

Supplementary Information

Bone marrow resident antigen presenting cells promote peripheral tolerance by inducing autoreactive regulatory T cells

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Supplementary Figures

Figure S1

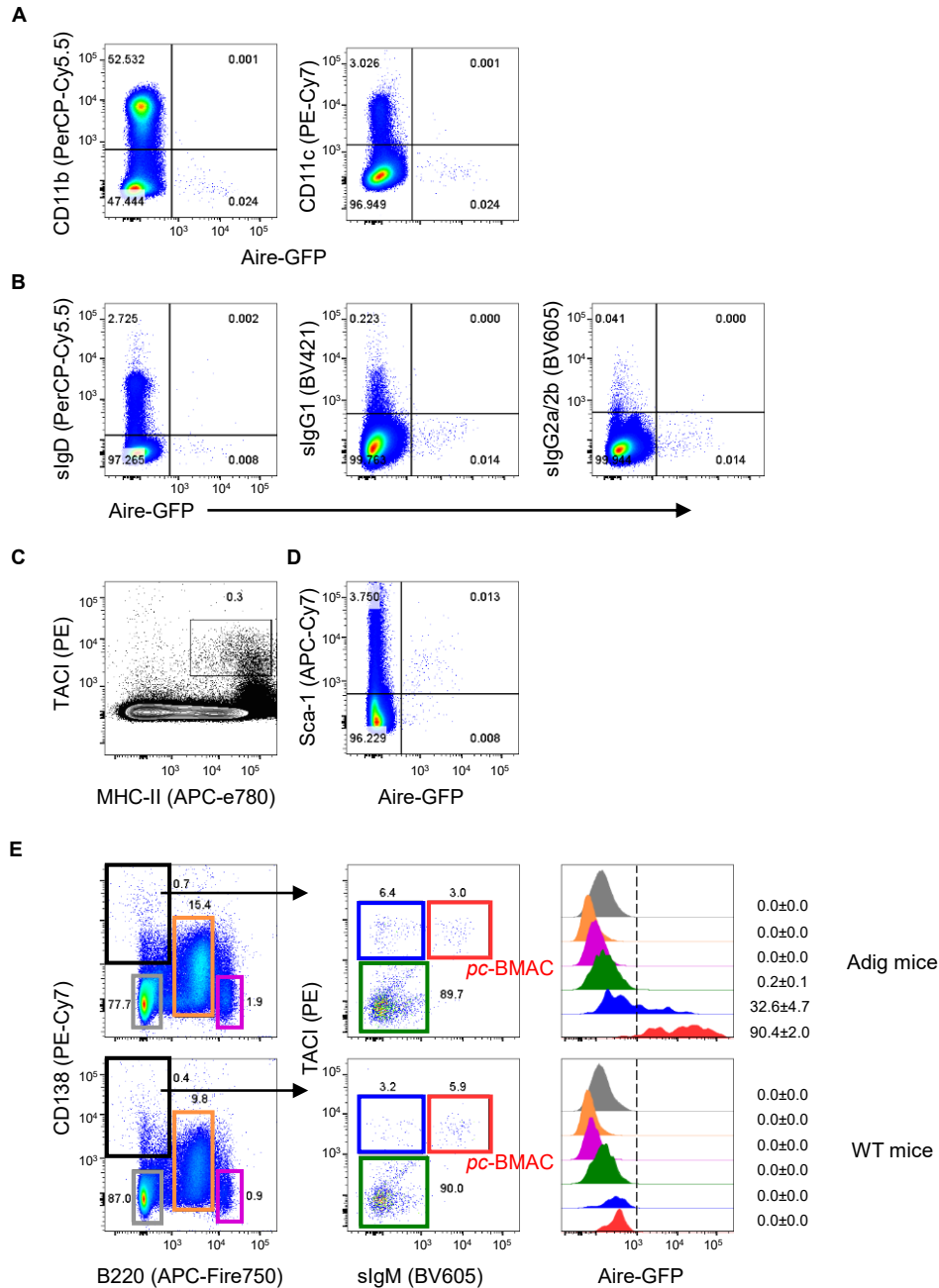


Figure S1. Related to Figure 2. Characterization of BM Aire-GFP⁺ cells in Adig mice.

(A and B) Flow cytometric analysis of expression of surface markers and isotypes of immunoglobulin. Frequencies of each quadrant among total BM cells are depicted in percentage. **(C)** Gating strategy of MHC-II+TACI⁺ cells. Number indicates percentage of gated cells among total BM cells. **(D)** Flow cytometric analysis of Sca-1 expression. Frequencies of each quadrant among total BM cells are depicted in percentage. **(E)** Gating strategy of *pc*-BMACs in Adig and WT mice. Frequencies of Aire-GFP⁺ cells among each population are depicted in percentage (mean ± SEM). Data are representative of two independent experiments (n ≥ 3).

