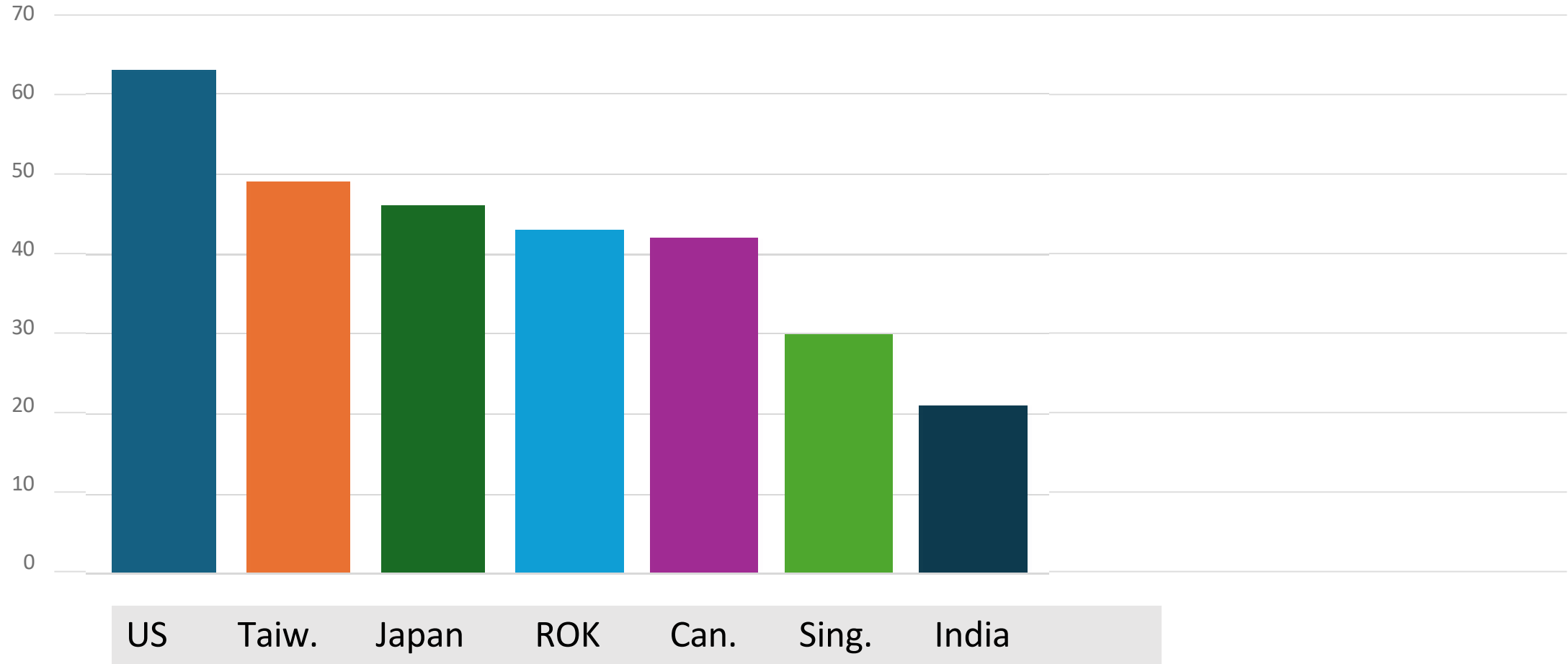
# Cooperation in the semiconductor value chain



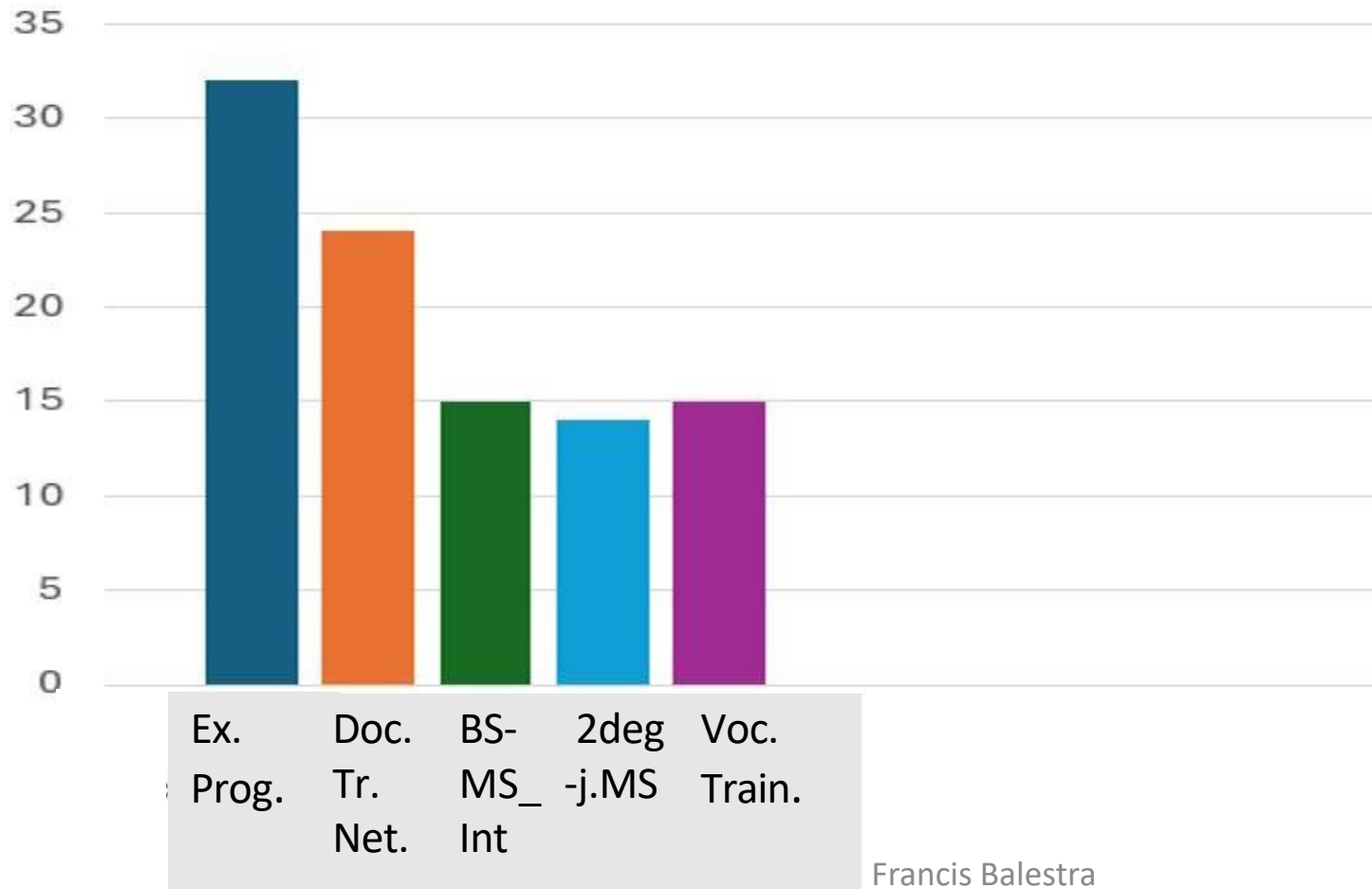
# Topics for cooperation in the semiconductor value chain (average of the 7 countries)



# Cooperation in joint skill programmes



# Which type of joint skill programmes would you be interested in? (average of the 7 countries)



# Analysis of the semiconductor industrial ecosystems

# WHERE EUROPE IS LEADING

## Automotive Semiconductor Market Leaders

- 1 NXP Semiconductor NV
- 2 Infineon Technologies AG
- 3 Renesas Electronics Corporation
- 4 STMicroelectronics NV
- 5 Toshiba Electronic Devices & Storage Corporation (Toshiba Corporation)

## Power Semiconductor Top Companies

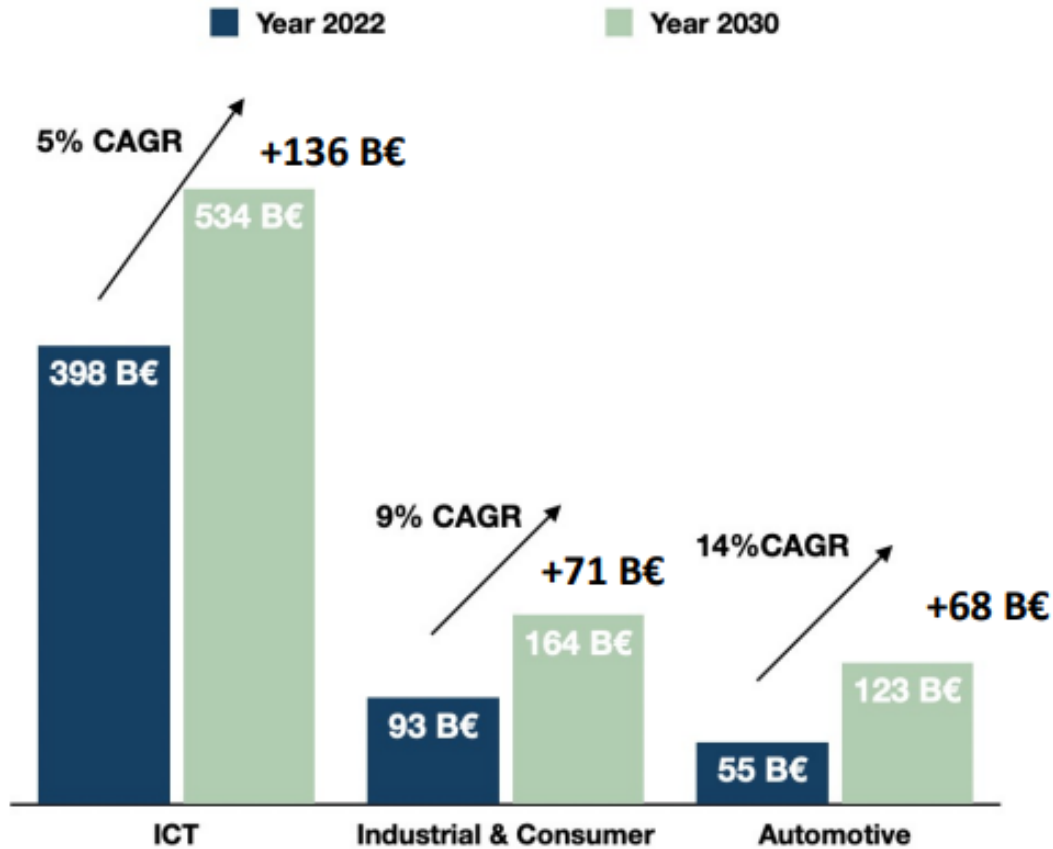
- 1 Infineon Technologies AG
- 2 Texas Instruments Inc.
- 3 STMicroelectronics NV
- 4 NXP Semiconductors NV
- 5 On Semiconductor Corporation

## MEMS Market Leaders

- 1 Broadcom Inc.
- 2 Robert Bosch GmbH
- 3 STMicroelectronics N.V.
- 4 Texas Instruments Inc.
- 5 Qorvo Inc.

