

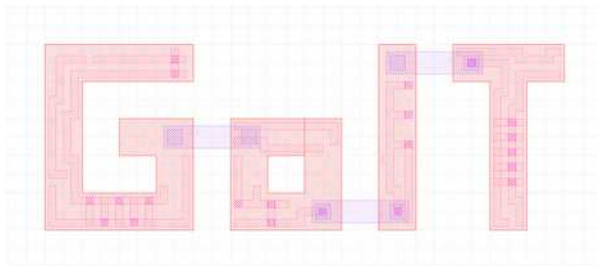


Welcome from the Free Silicon Foundation

Luca Alloatti, luca@f-si.org

EU's funding

- For the first time, the Free Silicon Conference is financed by the EU through the “Go IT!” project (<https://goit-project.eu>)
- ...and so will be FSiC2024 and FSiC2025



**Funded by
the European Union**

Chip Act: open-source is the answer!

- It aims at a publicly subsidized foundry → **unique opportunity** to allow a public **open-source PDK** development and MPW runs for education/development
- It aims at many idealistic goals:
 - *Increasing competitiveness of the semiconductor ecosystem*
 - *Facilitate access to technology*
 - *Repairability, upgradability, REUSE*
 - *increasing the number of design tools developed [..]*
 - *increasing the number of users or user communities getting access to design capabilities,*
 - *Increasing the number of persons who have received training to acquire advanced skills*
 - *Create a design and manufacturing facility [..] which guarantees **not to be subject to the extraterritorial** application of public service obligations of third countries [..]*

Chip Act: Competence Centres

- Competence Centres shall:
 - *Provide **access to design tools*** → open-source facilitates it
 - Provide **know-how**, expertise and skills → open-source facilitates it
 - Develop and manage specific training actions
- *Member States shall designate competence centres* → **opportunity for a Competence Centre for open-silicon and open-source EDA**

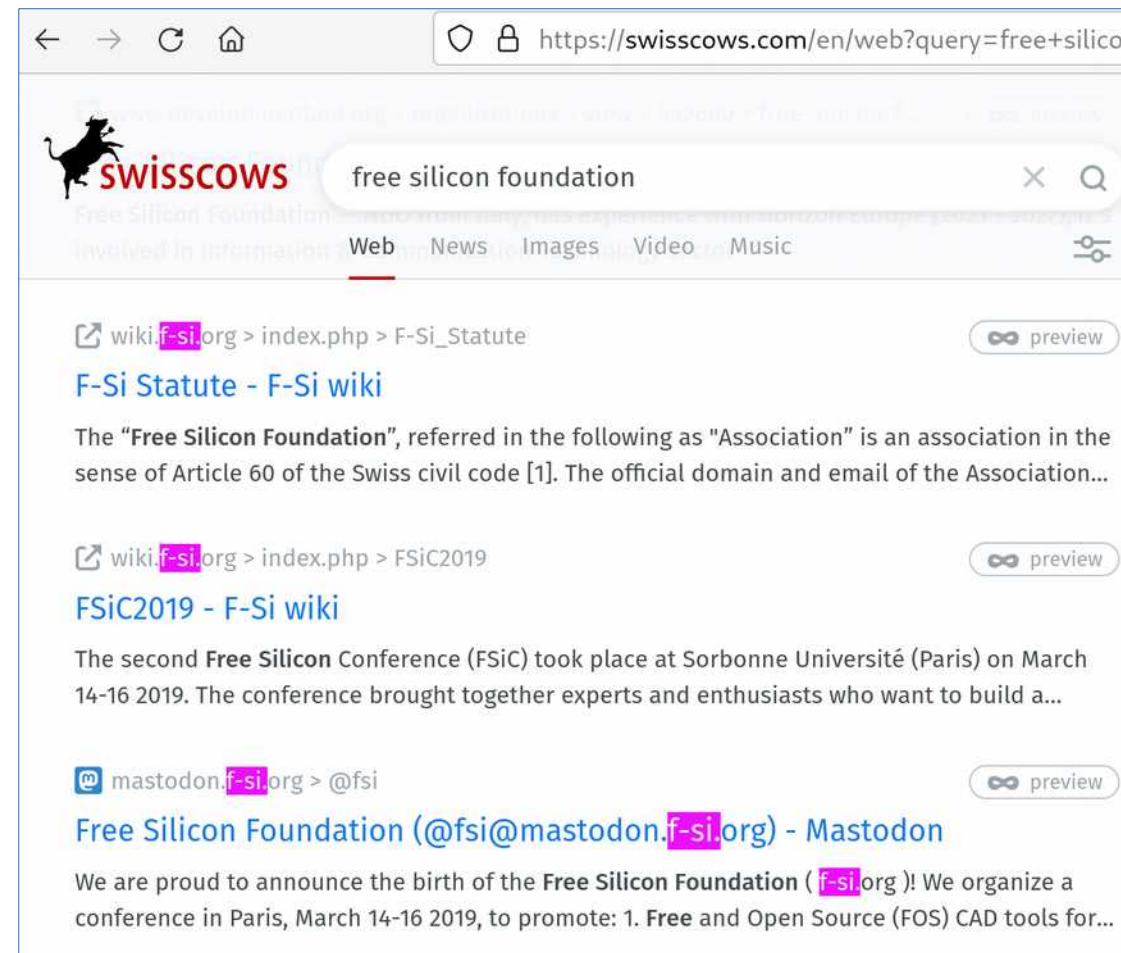
The “Alliance”: consider adhering!

- Full name: *Alliance on Processors and Semiconductor Technologies*
- Scope: *“identify gaps in the production of microchips and the technology developments needed for companies and organisations to thrive, help the **competitiveness** of companies, increase Europe’s digital sovereignty, and address the demand for the next generation of **secure**, energy-efficient, powerful chips and processors”*
- Adhere here →

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/alliance-processors-and-semiconductor-technologies>

Searching “Free Silicon Foundation”

- Results pointing to f-si.org in first result page:
 - Startpage.com: 0
 - Google.com: 0
 - Duckduckgo.com: 1
 - Swisscows.ch: 6



New sessions at FSiC2023

This year there are two new sessions:

- “*Sustainability*”. The term has two possible meanings:
 1. in the sense of “**green**” (REUSE of resources, smaller power consumption)
 2. in the sense of “**economic**” sustainability of the open-source ecosystem

The EC often understands the 1st meaning but the “Go IT!” call asked explicitly for the 2nd meaning: “*Address issues like availability of a **sustainable** and reliable open hardware IP supply, maturity of the IP components (especially for industrial use), open source design tools, compilation, simulation, verification, real-time and mixed criticality, etc.*”

- “*IP blocks*”

These are understood as stand-alone, *fully open* (not only RTL, but also *layout*), (possibly) tested and well documented blocks. Contributions will hopefully grow over the next years.

Video recording

- This year we have a professional video-recording team. The recorded video and audio streams transit through the room's control room
- @speakers: Please make sure to **always** speak into the conference microphones!
- @audience: Before asking a question, please **always wait for the microphone!**

ENJOY THE CONFERENCE!!!