Figure S2

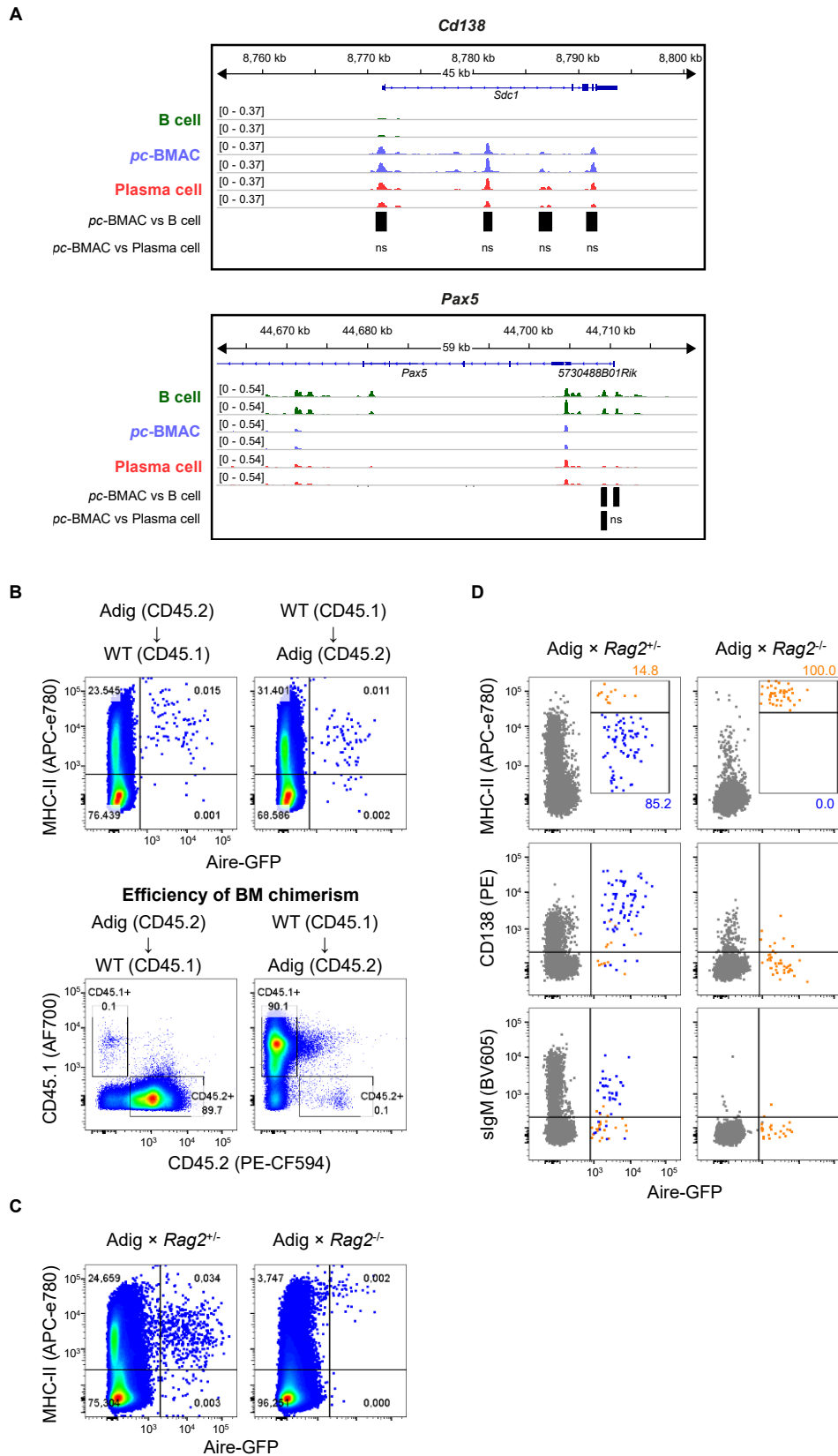


Figure S2. Related to Figure 2. Plasma cell features of *pc*-BMACs.