Source: Mordor Intelligence, 2022

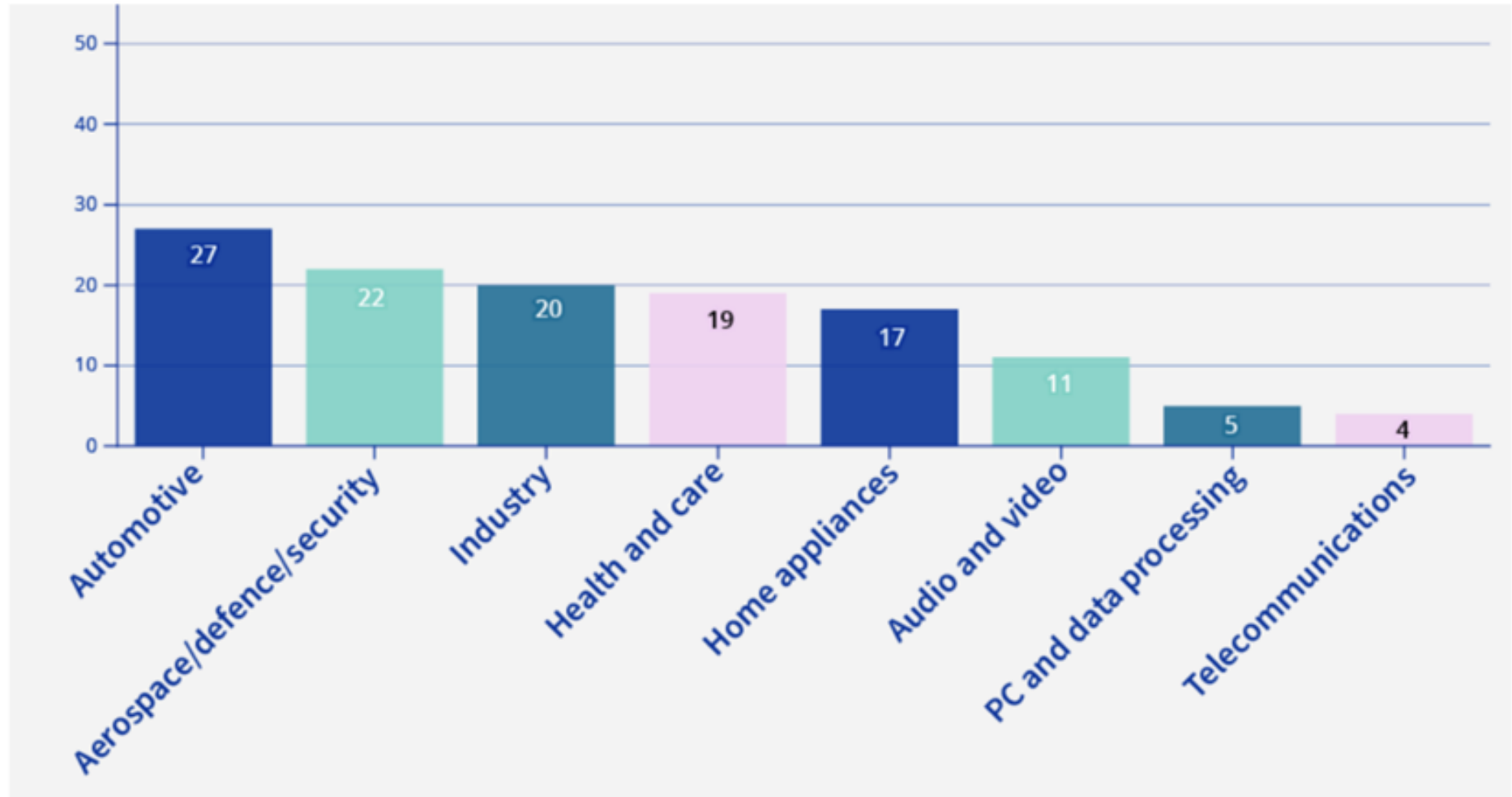
# Semiconductor growth forecasts by 2030 by end-market



➤ ICT remains the largest application, greatest growth expected on automotive

Source: DECISION Etudes & Conseil, Mc Kinsey, WSTS

# Europe's market shares in chip production for different sectors in 2023 (in %)

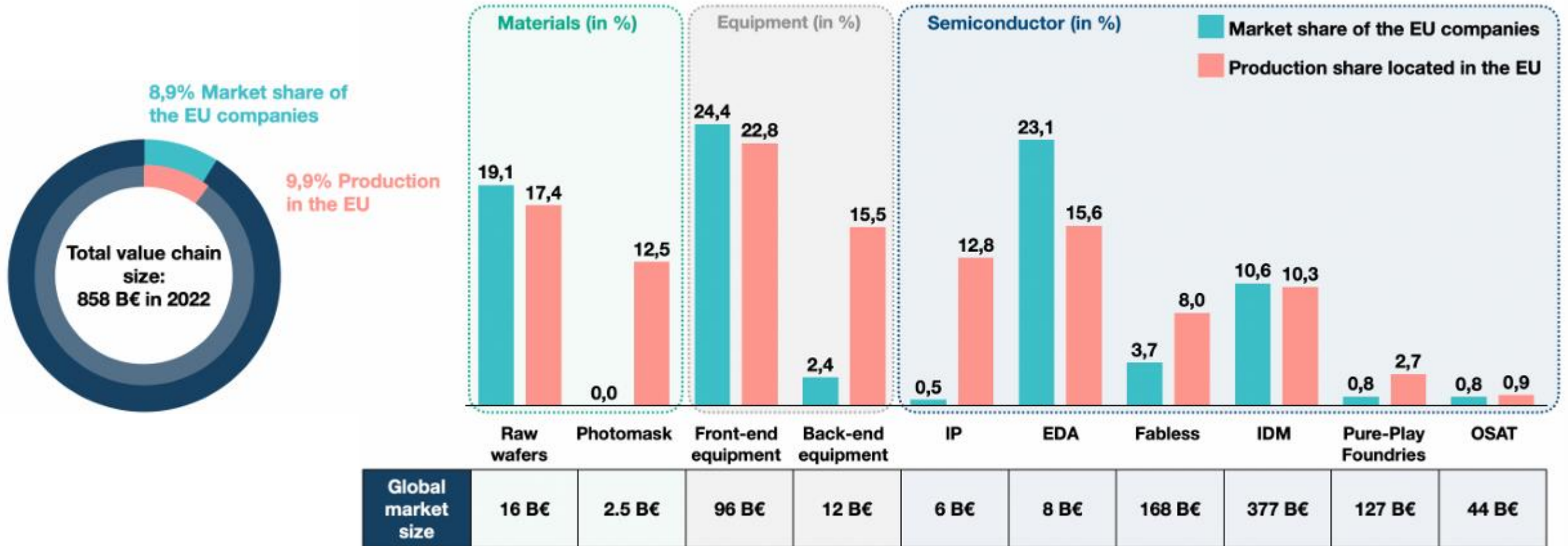


Source: European Council of the EU, 2023

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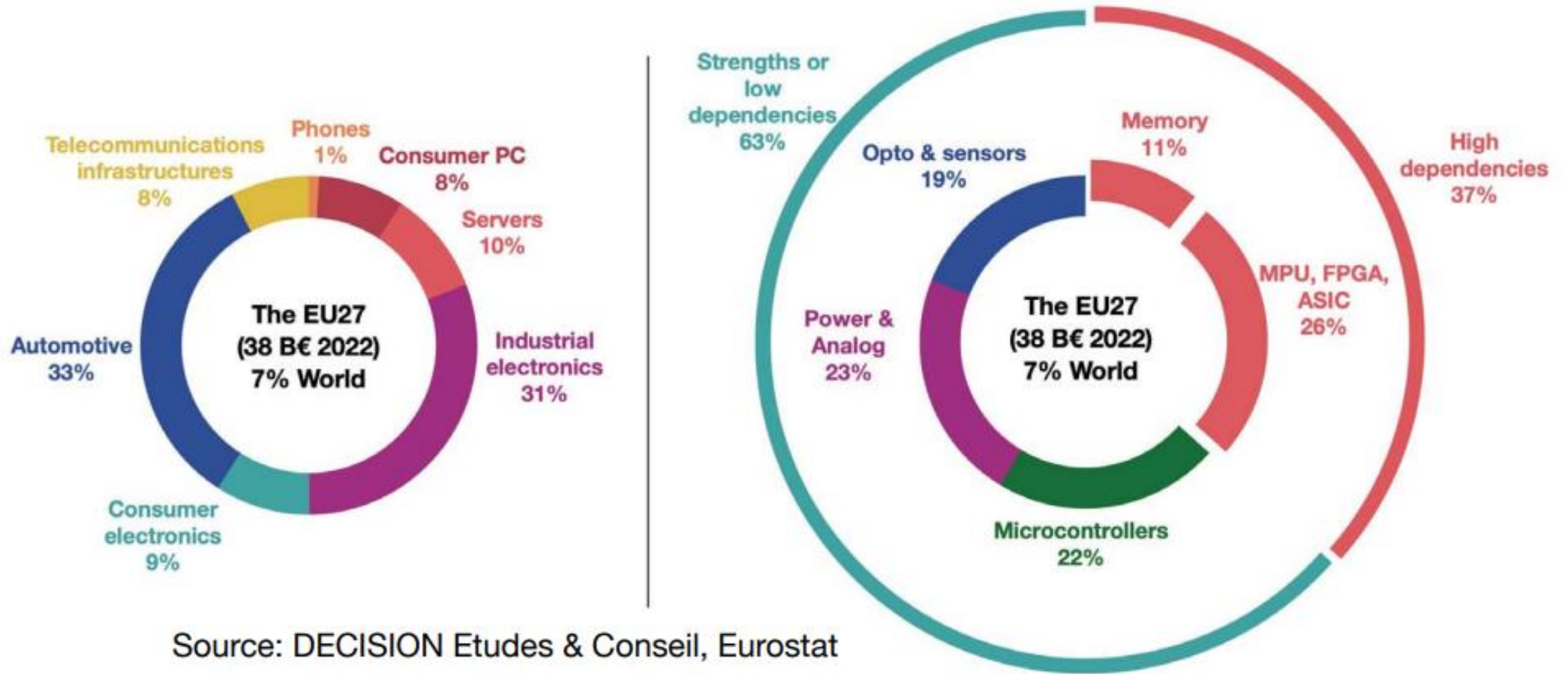
# Market and production shares of EU players in 2022



In comparison, the EU account for 17% of the global GDP in 2022<sup>29</sup>.

