

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002385/25
to the Commission
Piotr Müller (ECR)
(13 June 2025)**

Subject: Boosting European chip manufacturing for AI — how will the Commission ensure equal development across the EU?

The aim of the European Chips Act is to build a resilient, integrated semiconductor ecosystem in the EU, including for AI applications.

In May 2025, a representative of the Taiwanese firm TSMC — the world's largest chip manufacturer — publicly declared that it was prepared to support Europe in the development of its AI system production capabilities. TSMC has announced that a design centre will be established in Munich, and that a factory is to be built in Dresden, although the latter will focus on less advanced technologies for the car industry.

In the light of the foregoing:

1. Has the Commission taken any specific action in response TSMC's statement on cooperation in the development of AI chips in Europe?
2. How is the Commission intending to ensure that investments in the semiconductor industry are not concentrated in one Member State, but support the sustainable development of the entire EU market?
3. Is the Commission intending to support TSMC's investments in advanced technologies that will provide a significant boost to the EU's capabilities in the field of AI?

Submitted: 13.6.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(7 August 2025)**

TSMC has already established a joint venture with three European companies (Bosch, Infineon, and NXP) called the European Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (ESMC), with a facility in Dresden, one of Europe's main hubs for semiconductor manufacturing.

The venture focuses on chips for the automotive sector but will also benefit other sectors. To support ESMC's customers, TSMC has opened a semiconductor design centre in Munich, a leading hub for automotive chip design.

The Commission remains committed to supporting the growth of semiconductor companies across all Member States and consistently promotes a balanced geographic distribution of semiconductor activities. For example, semiconductor competence centres, as foreseen in the Chips Act ⁽¹⁾, have been established in every Member State. They each receive equal funding to foster local innovation ecosystems.

The Commission welcomes TSMC's investment in Europe and will continue to support companies developing advanced chips, particularly in areas such as artificial intelligence processing, which is a strategic priority to drive demand for leading-edge semiconductor fabrication.

Related to the Chips Act, financial support to semiconductor facilities is typically provided by Member States, which will need to comply with EU State aid rules where relevant, considering as positive effects, for example, the strengthening of the semiconductor value chain in Europe and the positive impact on innovation in Europe, bringing benefits to small and medium-sized enterprises and end users.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2023/1781 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's semiconductor ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/694 (Chips Act), <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1781/oj/eng>.