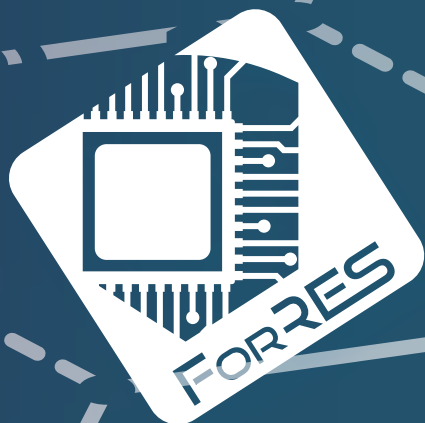




Forensic Reverse Engineering of Silicon Chips

Advanced digital investigation to tackle cybercrime of electronic devices

Welcome message from the coordinator

ForRES Newsletter – aims at launching a new channel of communication to provide updates on project progress while discussing and highlighting insightful topics relevant to the ForRES project.

For more detailed information about the project, we invite you to visit our project website, which is continuously updated with the latest project news forres.eu.



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forres.eu



@ForRES_HEU



ForRES-HEU

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Budget

€ 2.3 Million

90% EU-funded



Consortium

5 Partners

5 countries



Duration

24 Months

07/2023 - 06/2025

ForRES Overview

ForRES is dedicated to overcoming the challenge posed by encrypted consumer devices faced by European law enforcement agencies. Its primary aim is to improve techniques for analysing integrated circuits, fostering collaboration between European LEAs and scientific institutions. The project, which runs for 30 months from July 2023, receives substantial funding from the EU. Key

objectives include enhancing the operational capabilities of European forensic science institutes, conducting invasive methods on semiconductor devices in a common workflow and creating a platform for collaborative knowledge sharing. More information about ForRES and its vision, motivation and objectives can be found in the [project leaflet](#).



Bundeskriminalamt (BKA)
Germany [Wiesbaden]



Politidirektoratet
Norway [Oslo]



Technikon Forschungs- und
Planungsgesellschaft mbH
Austria [Villach]



Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior
de Investigaciones Científicas
Spain [Barcelona]



Netherlands Forensic Institute
Netherlands [The Hague]

...what happened during the past 6 months?

- Participation HARRIS 2025
- Consortium internal workshop on WP3: Analysis Software Development, ROM and netlist extraction from leading edge silicon devices
- Technical Meeting in Oslo September 2025 and participation to the annual chip hacker meeting

As you can see, it has been very successful and exciting at ForRES recently, and these are just some of the highlights we have had. Therefore, follow the project on [LinkedIn](#) and [X](#) to not miss the latest updates about our work and to stay up to date.

Highlights from the Hardware Reverse Engineering Workshop (HARRIS) 2025

From March 17th to 19th, 2025, our team participated in the annual Hardware Reverse Engineering Workshop (HARRIS) held in Bochum, Germany. This in-person event brought together a diverse group of experts and enthusiasts from industry, academia, and government, fostering a vibrant exchange within the global hardware reverse engineering community. HARRIS 2025 provided a unique platform for collaboration, with a focus on building connections, exploring innovative research opportunities, and tackling shared challenges. The atmosphere was one of curiosity, collaboration, and forward-thinking.

In addition to participating in the main workshop, the ForRES team took advantage of this gathering to hold our monthly technical progress meeting. With all our technical partners present, we engaged in focused discussions in a dedicated space, further enhancing the value of our participation. The two-day event was packed with networking opportunities, insightful discussions, and fresh perspectives, leaving us energized and inspired to continue and complete the work of ForRES for the final project months ahead of us.