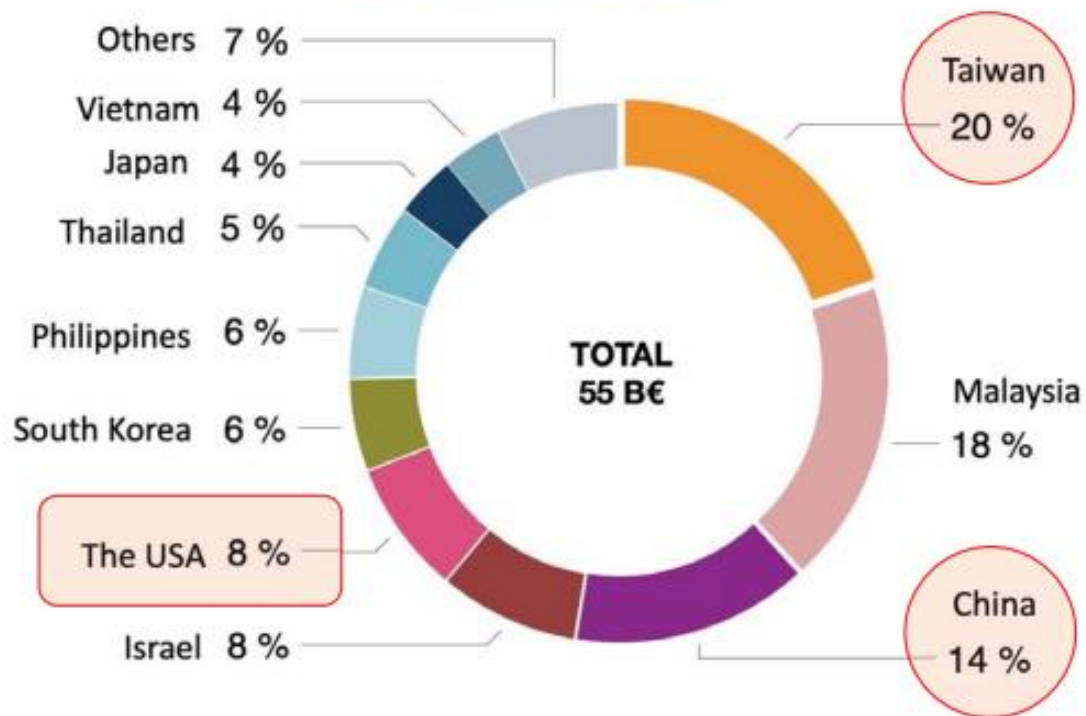
Source: DECISION Etudes & Conseil

# Description of the semiconductor demand in the EU by application and products

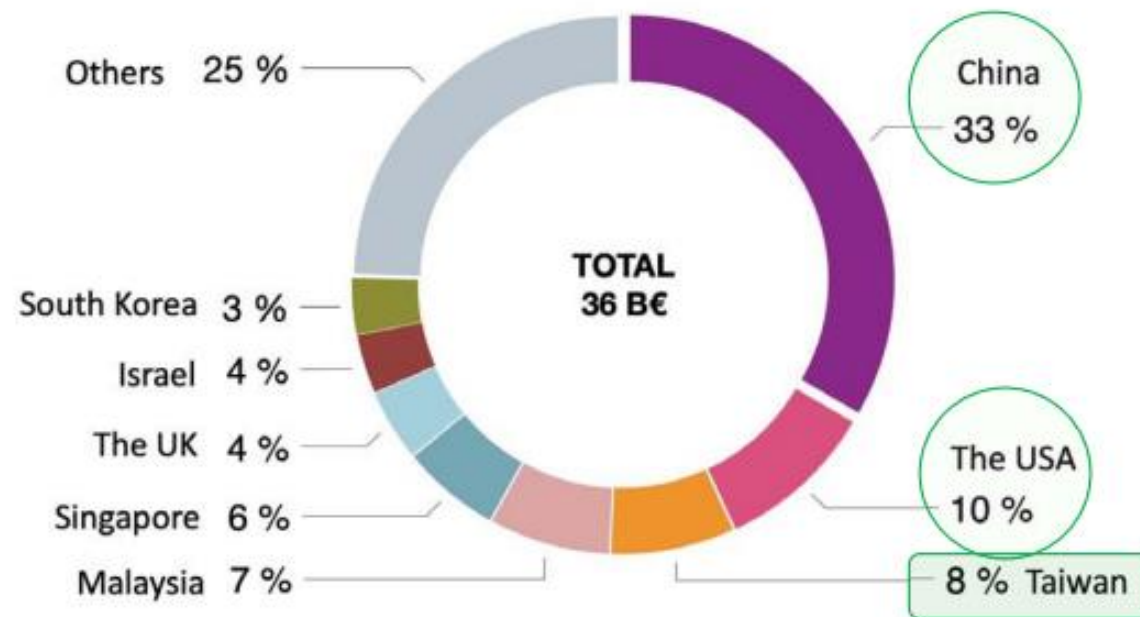


# Semiconductor trade partners of the EU (by location)

**Imports of semiconductors (excluding Opto)  
in the EU27 in 2022**



**Exports of semiconductors (excluding Opto)  
from the EU27 in 2022**

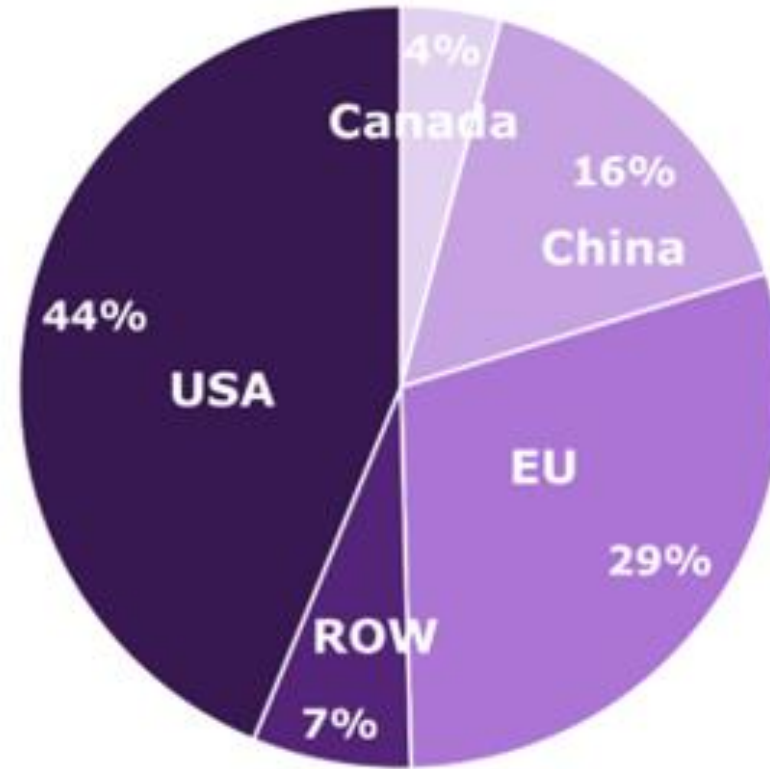


Source: DECISION Etudes & Conseil, Eurostat, 2023

# Global spread of silicon photonics end-users

## Industries served:

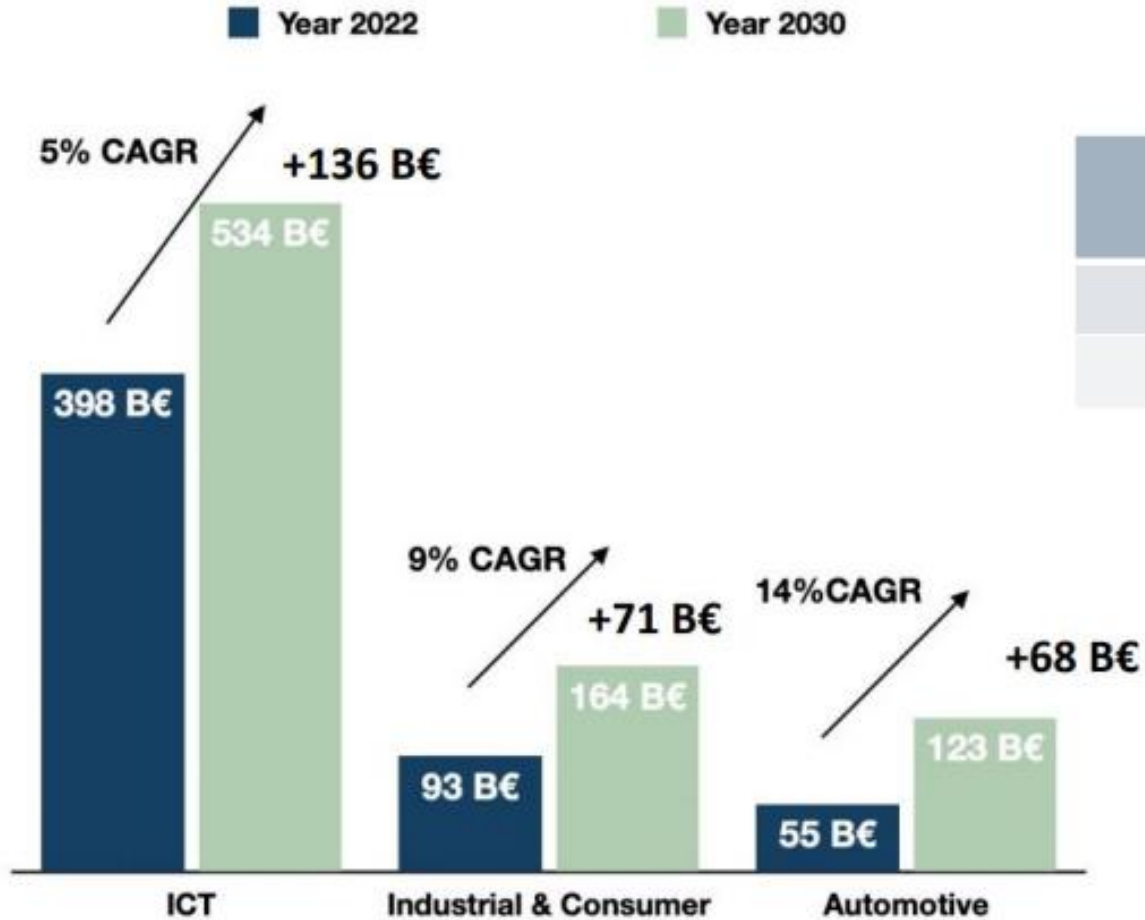
- Agrifood
- Automotive
- HPC
- Industrial sensing
- Medical Diagnostics
- Optical IO
- Photonics AI
- Quantum Computing
- Telecom/datacom



An analysis based on **125** companies developing SiPh-enabled products

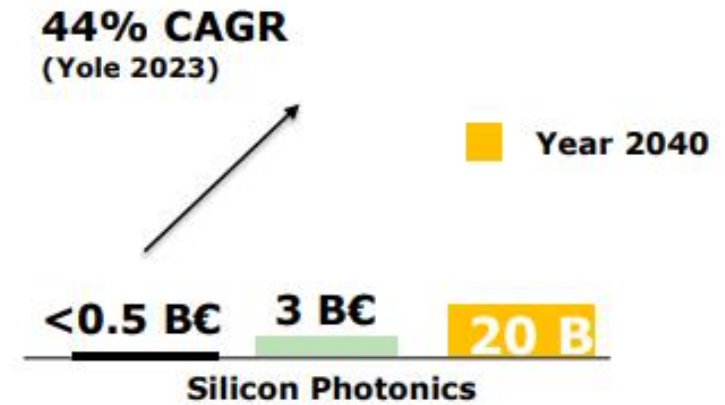
■ Canada ■ China ■ EU ■ ROW ■ United States

# Growth in Photonic Chips



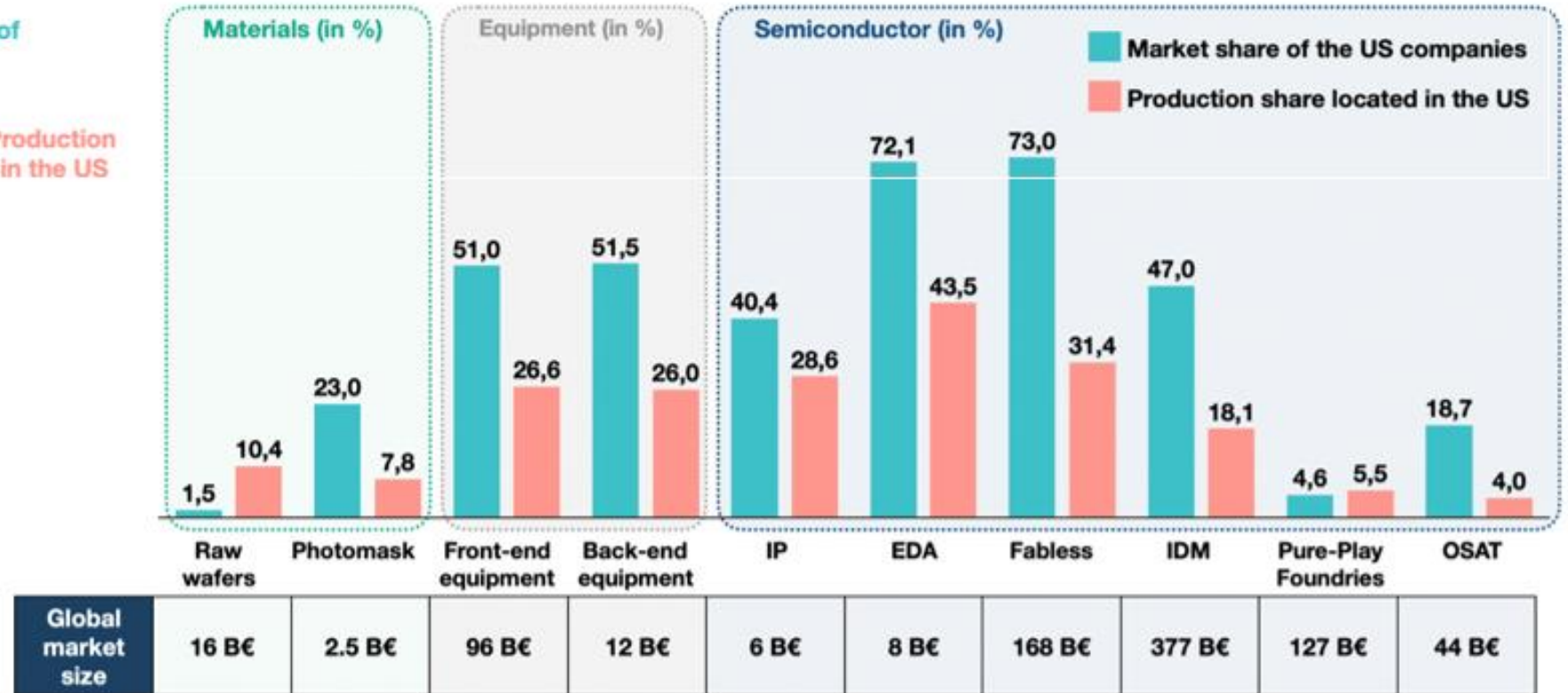
Source: DECISION Etudes & Conseil, Mc Kinsey, WSTS

