

## FULLY OPTIMISED ROOT OF TRUST FOR ROBUST EMBEDDED SECURITY SYSTEMS

FORTRESS project will focus on hardware-software co-design principles, enabling diverse platforms – embedded systems, edge devices, and Critical National Infrastructure – to transition to quantum-resistant architectures seamlessly. Additionally, the project will engage industry stakeholders to align with regulatory and standardisation efforts, ensuring practical deployment and maximum impact.

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# FORTRESS Kicks-Off with first meeting in Heidelberg, Germany

On the 7-8 October 2025, EU funded project FORTRESS held its Kick-Off Meeting in Heidelberg, Germany. The project partners convened to launch FORTRESS, aligning on the research roadmap, division of tasks, and coordination structure. FORTRESS aims to build a scalable, hybrid secure-boot architecture — a flexible Root of Trust (RoT) that combines classical and post-quantum cryptographic algorithms. To realise this ...

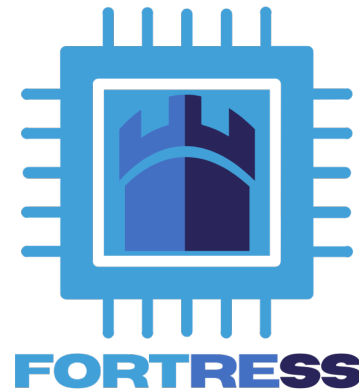


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# Advancing Europe's Quantum-Secure Future with Hardware-Rooted Trust

EU-funded consortium to deliver hybrid post-quantum secure boot with hardware-software co-design and continuous attestation demonstrators HEIDELBERG, 30/10/2025– A €4.9 million Horizon Europe project has launched to develop quantum-resistant secure boot mechanisms for critical national infrastructure, combining novel hardware architectures with post-quantum cryptography in operational demonstrators. The FORTRESS (Post-Quantum/Traditional Hybrid Cryptographic Secure Boot) project brings together six European partners; Eurescom (coordinator), ...



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## FORTRESS Showcased at the First Edition of WPQC'25 in Munich

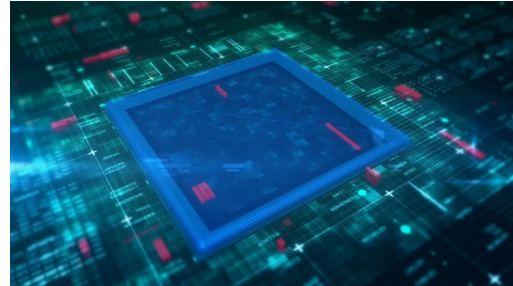
On 30 October 2025 the inaugural edition of WPQC'25 — the Workshop on Post-Quantum Cryptography: Resilience, Verification, and Secure Design Automation took place. The event was co-located with ICCAD'25 in Munich, Germany. The event brought together leading experts in cryptography, hardware security, design automation, and system architecture to explore emerging challenges and opportunities at the intersection of PQC and secure ...



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# FORTRESS Project Launches Official Website

FORTRESS project is proud to announce the launch of its official website, marking a significant step toward advancing Europe's digital resilience in the post-quantum era. The platform will serve as the central hub for information, updates, and engagement opportunities related to FORTRESS's mission to redefine secure boot architectures for the next generation of computing. What Is FORTRESS? FORTRESS is a ...



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## Consortium Partners

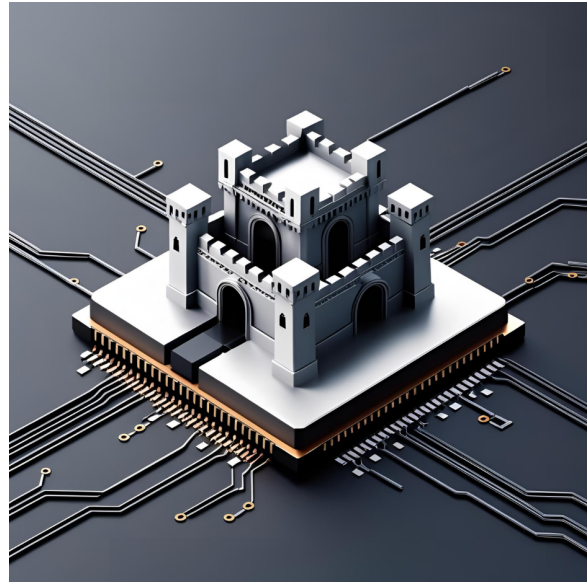
Eurescom ensures strong project coordination and effective execution across all activities including dissemination & communication, while PQShield contributes world-leading post-quantum cryptography expertise and direct involvement in shaping NIST PQC standards. CyberHive strengthens the project with high-performance, industry-ready cybersecurity technologies, and Codasip brings deep hardware-software co-design capabilities as Europe's leading RISC-V provider. eShard adds essential chip-level security testing and vulnerability analysis through its advanced evaluation platforms, and Universität der Bundeswehr München provides rigorous academic research and critical infrastructure expertise.



## Ambition and Impact

FORTRESS advances the **state of the art** by combining **post-quantum cryptography** with **hardware-enforced security** to deliver trusted systems that remain secure in the quantum era. The project contributes to **EU leadership in PQC standardisation**, ensures the **resilience of critical infrastructures**, and enables a **secure digital transition** for industries and public services across Europe.

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FORTRESS has received funding from the EU Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement 101225722. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

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