



# The EU at SEMICON South-East Asia 2025, Singapore



*"This is where two dynamic regions come together to foster strategic dialogue, new collaborations, and catalyse investment into the future of semiconductor research, development, and manufacturing."*

- H.E. Iwona Piórko, EU Ambassador to Singapore

*"Semiconductor industry plays a strategically important role in European technology landscape. Europe's strength lies in the research development and production of high quality and highly specialised microelectronics and photonics solutions"*

- Mr Ville Tavio, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development of Finland

*"Semiconductors are strategic assets, regions are pillars of the European strategy, and ESRA is a Gateway to Europe"*

- Mr Andrea Tronzano, ESRA Chair

The European Union with support of its Digital Partnership in Action (DPA) initiative contributed to the SEMICON Southeast Asia (SEA) 2025, the region's premier semiconductor industry event held in Singapore on 20-22 May 2025. This year celebrated the 30th Anniversary of SEMICON-SEA with a vision of *"Stronger Together"* and had an attendance of over 20,000 participants from the SEA region and worldwide.

The EU's contribution facilitated through the DPA project included two high-profile events: the organisation of a networking session "handshake@SEMICON", curated in a dynamic "world café" format, designed to facilitate discussions between European and Southeast Asian stakeholders; and the main stage solo Speaking presentation at the "Market & Industry Outlook Forum" in Plenary Session titled *"Stronger Together: EU-Southeast Asia Collaboration in Semiconductors"*, delivered by Mr Andrea Tronzano, Chair of the European Semiconductor Regions Alliance (ESRA) and Regional Minister of Piedmont Region, Italy.

The EU contribution to SEMICON-SEA 2025 provided a strategic platform to strengthen international partnerships, showcasing Europe's regional excellence, and advancing the objectives of the European Chips Act, promoting the role of the EU as a reliable and attractive partner for semiconductor investment and cooperation.



- <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/partnerships>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/digital-partnerships-in-action>
- <https://x.com/DPAinnovation>
- <https://eprd.pl/en/dpa>



# The EU at SEMICON South-East Asia 2025, Singapore

## Handshake@SEMICON Networking Event – 20 May 2025

Titled *Bridging Continents, Building Futures: Europe meets South-East Asia*, the Handshake@SEMICON event brought together almost 100 selected policymakers, researchers, and industry leaders from Europe and Southeast Asia to strengthen digital partnerships and foster collaboration in the semiconductor sector. Organised in a dynamic World Café format, the event encouraged informal discussions and idea exchange around themes such as investment, talent development, supply chain resilience, and collaborative R&D. Thematic tables were hosted by the EU, and selected Member States, as well as several European regions members of the European Semiconductor Regions Alliance (ESRA).

High-level speakers, including H.E. Iwona Piórko (EU Ambassador to Singapore), Mr Ville Tavio (Minister of Finland), Dr Byung Joon Han (Silicon Box), and Mr Andrea Tronzano (ESRA Chair), highlighted the importance of trust-based partnerships for a resilient and innovative future. Discussions revealed strong interest in deepening EU-Southeast Asia collaboration, with examples such as Silicon Box's investments in Italy demonstrating real potential. Delegations from different countries including Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, and South Korea explored opportunities with EU regions and companies.

## EU Keynote at the Market & Industry Outlook Forum – 21 May 2025

The EU contribution to the forum which addressed megatrends and geopolitical uncertainties in the semiconductor industry was ensured by Mr Andrea Tronzano, ESRA Chair and Piedmont Regional Minister, who delivered a keynote on “Stronger Together: EU-Southeast Asia Collaboration,” emphasising Europe's semiconductor strengths, the role of regional clusters, and ESRA's mission. His remarks underscored multilevel governance and the EU's commitment to being a stable, innovation-driven partner. By spotlighting the importance of multilevel governance and regional contributions, the presentation showcased how the EU is leveraging both national and local efforts to strengthen innovation, attract investment, and build a more resilient supply chain. Mr Tronzano's remarks reaffirmed the EU's readiness to deepen collaboration with Southeast Asia, offering a stable, innovation-driven, and value-aligned partner in the global semiconductor arena.



## Way Forward

- Follow-up and deepen the dialogue between the EU and the South East Asia ecosystems initiated.
- Contribute to the forthcoming SEMI International Policy Summit taking place on 11-12 December 2025 in Singapore.
- Leverage on future networking and outreach events at SEMICON-SEA 2026, scheduled on 5-7 May in Kuala Lumpur.