Silicon Photonics Market ÷ Semiconductor Market	
2023	< 0.1%
2040	> 1%






Source: Yole market studies; Roel Baets

# Market share and production share across the value chain: USA example



Source: DECISION Etudes & Conseil

# The USA's main strengths against the EU

	Key Applications	 Industry contenders	 Industry leaders
<b>Microprocessor</b> Design and manufacturing	AI/HPC Automotive (ADAS)	  15 other start-ups	   
<b>Advanced front-end manufacturing</b>	AI/HPC Automotive (ADAS)	  xfab	 
<b>Back-end equipment &amp; Manufacturing / Advanced packaging</b>	All applications	    	  
<b>Photomask</b>	All applications	 	 
<b>Front-end equipment</b> (except EUV photolithography)	In particular etching & cleaning with LAM Research)	Deposition:   Metrology & quality control: 	  
<b>Nand Flash &amp; DRAM</b> Design & Manufacturing	Mobile phones, PC Consumer electronics		  

Source: DECISION Etudes & Conseil

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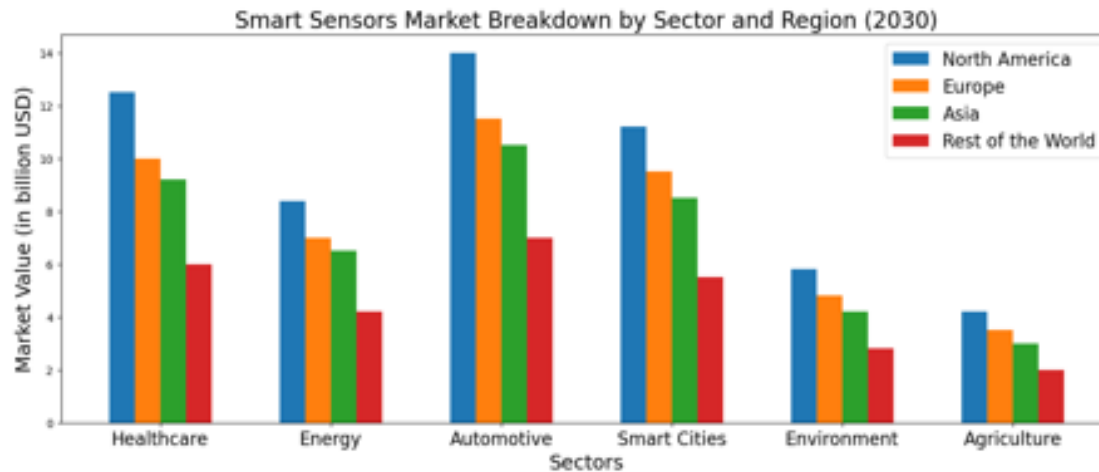
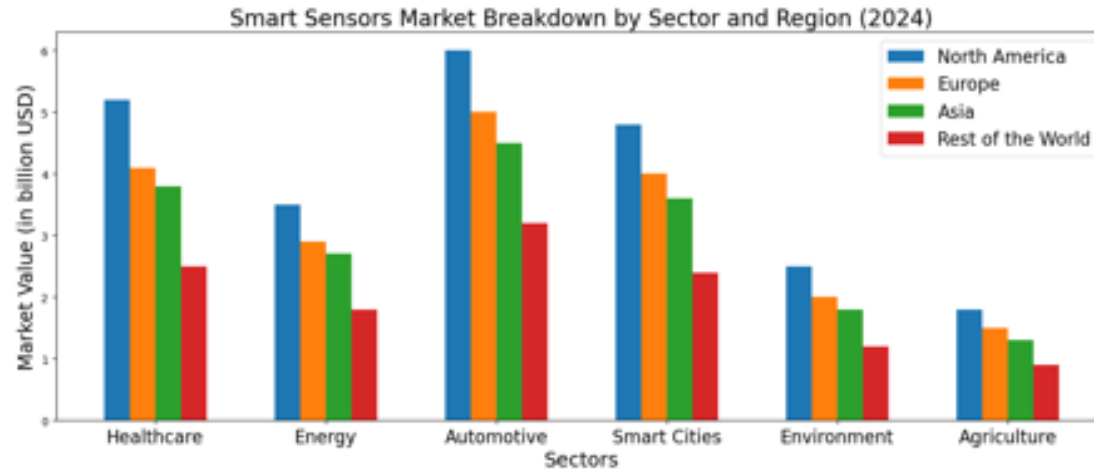
# Identification of the main technologies for international cooperation

*“Advanced functionalities”*

# Sensor Technologies

- Concept 1- Motion Sensors
- Concept 2 - Pressure Sensors
- Concept 3 - Advanced Drive Assistance Systems
- Concept 4 - Environmental Sensors
- Concept 5 - Agri-food Sensors
- Concept 6 - Sensors for Medical and Healthcare Applications
- Concept 7 - Molecular Diagnostics
- Concept 8 - Native CMOS-based physical sensor interfaces
- Concept 9 - Sensors for energy (new)
- Concept 10 - Sensors for Smart Cities (new)

# Sensor Technology Market by Sector



Global values 2024 → 2030

Healthcare: \$15.6 → \$37.7 billion

Energy: \$10.9 → \$26.1 billion

Automotive: \$18.7 → \$43 billion

Smart Cities: \$14.8 → \$35 billion

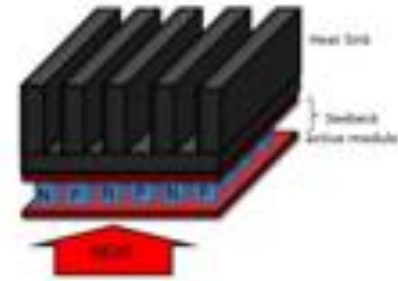
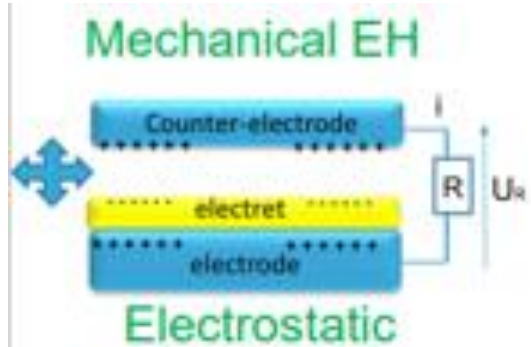
Environment: \$7.5 → \$17.6 billion

Agriculture: \$5 → \$15 billion

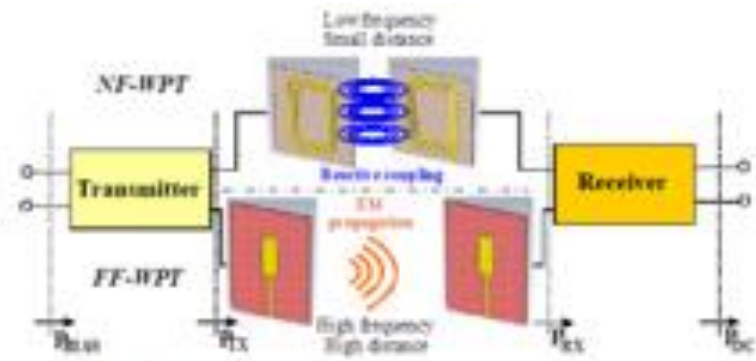
Sources:  
grandviewresearch.com  
mordorintelligence.com  
market.us  
emergenresearch.com  
theinsightpartners.com

- 1. MEMS (Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems):** This segment is expected to hold a significant share of the market, driven by its applications in consumer electronics, automotive, and industrial sectors. **USD 35 billion** by 2030
- 2. CMOS (Complementary Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor):** CMOS sensors, primarily used in imaging applications, are anticipated to grow substantially. **USD 25 billion** by 2030
- 3. Optical:** With the increasing demand for miniaturized and integrated sensor solutions, **USD 20 billion** by 2030