(A) Chromatin accessibility of *Sdc1* and *Pax5* loci in *pc*-BMACs, B cells (CD138^{hi}B220^{hi}) and plasma cells (CD138⁺TACI⁺B220⁻) in the BM. Gene information and genomic location is shown on top. All

samples are group-normalized to allow peak height comparison (scale of ATAC-seq signal shown in brackets). Bars below represent significant peaks between the compared groups. **(B)** Representative data of Aire-GFP⁺MHC-II⁺ cells (top) and CD45.1 or CD45.2 single positive cells (bottom) among total BM mononuclear cells (MNCs) of reciprocal BM chimeras: Adig→WT and WT→Adig (n = 4). **(C)** Representative data of Aire-GFP⁺MHC-II⁺ cells among total BM MNCs of RAG2^{+/-} and RAG2^{-/-} Adig mice.

Figure S3

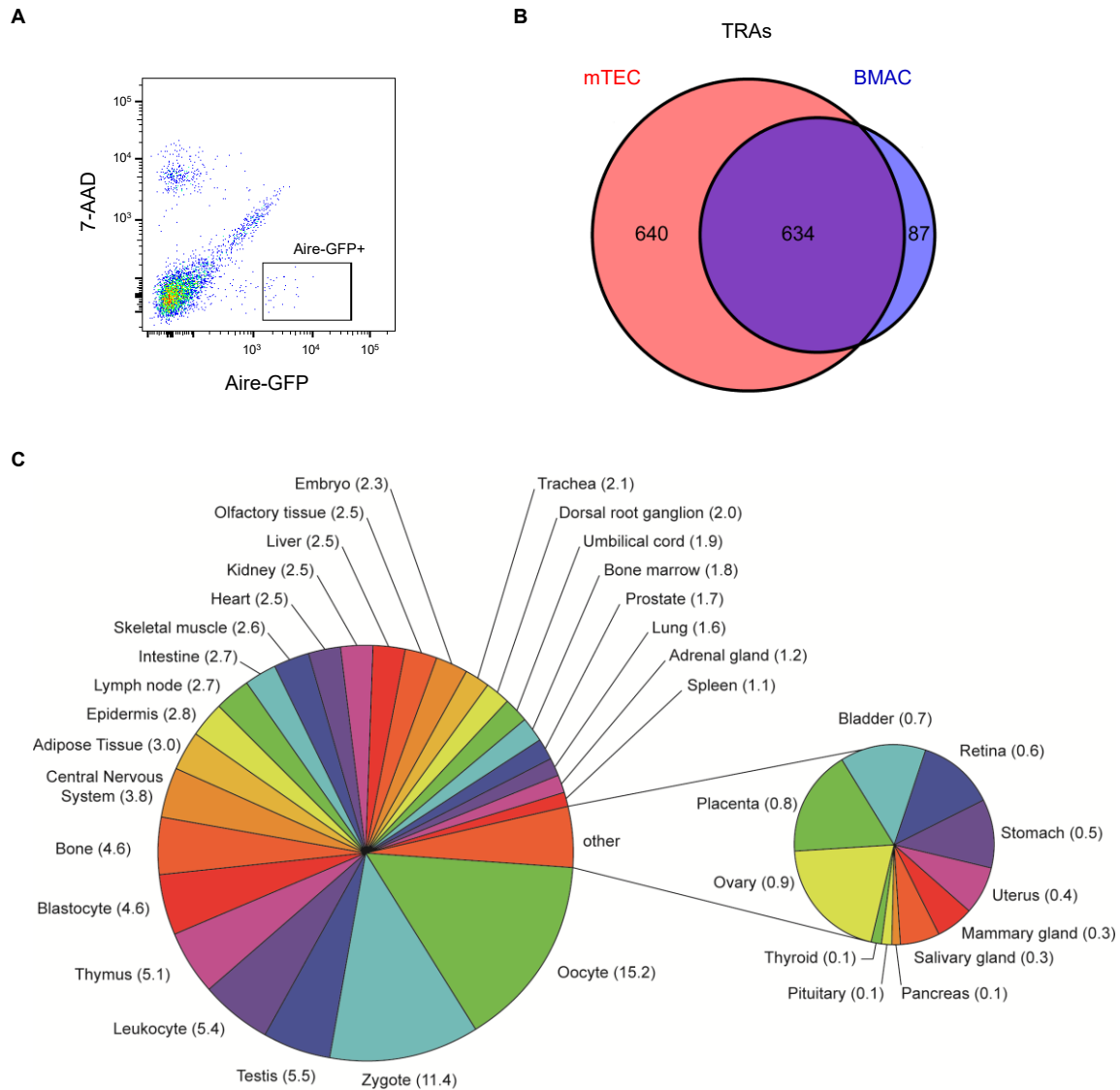


Figure S3. Related to Figure 3. Promiscuous gene expression in BMACs.

