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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(2.4.2025)

STMicroelectronics's Catania initiative is in line with the European Chips Act¹ objectives to strengthen the global competitiveness of the EU industry and ensure the security of supply in the semiconductor sector by attracting investments and enhancing production capacities. The implementation of this project is ongoing. While it is too early to assess its impact on the semiconductor ecosystem, the sheer volume of investment involved is expected to have a significant impact both on the market and on highly skilled jobs created by STMicroelectronics. It is worth noting that the facility is planned to operate at full capacity by 2032.

The Catania project places in Europe a substantial source of silicon-carbide device production for which there are currently capacity constraints. It strengthens the European competitiveness in this key technology at global level, when the green and digital transition accelerate the silicon-carbide expected demand by numerous industrial sectors. This investment in new technologies aligns well with the long-term semiconductor strategy of the European Chips Act while attracting and safeguarding high-quality jobs. As stated by the Italian authorities, in the period from 2024 to 2031, approximately 26 000 full-time equivalent positions will be employed, out of which 19 000 refer to local, regional and national induced employment, and another 4 000 to other EU regions².

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/europe-fit-digital-age/european-chips-act_en

² https://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/cases1/202450/SA_107594_101.pdf