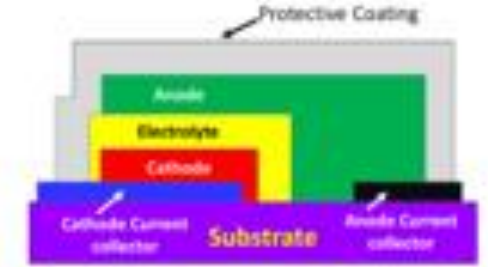
# Energy Harvesting technologies



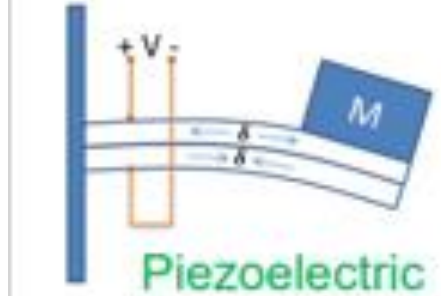
**Thermal EH**



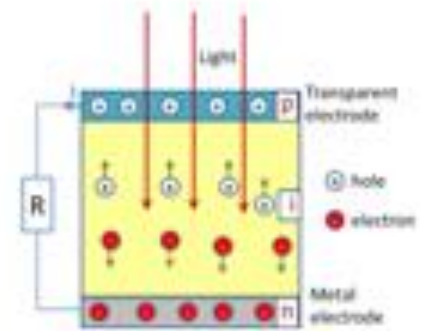
**RF EH / wireless power transfer**



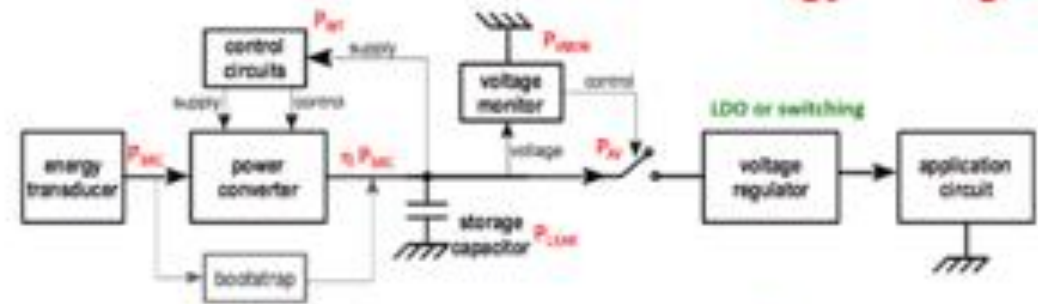
**Energy storage (µbatteries)**



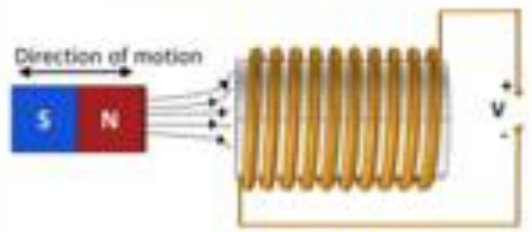
**Piezoelectric**



**Solar EH**

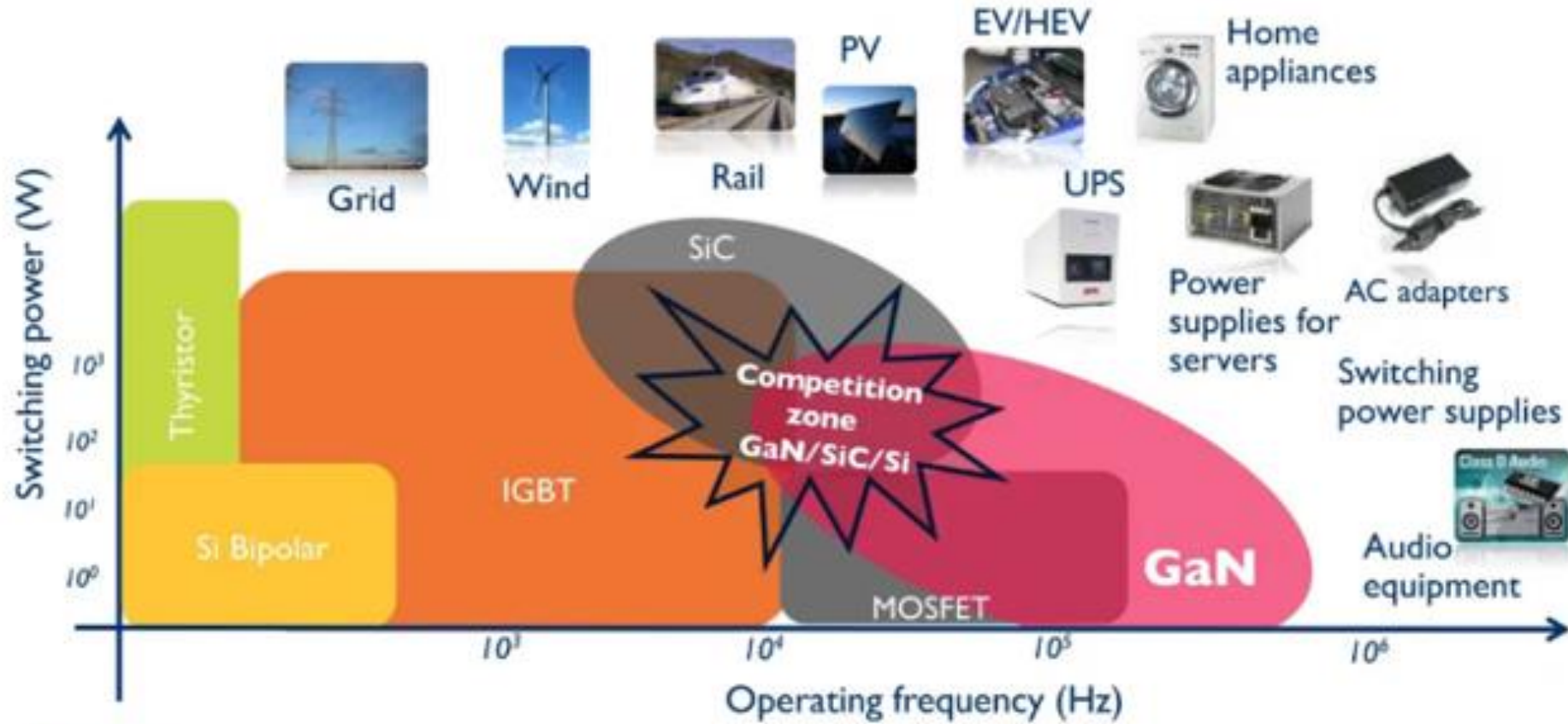


**Micro power management**

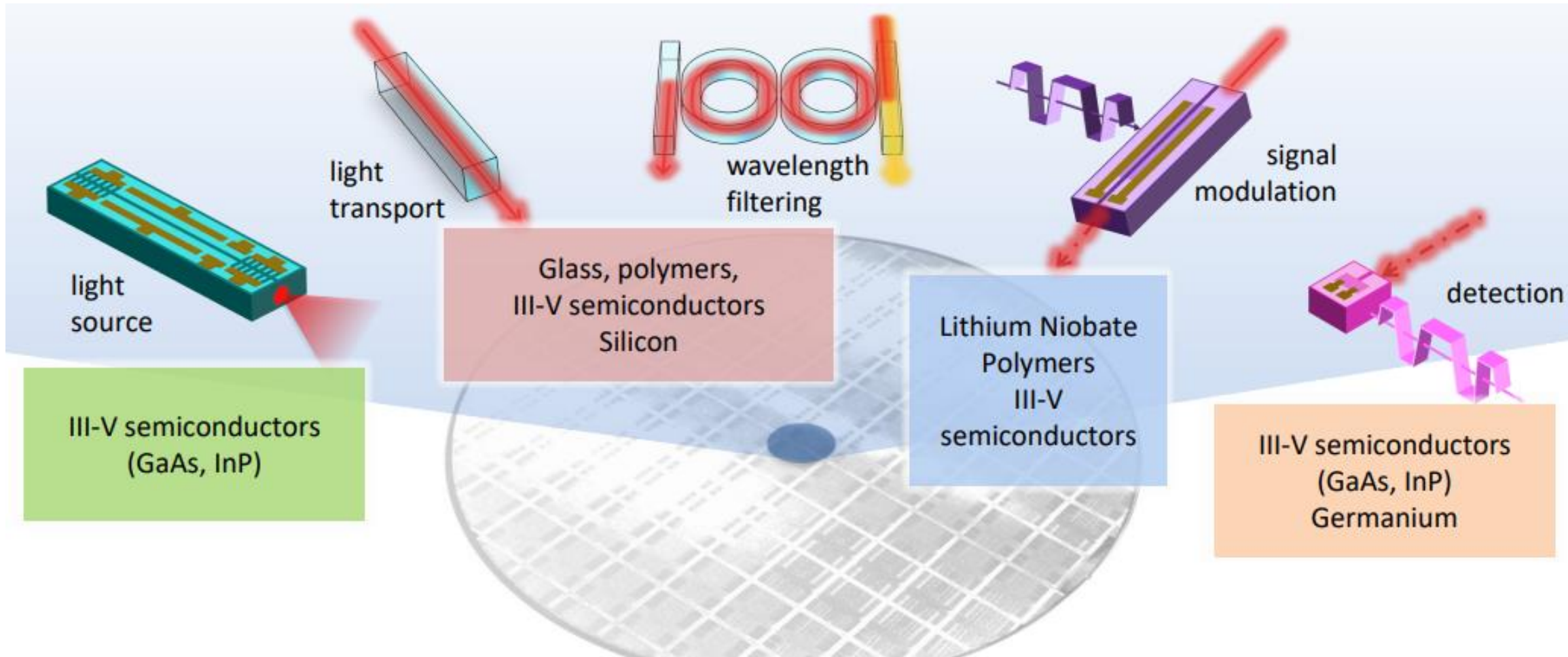


**Electromagnetic**

# Smart power technologies



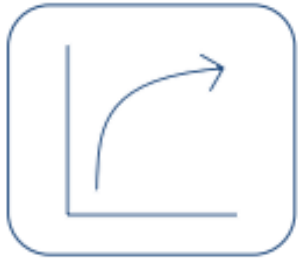
# Photonics Integrated circuits



# Challenges for Photonics Ecosystems

- ❑ Low volume: need more applications
- ❑ Getting the best materials (Heterogeneous integration)
- ❑ Design and modelling (first-time-right capabilities)
- ❑ Rapid prototyping (bypass long chip iteration cycles)
- ❑ Packaging (optical, electrical, mechanical, thermal, RF)
- ❑ Combining photonics and electronics

- Innovation in **new, highly sensitive and more versatile sensors** requiring more advanced sustainable (bio)materials innovation and integration
- **For energy harvesters the improvement of the performance/ efficiency** is as important as the development of “**green**” materials
- **Wide band gap** (e.g. SiC, GaN) and **ultrawide band gap materials** (e.g. AlN, GaOx, diamond) for power devices
- **Heterogeneous integration** of best materials for target application
- Hybrid integration of various functional chips
- **Advanced design tools**, including multi-physics simulation for first-time-right modelling capabilities
- **Rapid prototyping** to bypass long chip iteration cycles (e.g. PDK, ADK availability)
- **Packaging that meets multiple design requirements** such as optical, electrical, mechanical, thermal, RF, (bio-)fouling etc.



CMOS and  
DRAM PPAC



Memory  
Wall



Power  
Wall



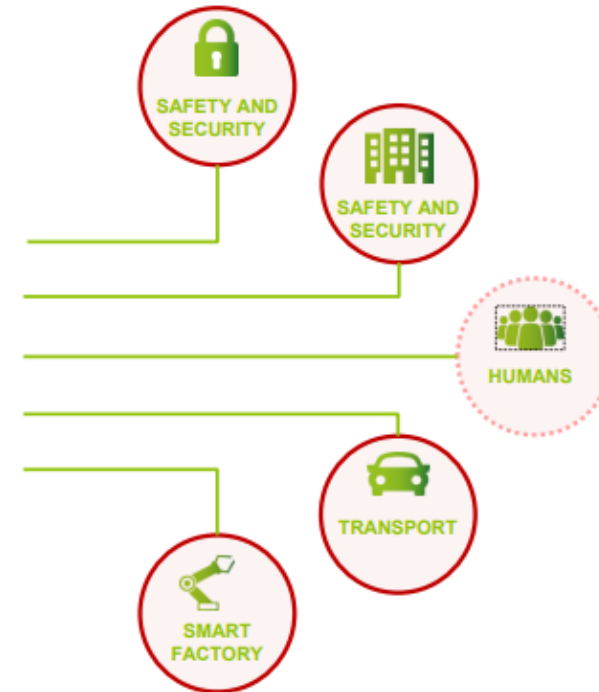
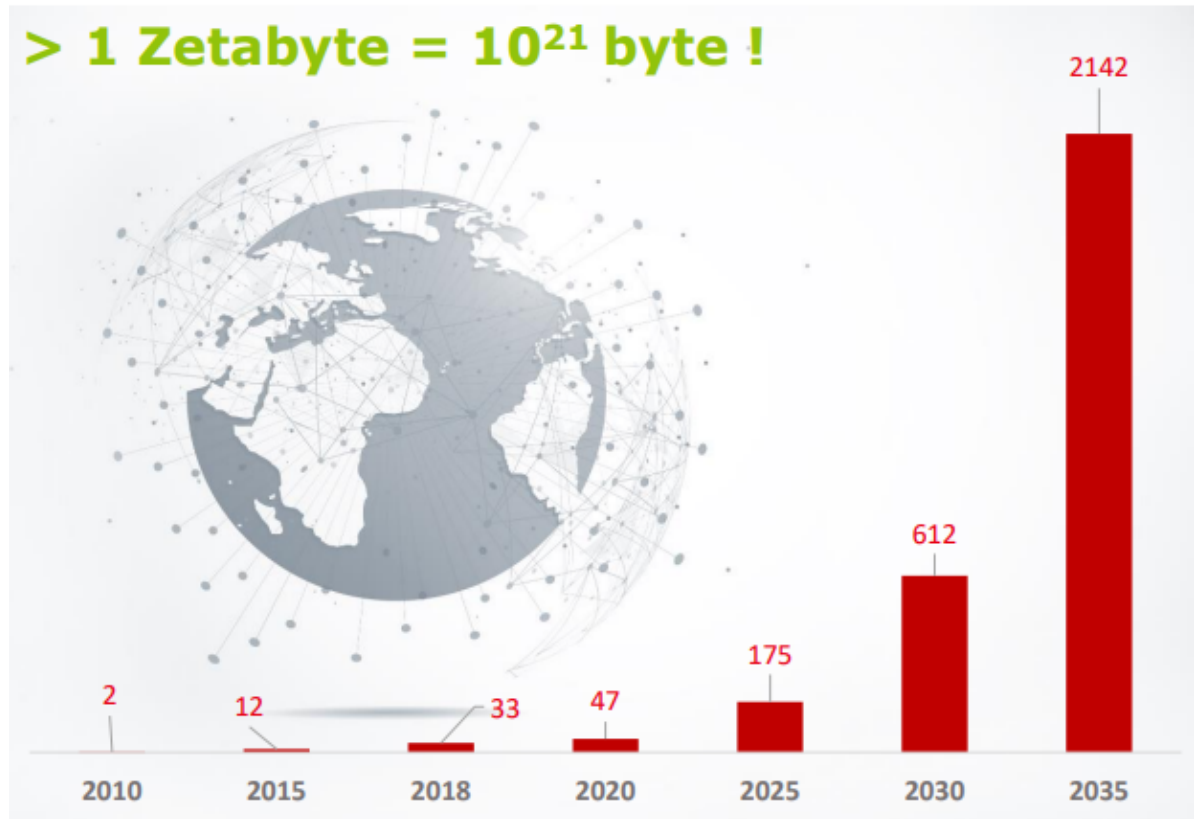
Sustainable  
Manufacturing

