

FEDERATE Supports Implementation of the EU Industrial Action Plan for the European Automotive Sector

The European automotive industry is undergoing a profound transformation due to high international competition and emerging fields such as the Software-Defined Vehicle (SDV). To create optimal conditions for addressing these challenges, the European Commission announced the "Industrial Action Plan for the European Automotive Sector" on March 5. An important player in implementing the plan will be the European funding project FEDERATE, which is already coordinating the European "Software-Defined Vehicle of the Future Initiative."

FEDERATE Coordinator Peter Priller, AVL List GmbH in Graz: "The Industrial Action Plan is a significant milestone for the vehicle of the future and, consequently, for the competitiveness of the European vehicle industry. We look forward to supporting the stakeholders in implementation and networking."

FEDERATE Co-Coordinator Ole Großmann, VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH in Berlin: "The Automotive Action Plan highlights the critical role of digital technologies in the future development of the automotive industry."

The action plan follows the strategic dialogue on the future of the European automotive industry. A central aspect is the theme "Innovation and Leadership in Future Technologies and Capabilities." In alignment with the Automotive Action Plan and to implement relevant goals from its first pillar, the European Commission's Chips Joint Undertaking (JU) has issued three Calls for Proposals in the following areas:

- RISC-V Automotive Hardware Platform – Advancing next-generation processors and AI chips for autonomous driving;
- Heterogeneous Integration for High-Performance Automotive Computing – Utilizing heterogeneous integration and advanced packaging to enhance automotive computing capabilities;
- AI-based Methods and Tools for Automating Software-Defined Vehicle Engineering – Using AI to increase productivity in automotive software development.

The calls will be funded with up to €240 million in EU and national funds, mobilizing an additional €240 million in private investments, bringing the total investment to €480 million. These calls will implement a part of the first pillar of the action plan, particularly the development of in-vehicle computer architecture and a software platform for software-defined vehicles.

FEDERATE will support these initiatives through its coordination activities and its strong stakeholder network. Interested parties can register at <https://federate-sdv.eu/registration-form/> to stay informed about key network activities and events.

Two groundbreaking research and innovation projects have already been approved under the "Software-Defined Vehicle of the Future Initiative" by the Chips JU:

- The project "HAL4SDV – Hardware Abstraction Layer for a European Software Defined Vehicle," implemented in 2024, aims to harmonize efforts across Europe to create a comprehensive SDV ecosystem while leveraging existing national projects and international R&D activities.
- The project Shift2SDV, currently in its startup phase, focuses on SDV middleware, APIs, and a framework for flexible microservices-based architecture.

Further projects supported and orchestrated by FEDERATE are expected to follow.

Through these investments, Europe will strengthen its leadership position in automotive electronics and software, support the digital transformation of the automotive industry, and enhance its competitiveness.

On May 20, FEDERATE will host the European SDV Ecosystem Summit 2025 in Munich, where the SDV community will discuss how automotive industry players and the open-source community can collaborate even more effectively in the future.

About FEDERATE:

The FEDERATE project is an EU-funded Coordination and Support Action (CSA) aimed at enhancing the global competitiveness of the European automotive industry in the development of the Software-Defined Vehicle of the Future. The project aims to bring together all relevant stakeholders to accelerate the development of an SDV ecosystem, foster a vibrant European developer community, and orchestrate R&D activities over a period of 36 months. The consortium, represented by 28 partners from seven EU countries, spans the entire automotive value chain. It consists of major OEMs, suppliers, semiconductor companies, relevant industry associations, and research institutes. The project is coordinated by AVL List GmbH in Graz, Austria, together with co-coordinator VDI/VDE-IT in Berlin.

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Further links:

- Industrial Action Plan for the European automotive sector:
https://transport.ec.europa.eu/document/download/89b3143e-09b6-4ae6-a826-932b90ed0816_en?filename=Communication%20-%20Action%20Plan.pdf
- Declaration of European Automotive Manufacturers and Suppliers:
<https://federate-sdv.eu/declaration-of-european-automotive-manufacturers-and-suppliers-manifesto/>
- European Software-Defined Vehicle of the Future (SDVoF) Initiative – Vision and Roadmap:
<https://federate-sdv.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2024-04-12-SDVoF-Vision-document-ver017-final.pdf>
- Project Website “HAL4SDV – Hardware Abstraction Layer for a European Software Defined Vehicle”: <https://www.hal4sdv.eu/>
- Registration for FEDERATE Network Activities and Events: <https://federate-sdv.eu/registration-form/>
- European SDV Ecosystem Summit 2025: <https://federate-sdv.eu/sdv-events/>