

**SwissCore Annual Event 2024**

# **Chips for Europe**

Swiss–EU collaboration on the next  
generation of semiconductors

**10 June 2024**

Museum of Natural Sciences  
Rue Vautier 29, 1000 Brussels



**RBINS-guest**  
**naturalsciences.be**

**SwissCore**

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## Event Summary



The development of chips is of great importance for Europe. Semiconductors are now the basis of everyday devices and are essential for the digital transformation of the economy and society. They are key enabling technologies that can open new possibilities for Europe's growth, create new jobs, and usher in new products and services. Thus, the development of chips is crucial for Europe's digital transformation and industrial competitiveness. The European Chips Act and the related [Chips Joint Undertaking](#) are key initiatives that aim to strengthen the semiconductor ecosystem, support research and innovation, and ensure resilience of supply chains in this area. Swiss and EU actors in research, innovation, and education are closely working together in strengthening Europe's technological leadership in chips development. Earlier this year, Switzerland launched its [SwissChips initiative](#) to strengthen Swiss semiconductor research and innovation.

SwissCore's 2024 Annual Event provides a platform to discuss the role of research, innovation, and education in making Europe a leader in chips development and production. The event offers the opportunity for exchanges between representatives of the Swiss and EU research, innovation, and education community, key European actors in chips development – and with our audience in Brussels. The collaboration between European actors such as the Swiss Center for Electronics and Microtechnology [CSEM](#), [CEA-Leti](#), the [Paul Scherrer Institute](#), and [VDL Enabling Technologies Group](#) is the focus of the keynote speech and the panel discussion. How can research, innovation and education contribute – and how can Switzerland and the EU leverage their win-win collaboration to drive semiconductor development in Europe forward?

# Event Agenda



<b>From 17:00</b>	<b>Registration and refreshments</b>
<b>17:30</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> <b>Simon Marti</b> , Head of Office, SwissCore
<b>17:35</b>	<b>Welcome Address</b> <b>Michael Gerber</b> Ambassador, Director General International Programmes and Organisations, Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation
<b>17:50</b>	<b>Keynote</b> <b>Alain-Serge Porret</b> Vice President Integrated and Wireless Systems, Swiss Center for Electronics and Microtechnology CSEM
<b>18:10</b>	<b>Panel Discussion moderated by Laure Ognois – Head of International Cooperation, SNSF</b> <b>Christopher Lang</b> Deputy Director, Representation of the Free State of Saxony to the European Union <b>Mattias Björnmalm</b> Secretary General, CESAER <b>Bruno Paing</b> Vice President Europe & International Public Affairs, CEA-Leti <b>Yasin Ekinici</b> Head of Laboratory for X-ray Nanoscience and Technologies, Paul Scherrer Institute <b>Hans Priem</b> Business Manager, VDL Enabling Technologies Group <b>Alain-Serge Porret</b> Vice President Integrated and Wireless Systems, CSEM
<b>19:25</b>	<b>Networking Reception on the Dinosaurs' Mezzanine</b>

## Speakers

**Ambassador Michael Gerber** joined the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) in June 2023 as a member of the Executive Board, where he assumes the function of Director General of the International Programmes and Organisations Division. Previously, he held senior leadership positions in the Federal Department of Justice and Police (2018-2023) as well as the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (2002- 2018).

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**Alain-Serge Porret** holds the position of Vice President for Integrated and Wireless Systems at CSEM. His team provides optimised, application-specific solutions to minimise the energy and footprint of autonomous and edge devices. Before his current role, he co-founded several start-ups in the consumer electronics domain during a 13-year stint in Silicon Valley. He holds a Ph.D. from EPFL.

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**Christopher Lang** is the Deputy Director of the Representation of the Free State of Saxony to the European Union in Brussels. Previously, he held positions with the State of Rhineland-Palatinate in Mainz (Germany), Berlin, and Brussels. He studied Political Sciences and European Studies in Mainz and Cork (Ireland).

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**Mattias Björnmalm** serves as Secretary General of CESAER since January 2023. CESAER is the strong and united voice of universities of science & technology. Previously, Mr Björnmalm led the project qBioNano at Imperial College London and was an editor in science & policy for the journal Angle.

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**Bruno Paing** serves as CEA-Leti VP Europe & International Public Affairs in Grenoble. He has a substantial international and mixed public/private experience in private companies (Orange, Sagemcom), in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (scientific attaché in Taiwan in 1998-1999 and in Hanoi, Vietnam from 2002 to 2005) and in CEA since 2005 in different roles. Mr Paing graduated from the French "CentraleSupélec" Engineering School (Master of Science in Engineering) and from Lyon Business School / EM Lyon (Executive MBA).

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**Yasin Ekinci** is the head of the Laboratory for X-ray Nanoscience and Technologies at Paul Scherrer Institute, where he is responsible for 6 research groups. He worked on various topics of nanoscience and technology, including EUV lithography, photoresist materials, metrology. He coauthored more than 250 scientific papers and 10 patent applications. He is a fellow of SPIE.

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**Hans Priem** is the Business Manager Science & Industry at VDL Enabling Technologies Group. After having finalised his Master's in Business Economics at Tilburg University, Hans started his career with ASML and also worked for Philips Electronics EMT to assume responsibility over the company's Installed Base Business. Since 2011, Hans is with VDL ETG. He is, responsible for VDLs Science & Industry-related activities: technology development, identifying new applications & markets, innovation management, and growth acceleration.