PPAC=Power-Performance-Area-Cost

## Global data generation (actual & forecast)

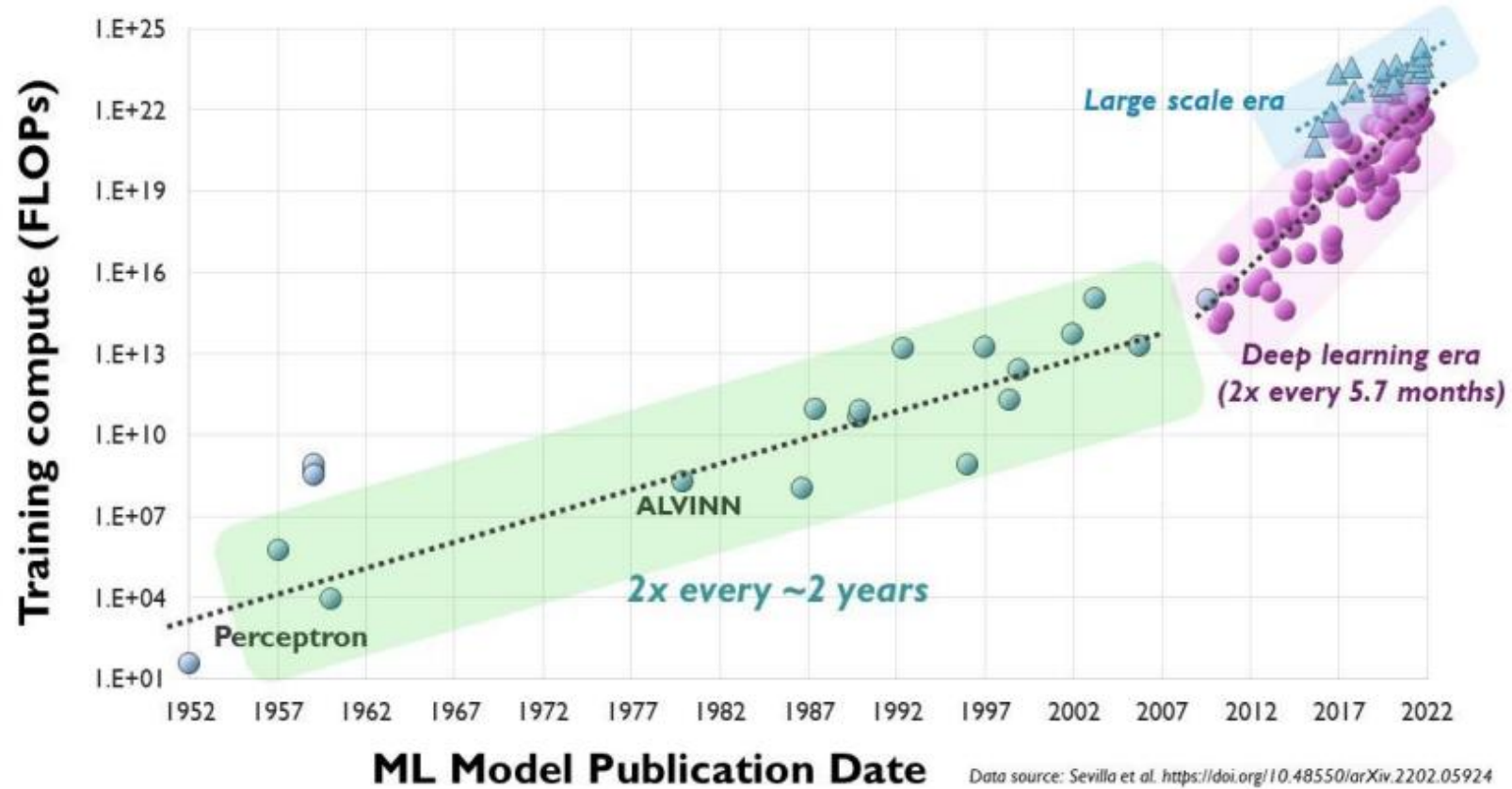


> 1 Zetabyte =  $10^{21}$  byte !



> A true data deluge, not only generated by humans!

