

2025 International Semiconductor Researchers Forum



Location: Jeju Island, Republic of Korea

Date: June 16th, 2025

Participants: High level speakers, researchers EC representatives, Chips JU representatives, Ministry of Science and ICT representatives, ICOS members and South Korean representatives



Second ROK-EU International Semiconductor Researchers Forum

Building on the success of the first Forum held in Brussels on March 2024 which laid the groundwork for stronger ties between the European Union and the Republic of Korea in the semiconductor researcher domain, ICOS (International Cooperation on Semiconductors) project along with the European Union, the Chips JU, the Ministry of Science and ICT, the National Research Foundation of Korea and the Korea-EU Semiconductor R&D Cooperation Center (KE-SRCC) decided to get reunited again to witness the progress in the cooperation plan on June 16th, 2025 in Jeju Island, ROK.

Supported with the ROK-EU Digital Partnership signed in 2022 and the launch of the joint call between ROK and EU in the framework of the Chips Joint Undertaking, experts, policymakers and representatives of major Research Institutes and Universities from both Europe and South Korea worked together during the whole year on the topics identified at the first Forum and proposed during the joint call.

ICOS was honored to have the presence of Chang Yune Lee (MSIT), Rainer Wessely (EU Del. to RoK), Sang Wan Ryu (NRF), Juyoung Kim (EU Del. to RoK), Jari Kinaret (Chips JU) and Seo Gyun Kim (KE-SRCC). Their presence underlined the high-level commitment on both sides to advancing semiconductor cooperation. They all recognized the crucial role of the semiconductor industry in driving digital transformation and its presence in both current and emerging technologies that are shaping our societies. Addressing the semiconductor supply chain hurdles is inseparable from recognising the inherently globalised nature of the market, which requires building strategic partnerships and fostering the cooperation essential for sustained technological development. in t

The two forums were part of the ICOS broader mission to enhance strategic collaboration, mutual understanding, and joint innovation in semiconductor technologies.

Goals: The Forum aimed at reviewing the progress of ongoing collaboration initiatives, exploring potential new areas for collaborations and highlighting opportunities for aligning funding mechanisms between the European Union and the Republic of Korea. The event sought to encourage the exchange and discussion of researchers on their expertise and to define concrete steps actions to strengthen the cooperation in order to tackle the challenges met in the two regions. The topics covered during the forum include Ferroelectric materials and memory, 2D devices, silicon photonics, neuromorphic computing, AI and Power Devices. Beside research materials, it was presented current projects and initiatives like the European Pilot Lines and the Horizon Programme to find ressources and opportunities.

Outcomes: Following the commitments made during the First Forum, both sides agreed that the cooperation is already well underway and has the potential to deliver impactful projects. The event showcased the four projects selected through the Joint Calls and provided insights into their current progress and future milestones. The networking sessions organized during the forum enabled researchers to connect after their presentations and explore ideas for future collaboration. On the political level, the presence of key stakeholders from the EU, the Chips Joint Undertaking, the Korean Ministry and Institutions further strengthened ties and demonstrated a clear commitment to sustaining and deepening the cooperation.

Impact: The forum impacted both regions with articles sharing news about it and the cooperation between the EU and ROK.

[Korea hosts 2nd Korea-EU semiconductor researchers forum | Communications Today](#)

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[Physics postdoctoral researcher joins delegation of academics and business representatives selected for International Semiconductor Researchers Forum in the Republic of Korea - Lancaster University](#)