Technical Meeting in Oslo

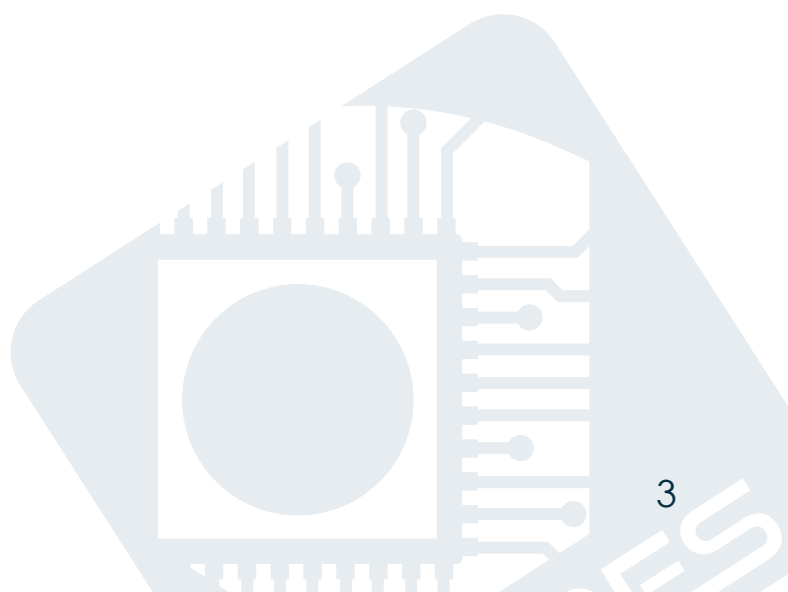
On September 15, 2025, the ForRES Consortium convened for a Technical Meeting hosted by project partner NCIS in Oslo. This gathering marked a significant step forward in the field of forensic research, as consortium members shared progress updates from each Work Package and unveiled cutting-edge software tools developed under Work Package 3 (WP3). The demonstrations highlighted groundbreaking innovations designed to elevate forensic investigation capabilities.

The live software presentations by WP3 showcased advanced tools aimed at improving the accuracy and efficiency of forensic data analysis. These tools, developed to process and interpret large datasets with enhanced precision, underscore the consortium's dedication to equipping forensic professionals with state-of-the-art resources. The advancements promise to significantly accelerate forensic workflows while ensuring reliable results, reflecting the ForRES Consortium's commitment to driving progress in forensic science.

Following the successful Technical Meeting, the consortium transitioned into the Annual Chips Hacker Meeting - an event dedicated to fostering collaboration among forensic researchers, data scientists, and software developers. This intensive gathering provided a

platform for cross-disciplinary discussions and hands-on innovation, focusing on the development of technologies that enhance digital forensics and data analytics. By connecting academic research with practical applications, the event continues to strengthen the bridge between theory and real-world forensic challenges.

These back-to-back events not only reinforced the consortium's mission to advance forensic methodologies but also highlighted the collaborative spirit that drives its success. The tools demonstrated at the Technical Meeting and the insights shared during the hacker meeting exemplify the strides being made toward refining forensic practices.



What is ahead of us?

As the **ForRES project enters its final months**, the consortium is fully dedicated to completing the remaining activities and delivering the final project results. Partners are working intensively to **finalize the last deliverables** and to **successfully conclude all ongoing work packages**, ensuring that the project's objectives are achieved and its outcomes are ready for further exploitation. With

strong collaboration across all partners, ForRES is set to wrap up its journey on a high note, bringing valuable innovations and tools to the European forensic and hardware analysis community. **Stay tuned and follow our channels to get the latest updates and discover the final results of the ForRES project!**

Unveiling Insights: New Factsheet Issues

We are pleased to announce the release of the 3rd and 4th issues of the ForRES Factsheet series, providing valuable in-

sights into key technologies relevant to the ForRES project.

Issue 3: Delayering Techniques in Silicon Devices

This issue offers a comprehensive overview on Delayering Techniques in Silicon Devices, including an explanation of what it is, its key features, and its advantages. Additionally, it explores the role of Delayering Techniques in the ForRES project, highlighting its potential to contribute to the development of future renewable energy solutions.

Issue 4: Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)

The fourth issue delves into Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) Imaging, discussing the fundamental components of the system, its various applications, and its significance within the context of ForRES. This technology plays a crucial role in the precision fabrication processes central to the project's success.

Both factsheets are available on our **project website** and provide an easy-to-understand introduction to these cutting-edge technologies. These resources are designed to promote a better unders-

tanding of the technologies that are critical to ForRES, as well as those that could drive future innovation.

The final stretch of the ForRES project – stay tuned for more to come!



Past Events

Hardware Reverse Engineering Workshop (HARRIS 2025)

17th-18th March 2025
@Bochum, Germany

Consortium internal workshop on WP3: Analysis Software Development, ROM and netlist extraction from leading edge silicon devices

May 2025
@Wiesbaden, Germany

Technical Meeting

17th September 2025
@Oslo, Norway

All past and upcoming events can be found on the ForRES official webpage:

forres.eu/events



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