## Compute needs for Machine Learning (ML) continue to grow ESSERC 2024



# The required gain in energy efficiency

>1000x  
by  
2030

CMOS scaling

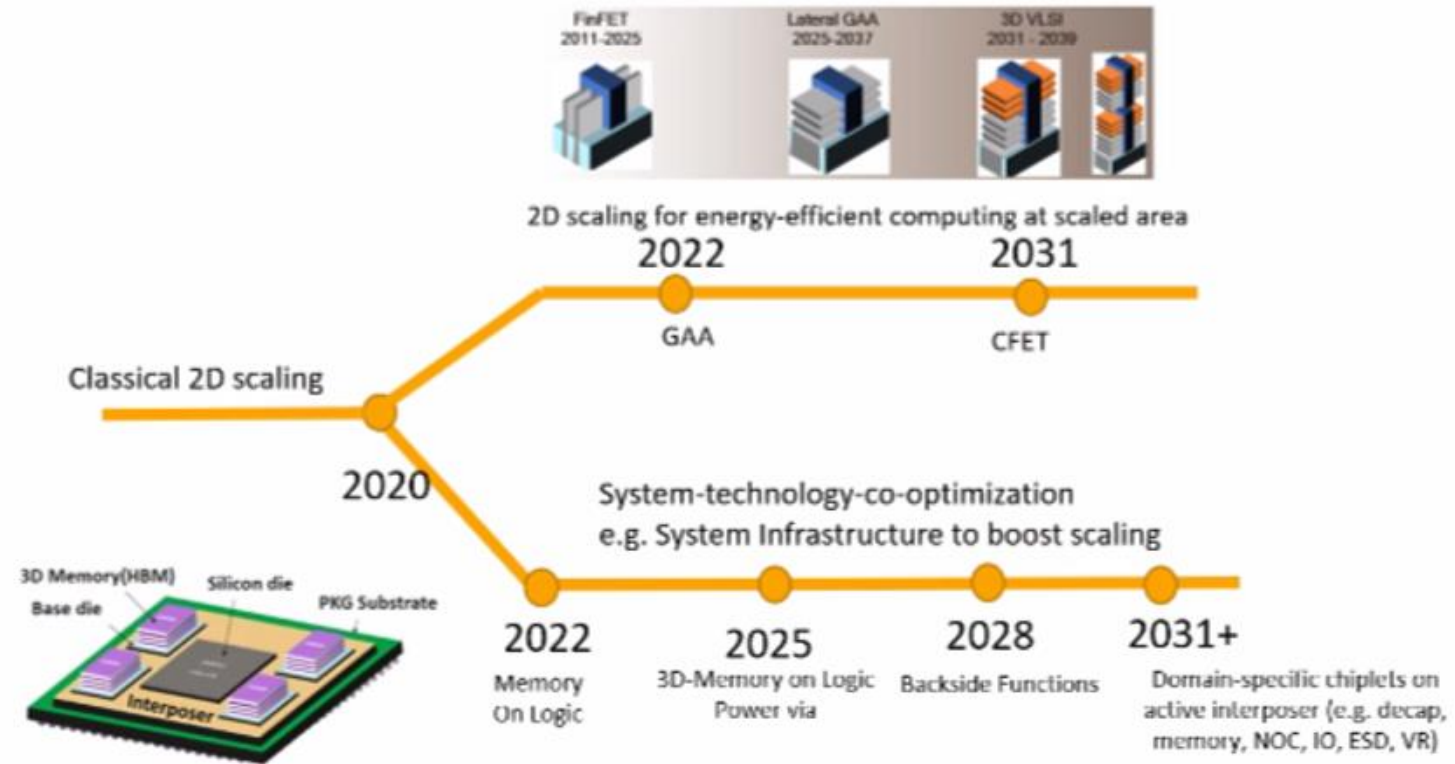
Memory technologies

Disruptive Computing

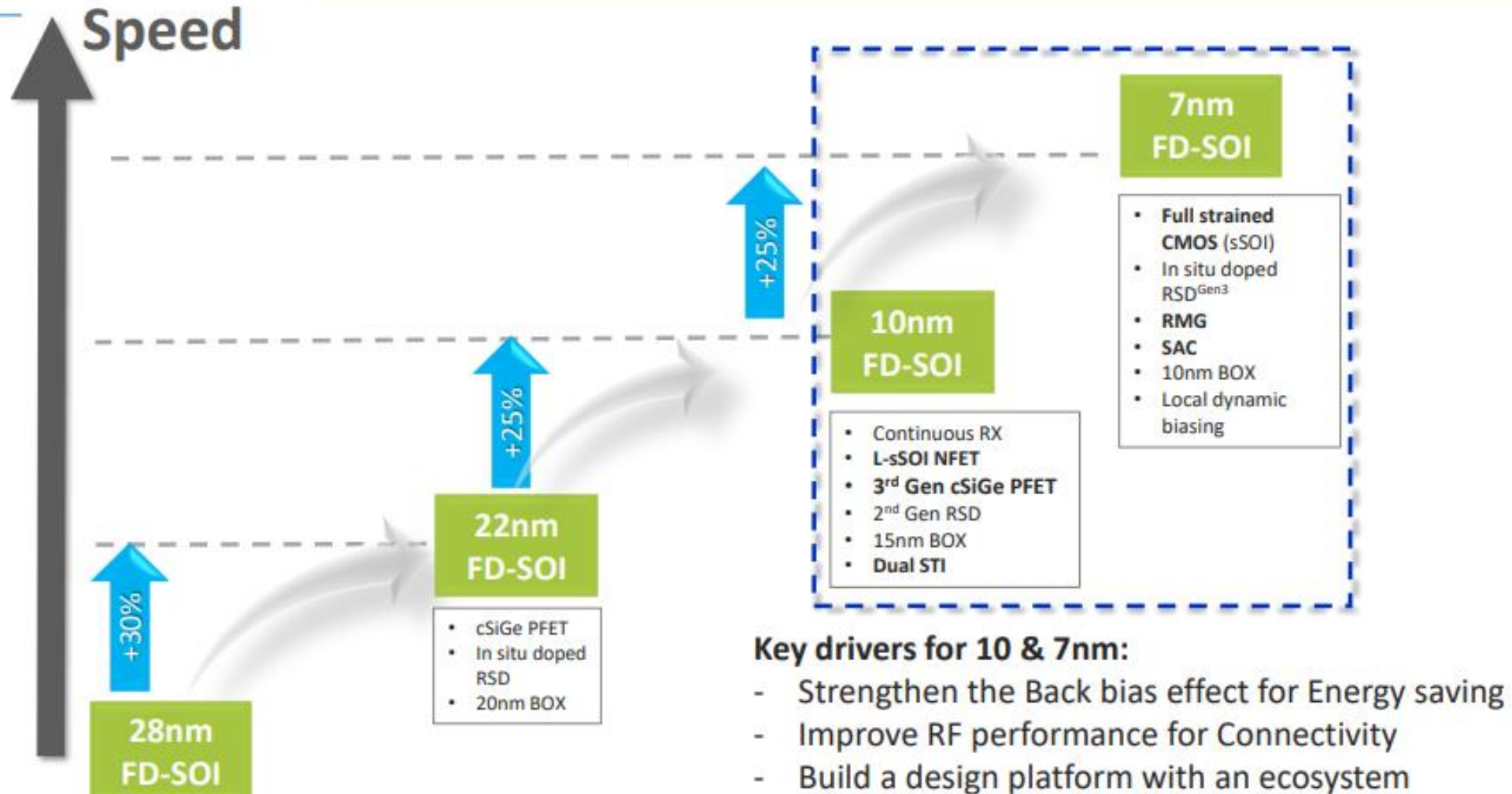
Chiplet & 3D System

# More Moore Roadmap

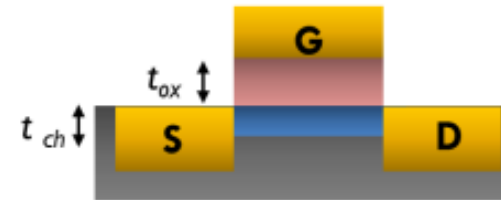
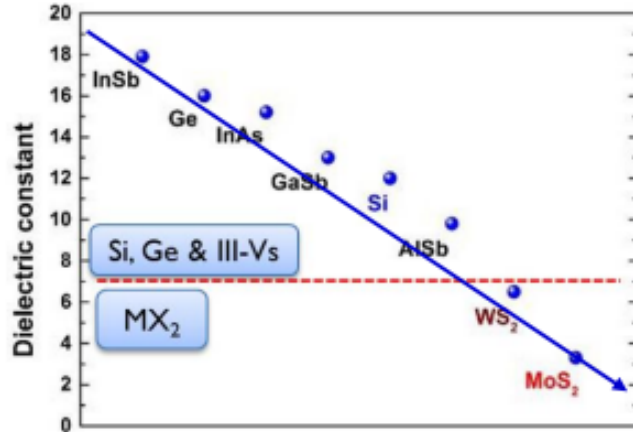
## 2 complementing routes for system scaling



# FD-SOI Technology Roadmap



# 2D Atomic Channels: Next generation logic devices

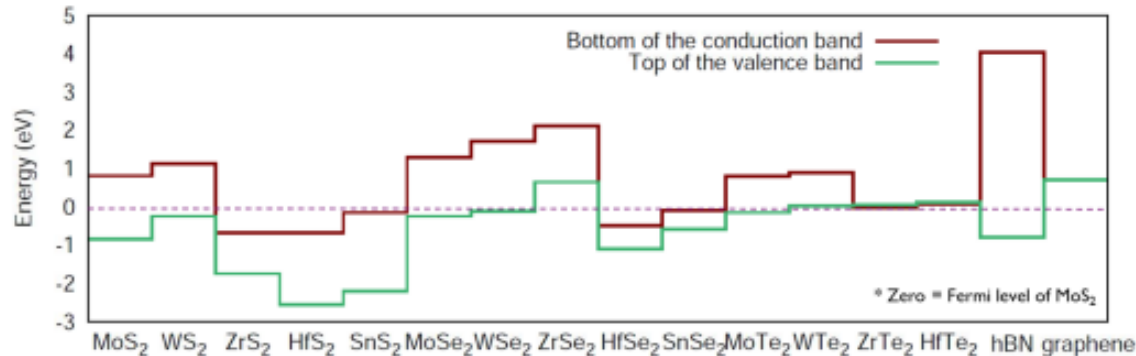


Characteristic length of short channel FETs:

$$\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_{ch}}{\epsilon_{ox}} t_{ch} \cdot t_{ox}}$$

