

ISSUE 5 JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER



EUROPEAN
CHIPS
SKILLS
ACADEMY



ACRONYM: ECSA
PROJECT NAME: EUROPEAN CHIPS SKILLS ACADEMY
COORDINATING INSTITUTION: SEMI EUROPE
COORDINATOR: VICTORIA CUMMINGS
GA NUMBER: 101110124- ERASMUS-EDU-2022-PI-ALL-INNO
START DATE: 1 OCTOBER 2023
DURATION: 48 MONTHS
CONSORTIUM: 18 PARTNERS

Welcome to ECSA's Winter Newsletter!

In this edition, we're diving into the highlights of a very eventful season. We want to share not just what we did, but why it matters to you as part of the ECSA community.

In this issue, you will find the latest updates from the project, as well as what is coming up. We are glad to have you on this journey with us, and look forward to catching you at one of our events!

SKILLS STRATEGY 2025

UPDATE ON THE TALENT GAP
IN THE EU SEMICONDUCTOR
ECOSYSTEM



According to this year's Skills Strategy Report, by DECISION Etudes & Conseil in collaboration with ECSA. The EU semiconductor sector is projected to face a shortfall of about 10,800 skilled workers annually by 2030.

While the overall talent gap has slightly narrowed, with a forecast of about 65,000 fewer workers than needed by 2030, critical shortages remain in roles like system designers and cybersecurity experts. Understanding these figures helps us focus on the most needed skills and how ECSA is gearing up to address these workforce challenges.



ECSA at SEMICON Europa:

This year, ECSA made a strong impression at SEMICON Europa in front of thousands of industry professionals. Our booth was well-attended, featuring presentations from our student ambassadors that drew significant interest. We actively engaged with visitors, discussing important topics like the future of talent in semiconductors. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many attendees appreciating the focus on developing new talent. Participation enhanced ECSA's visibility and helped us forge valuable connections and gather insights to improve our talent strategies.

synopsys® ACADEMIC & RESEARCH ALLIANCES

We're pleased to announce a new addition to our e-learning catalogue: "Test and Repair of SoCs for Functional Safety Applications." This course, brought to you in partnership with Synopsys, is now live on the ECSA platform and is perfect for anyone looking to enhance their understanding of functional safety in automotive integrated circuits.

In this course, you'll explore a comprehensive curriculum that covers the essentials: from an introduction to functional safety principles and automotive SoC trends, all the way to hands-on techniques for testing and repairing embedded memory and analog/mixed-signal IP blocks. The course also wraps up with a focus on functional safety standards like ISO 26262 and includes a Q&A session to solidify your learning.

Enroll Now - <https://learn.chipsacademy.eu/knowledge-hub/courses/3224>



ECSA at EFECS 2025:

ECSA took an active role at EFECS 2025, where talent and skills emerged as a central theme for Europe's semiconductor future. Representing ECSA, Victoria Cummings (Senior Manager - Workforce Development, SEMI Europe) highlighted the urgent talent gap across the microelectronics value chain and underscored why workforce development is essential to the success of the Chips Act.

Victoria also led a focused skills workshop with stakeholders from industry, academia, and policy. Discussions centred on today's skills bottlenecks, insights from EU-funded initiatives, and the coordinated actions needed to build a scalable and competitive talent pipeline.

ECSA remains committed to driving collaborative solutions that strengthen Europe's semiconductor workforce and support long-term innovation.

Addressing Europe's Semiconductor Talent Shortage

A recent [article](#) by imec highlights the scale and urgency of Europe's semiconductor talent challenge, reinforcing many of the insights emerging from the ECSA community. According to ECSA estimates, the sector may face up to 271,400 job openings by 2030, driven by industry growth, digitalisation, and demographic shifts.

The article cites ECSA's estimate of up to 271,400 semiconductor job openings by 2030 and stresses the industry's ongoing skills mismatch: strong STEM education, but limited hands-on, industry-ready experience. Daenen emphasises the need for closer alignment between academia and industry, stronger outreach to future talent, long-term collaboration, and a commitment to diversity and inclusion.

These priorities directly reinforce ECSA's mission to build a coordinated, future-ready skills ecosystem that supports Europe's Chips Act ambitions.

