



CONCEPT

Semiconductors have become one of the central arenas of geopolitical competition. Growing tensions between the United States (US) and China are increasingly reshaping the semiconductor ecosystem through export controls, economic security measures, industrial policy and restrictions on access to critical raw materials. At the same time, semiconductor supply chains remain highly interdependent and structurally vulnerable, relying on concentrated production capacities, specialised manufacturing equipment, electronic design automation software and critical inputs distributed across multiple jurisdictions. As geopolitical tensions intensify, disruptions affecting one segment of the value chain can rapidly propagate across sectors and regions, generating broader economic and industrial consequences.

Against this backdrop, the CHIPDIPLO conference “Semiconductors under Geopolitical Stress: From Global Shocks to the European Chips Act 2.0” brings together policymakers, industry representatives, researchers and strategic stakeholders to discuss the geopolitical future of semiconductors and Europe’s policy options. Organised within the framework of the Chips Diplomacy Support Initiative (CHIPDIPLO), the conference aims to contribute to broader reflections on Europe’s role in an increasingly fragmented and contested technological environment.

Public Conference (9 July)

Venue: Thon Hotel EU, Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 75, 1040 Brussels

Room: France (ground floor)

11:10 – 11:30 **Welcome remarks**

Luis Simón

Director, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy – VUB

Mathieu Duchâtel

Resident Senior Fellow and Director of International Studies, Institute Montaigne

11:30 – 13:15 **Panel discussion**

Moderator

Antonio Calcara

Head, Technology and Economic Statecraft, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy – VUB

Speakers

Pierre Chastanet

Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission

Geoffrey Gertz

Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security

Peter Kleinhans

Policy Analyst, Digital Connectivity, Economics and Society (DCES) Division and Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE) Division, OECD

June Park

Senior Research Affiliate, Singapore Management University

Discussion points:

- What geopolitical shocks could disrupt semiconductor supply chains?
- How prepared are the United States, Korea, and the European Union?
- What should Europe do next? (*Implementation of the European Chips Act 2.0*)

13:15 – 13:30 **Concluding Remarks**

Pierre Chastanet

Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission

13:30

Lunch

Room: Thon Hotel EU restaurant (ground floor)