Expect reduced short channel effects in planar devices

Ultra-thin materials



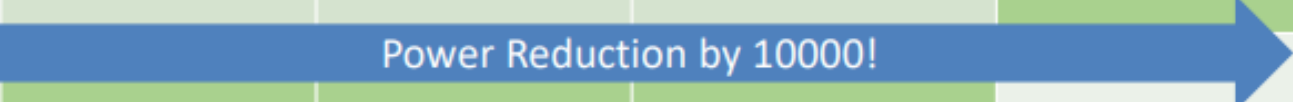
Choice of bandgaps and band alignment

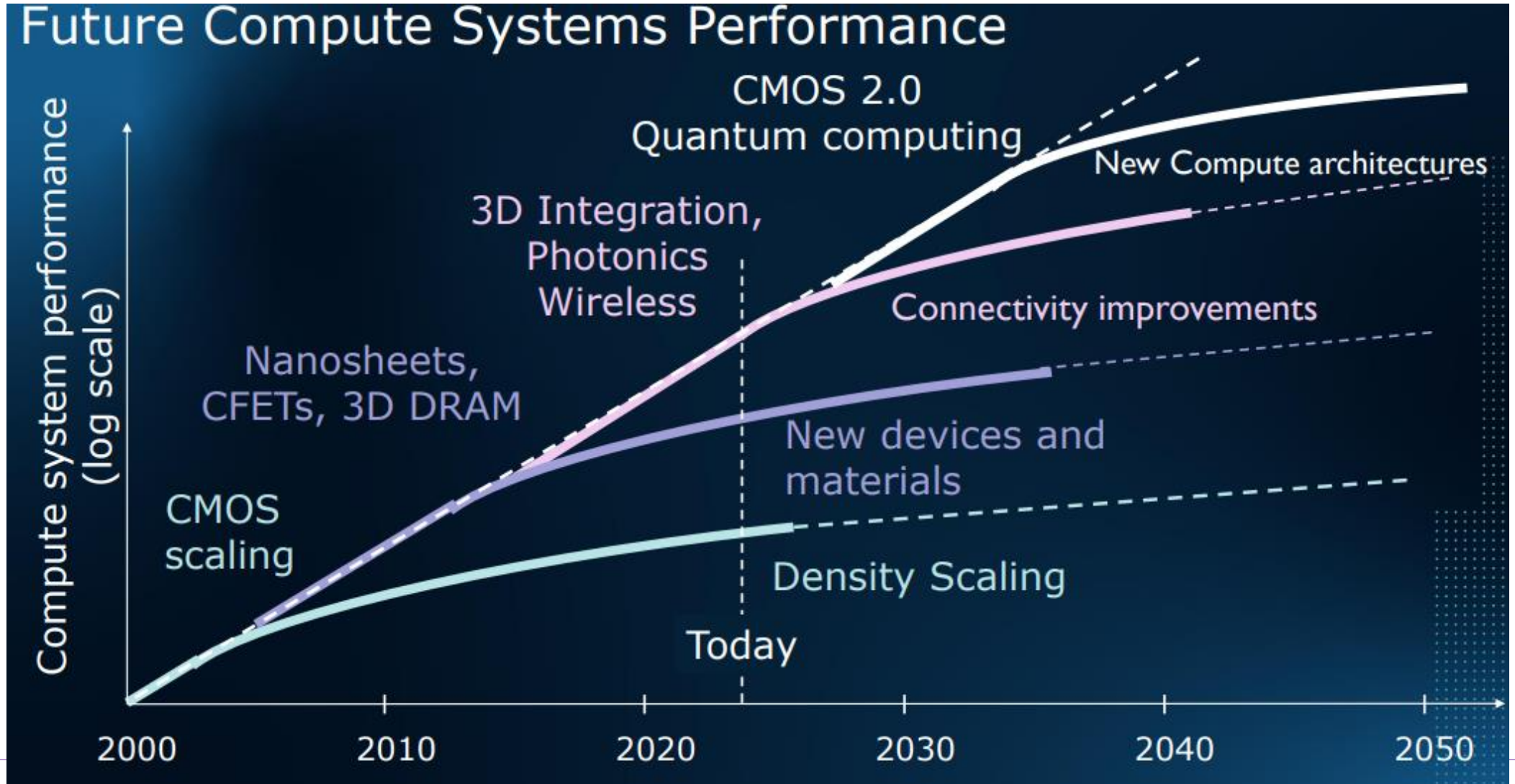
No/Few dangling bonds at interfaces

# Emerging Non-Volatile Memories

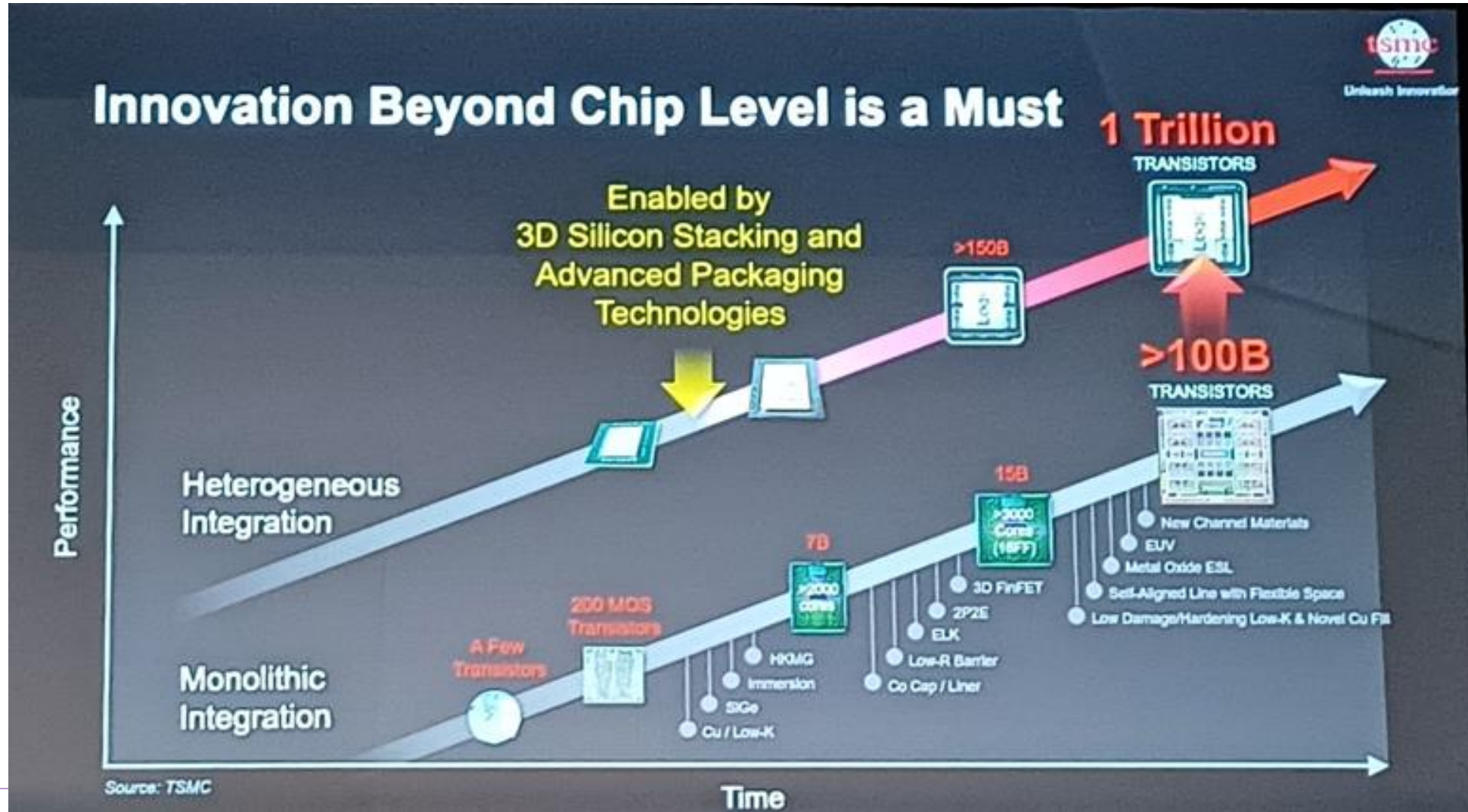
	NOR FLASH	MRAM	PCRAM	OxRAM	FeRAM (PZT)	FeRAM (HfO <sub>2</sub> )
<b>Programming power</b>	~200pJ/bit	~20pJ/bit	~300pJ/bit	~100pJ/bit	~10fJ/bit	~10fJ/bit
<b>Write speed</b>	20 μs	<b>20 ns</b>	<b>10-100 ns</b>	<b>10-100 ns</b>	<100ns	<b>14ns @ 2.5V (SONY)</b> <b>4ns @ 4.8V (LETI)</b>
<b>Endurance</b>	10 <sup>5</sup> - 10 <sup>6</sup>	<b>10<sup>6</sup>-10<sup>15</sup></b>	10 <sup>8</sup>	10 <sup>5</sup> – 10 <sup>6</sup> on 16 kbit	<b>&gt; 10<sup>15</sup></b>	<b>&gt; 10<sup>11</sup> single device</b> 10 <sup>6</sup> – 10 <sup>7</sup> on 16 kbit
<b>Retention</b>	> 125°C	85°C - 165 °C	<b>165°C</b>	> 150°C	125°C	125°C
<b>Extra masks</b>	Very high (>10)	Limited (3-5)	Limited (3-5)	<b>Low (2)</b>	<b>Low (2)</b>	<b>Low (2)</b>
<b>Process flow</b>	Complex	Medium	Medium	<b>Simple</b>	<b>Simple</b>	<b>Simple</b>
<b>Multi-Level Cell</b>	Yes	No	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	No	No
<b>Scalability</b>	Bad	Medium	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	Medium	<b>Poor (2D)</b> <b>High (3D)</b>

Power Reduction by 10000!





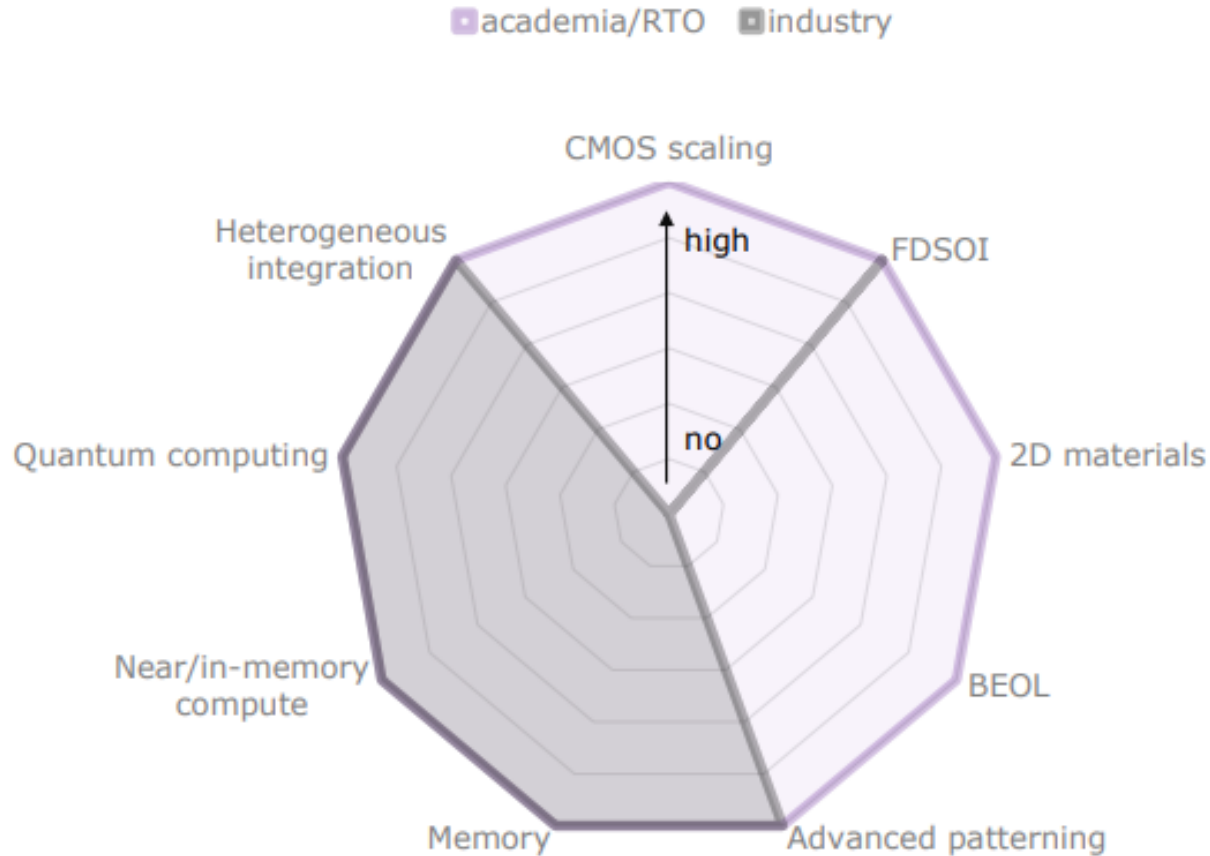
# Monolithic and Heterogeneous integration



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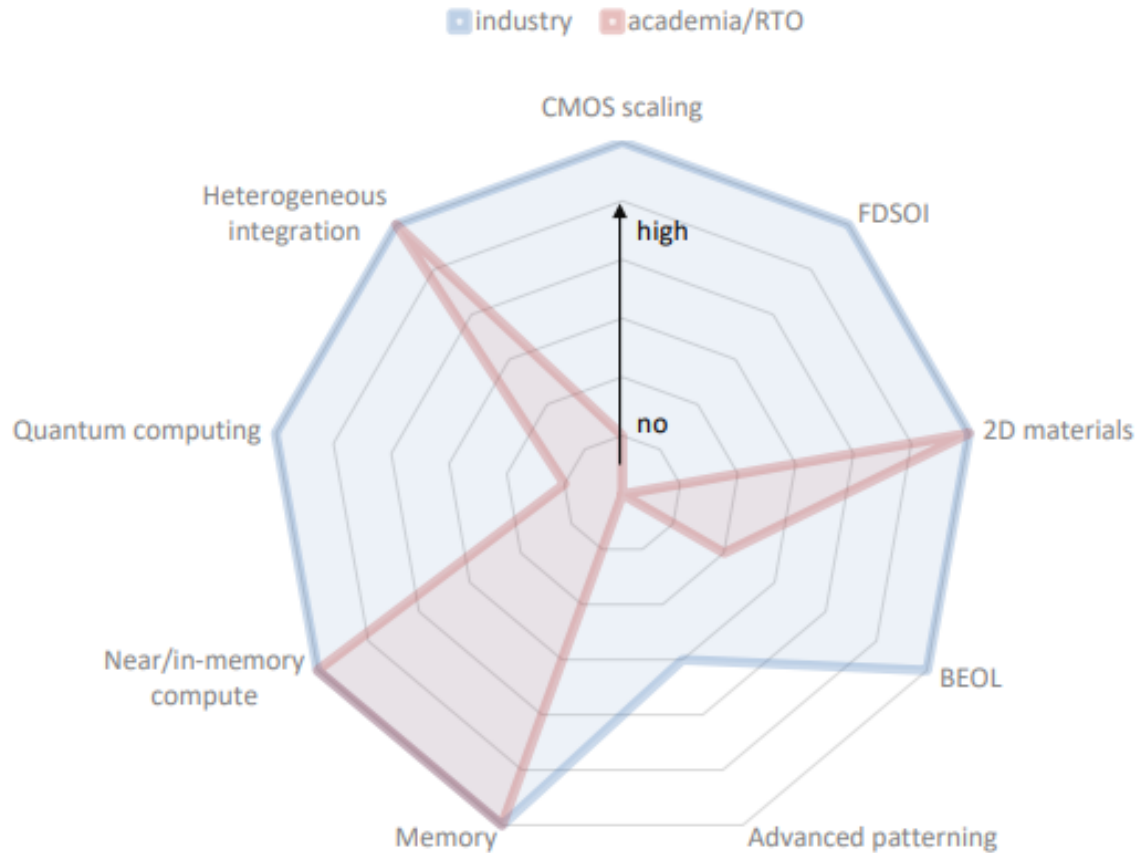
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# – EU and non-EU actors - EU



- R&D very strong in all areas of compute
- Unique strong position in EUV lithography
- In general, industrial EU players lacking to take up R&D

# EU and non-EU actors - US



- Strong industrial activity in most areas of compute
- Weaker academic activity on traditional logic scaling
- Strong R&D in new materials, heterogeneous integration and memory

- Classical' Logic Scaling Roadmap beyond FinFET technology that extends devices structures through sub nm nodes (e.g., **GAA and CFET architectures**)
- Exploration of '**Fully Depleted SOI**' technology for Power Efficient Analog and RF applications
- Exploration of **alternative channel materials** (e.g., 2D materials)
- Extension of the **scaling of BEOL technologies**, through the use of Ru, Airgap or Graphene-based metallization, by reducing the associated RC network
- **Added BEOL functionality** through the introduction of new materials such as 2D, oxide semiconductors and ferroics
- Exploration of the use of BEOL **Non-Volatile Memories** (using for example resistive RAM such as FeRAM, MRAM, PCRAM) to supplement/replace charge-based memories, for in-memory computing (eNVM), and for Power Efficient Neuromorphic-based architectures
- **Photonic chips for optical interconnects and quantum information processing**
- Demonstration of the capability of the '**Buried Power Rail delivery**' to decongest the interconnection density that is becoming the most limiting factor for the scaling at 2nm and below
- Enablement of the **High-NA EUV lithography** for the patterning of 2nm nodes and beyond
- **Usage of 3D integration** to desegregate the classical large area chips into chiplets that will be much more power efficient when reconstruct using 3D integration design flow and associated toolbox

## In regards to:

- the complexity of the global value chains in the semiconductor area
- the high interdependencies between the different regions of the globe
- consortium partners representing the main European stakeholders and to their International Networks

**ICOS is a central instrument** to generate impact for the European ecosystems and to support the EC for international cooperation

- => **Provide advice to the European Commission** on joint research and other cooperation initiatives on specific topics with selected leading semiconductor countries
- => **Offer support in their implementation**, based on well documented analysis of value chains, important technologies and mutual advantages of potential collaboration
- => **Implement EU policy** by organizing joint international workshops on defined topics
- => **Strengthen European capacities** in key parts of digital and future supply and value chains
- => **Allow to invest in early discovery and industrial uptake** of new technologies

# Thank you for your attention

*Acknowledgements: All ICOS Partners*

Francis Balestra, ICOS Coordinator

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[icos-semiconductors.eu](http://icos-semiconductors.eu)

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**icos-semiconductors.eu**

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