Read this article now - <https://www.imec-int.com/en/articles/tackling-talent-shortage-european-deeptech-matter-alignment-outreachand-persistence>

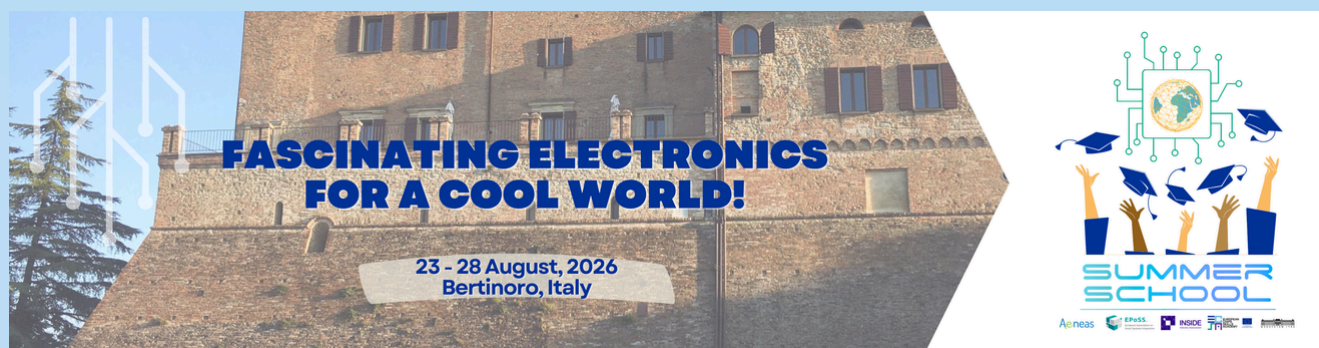
ECS Summer School Highlights and What's Next

In August 2025, we wrapped up an incredibly successful ECS Summer School, organised by AENEAS, EPoSS & Inside Association in BME, Budapest, where we welcomed 40 bright students from across Europe. Over the course of a week, these students dove into the fascinating world of electronics, from integrated circuits to embedded intelligence, all in the vibrant setting of Budapest.

Looking ahead, we're thrilled to announce that the next edition of the ECS Summer School will return to its roots in Bertinoro, Italy, in August 2026. It's the same charming location that hosted our first Italian editions, and we can't wait to gather another group of talented students to explore the future of electronics together.

Stay tuned for more details, and we hope to see some of you there!

[Learn more about ECS Summer School](#)



Role Models Initiative: Become a Source of Inspiration

ECSA is proud to support the European Role-Models Portal, an initiative led by the European Centre for Women and Technology (ECWT) aimed at increasing the visibility of women in STEM. The platform invites women working in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to share their personal and professional journeys, helping to inspire and guide the next generation.

By highlighting real experiences and diverse career paths, the initiative plays an important role in breaking down stereotypes and encouraging more girls and young women to consider futures in STEM fields—including microelectronics and emerging technologies central to Europe's Chips ecosystem.

Learn More - <https://role-models.eu/>

ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2026

Erasmus+ Mobility in Colombia: Strengthening VET and International Cooperation

From 1–5 December 2025, representatives from ANCCP and ASEM took part in an Erasmus+ mobility programme in Colombia, organised by LACCEI. The mission focused on understanding the Colombian VET system—its micro-credentials, accreditation processes, labour-market alignment, and DEI practices—while strengthening cooperation with universities, research centres, and industry.

The delegation also presented the European Chips Skills Academy, its DEI initiatives, and ongoing progress since 2022, exploring new opportunities for collaboration within the [European Chips Diversity Alliance](#).

Key Activities Included:

- Meetings with UNITECNAR
- Presentation at LACCEI LEIRD 2025
- Participation in the SIILMI Symposium
- Visits to Simón Bolívar University and Technological University of Bolívar
- Meetings with IEEE Colombia
- Visit to SENA Cartagena

This mobility strengthened international partnerships and supported shared goals in VET, microelectronics, and DEI.

Learn More: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/anccp_erasmusplus-movilidadinternacional-formacionprofesional-activity-7402662282851254272-Dzpa?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABqiz8kBYvnu1TLBtaPoAaMNE3TE_9kmyl

The European Chips Skills Academy has received funding from the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) under project No 101110124.

→ [Subscribe us](#)
www.chipsacademy.eu

