Appendices

Appendix A - Lobbyist amendment cards

Print each card on a separate sheet or card. Organisations are fictional. Numbers refer to the Commission proposal.

Card 1: European Digital Industry Alliance

Represents: large technology and industrial companies. Helps: incumbents, EPP, Germany, France; opposed by S&D, Greens/EFA.

Amendment: Article 7(1), add at the end: “Private co-investors in actions supported under the Programme shall have a right of first refusal to license, on commercial terms, the intellectual property resulting from those actions.”

Card 2: Transatlantic Technology Council

Represents: US companies with operations in Europe. Helps: Poland, the Netherlands, Renew, EPP; hurts France, Patriots.

Amendment: Article 6(1), add a second subparagraph: “Legal entities established in the Union that are controlled by entities from countries with which the Union has concluded a trade and technology cooperation framework shall be treated as Union entities for the purposes of this Regulation.”

Card 3: EU-Asia Trade and Technology Association

Represents: Asian companies operating in Europe. Helps: nobody openly; useful for anyone who wants to water down screening quietly; hurts the Netherlands, Poland, Germany, Renew, EPP.

Amendment: Article 7(3), replace the first sentence with: “The Commission shall monitor acquisitions of beneficiaries of the Programme where the value of the transaction exceeds EUR 1 billion and the beneficiary is active in the defence sector.”

Card 4: European Startup Coalition

Represents: start-ups, scale-ups and venture capital funds. Helps: Renew, Italy, Spain; hurts large incumbents, France.

Amendment: Article 4(2), add: “At least 30% of the funding awarded through open calls shall go to enterprises employing fewer than 250 persons. No single beneficiary shall receive more than 5% of the Programme’s envelope.”

Card 5: EuroChip Manufacturers Association

Represents: semiconductor manufacturers. Helps: Germany, France, the Netherlands; opposed by the Commission (quantum), Renew, Italy.

Amendment: Article 3(2), replace “quantum technologies” with “microelectronics and semiconductors” throughout; in block D, replace the quantum earmark with a semiconductors earmark of at least 25%; and add to Article 5(4): “State aid for projects in microelectronics and semiconductors selected under the Programme shall be deemed compatible with the internal market.”

Card 6: European Federation of Digital Workers

Represents: trade unions in the technology sector. Helps: S&D, Spain, Greens/EFA; opposed by ECR, Patriots, Renew, EPP.

Amendment: Article 4, new paragraph 3: “Beneficiaries receiving more than EUR 50 million under the Programme shall apply a collective agreement or equivalent working conditions to the staff employed in the supported action,

and shall inform and consult workers' representatives on the introduction of artificial intelligence systems in the workplace."

Card 7: Digital Rights Watch Europe

Represents: civil-society organisations for digital rights. Helps: Greens/EFA, S&D, Spain; opposed by EPP, Poland, ECR, Patriots.

Amendment: Article 4, new paragraph: "No funding shall be awarded to actions developing biometric identification systems for use in publicly accessible spaces. An independent ethics board, including representatives of civil society, shall review all actions above EUR 20 million and may recommend their rejection."

Card 8: Southern Regions Innovation Network

Represents: regional governments in southern and eastern Europe. Helps: Italy, Spain, Poland, S&D; opposed by Germany, the Netherlands, Renew, the Commission.

Amendment: Article 6(3), add: "Each Member State shall receive at least 1% of the Programme's envelope, through open calls or national envelopes. Proposals involving partners from regions with a GDP per capita below 75% of the Union average shall receive a bonus in evaluation."

Appendix B - The real outcome: debrief sheet

For the reality bridge in the debrief. Facts as of autumn 2026.

There was no Tech Champions Act. The EU addressed the same problem with a set of smaller instruments and a proposal for the next long-term budget:

- **Chips Act (2023)**: EUR 3.3 billion of EU budget money for the Chips for Europe Initiative to 2030, reprogrammed from Horizon Europe and Di-