

EU Chips ACT: an opportunity to structure and strengthen the EU R&D infrastructure

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The EU Chip ACT was announced on February 2022 and, after more than one year of discussion by the EU bodies and the comments and input of all the stakeholders, it should complete its legislative process in time to have the first implementation actions in the last quarter of 2023. While the outcome is still not fully defined, it is clear that the size and scope will be quite limited compared to the comparable initiatives in the USA, Japan and China. However, its R&D side is still considerable for the EU stakeholders and will be the foundation for the initiatives of the next few years. The research community should closely look into it to see how use it at its best to progress beyond the current fragmentation. This is the first continent wide initiative in the field and can be utilized to remove barriers that make no more sense in the current geopolitical landscape where none of the EU countries has sufficient resources to compete alone.