(A) Sorting strategy of BMACs from Adig mice for gene expression microarray. (B) Venn diagram of the numbers of TRA genes expressed exclusively in either mTECs or BMACs, or commonly expressed in both. (C) Distribution of the tissue types represented by the TRAs expressed by BMACs. Numbers in bracelets indicate percentages of each tissue type.

Figure S4

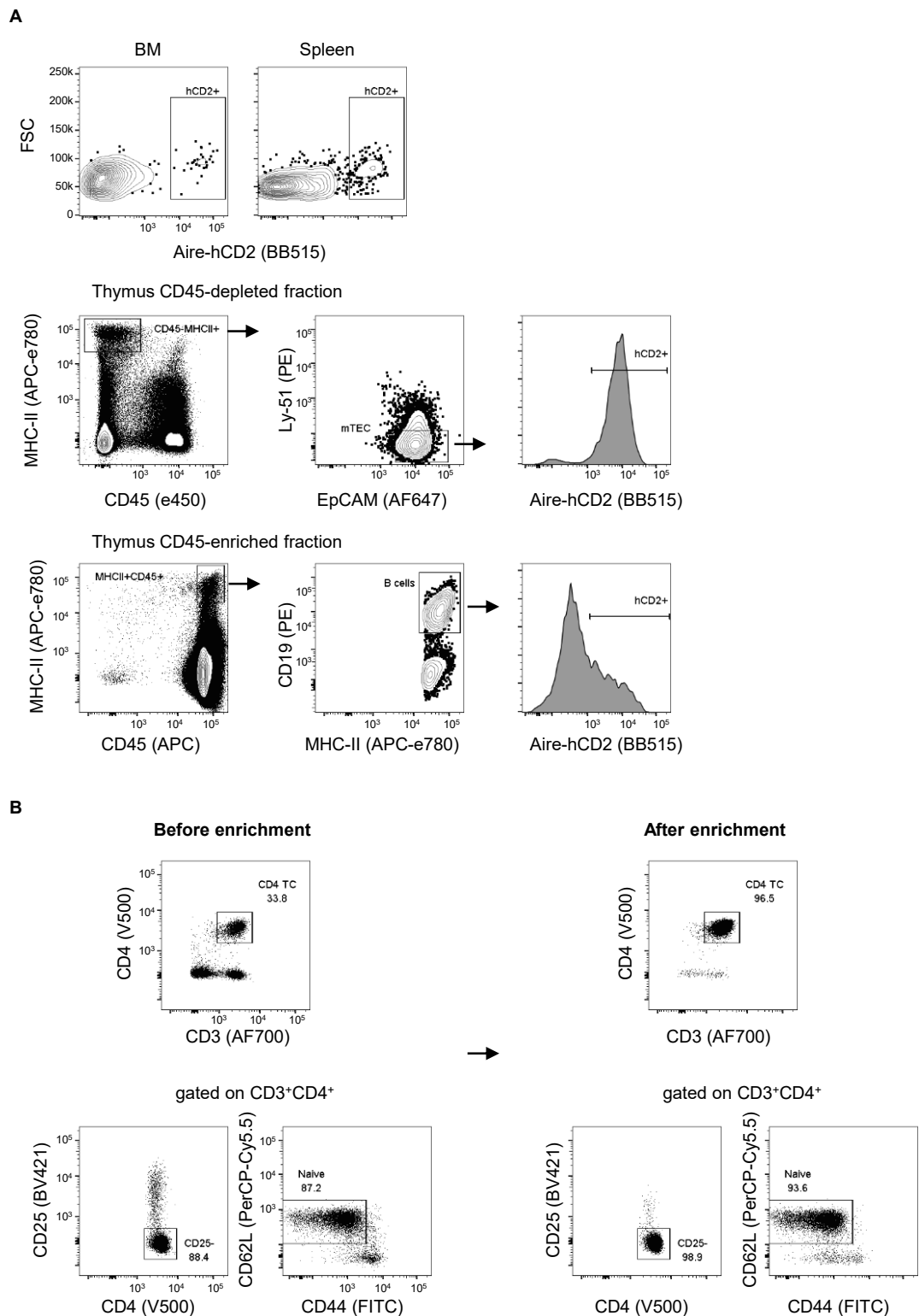


Figure S4. Related to Figure 4. Isolation of Aire-expressing APCs and naïve CD4⁺ T cells for antigen presentation assays.

(A) Sorting strategies of Aire-expressing APCs from BM, spleen, and thymus of Aire-HCO mice. (B) Representative data of isolation of naïve CD4⁺ T cells from spleens of WT Balb/c mice by magnet-activated enrichment (negative selection).

Figure S5

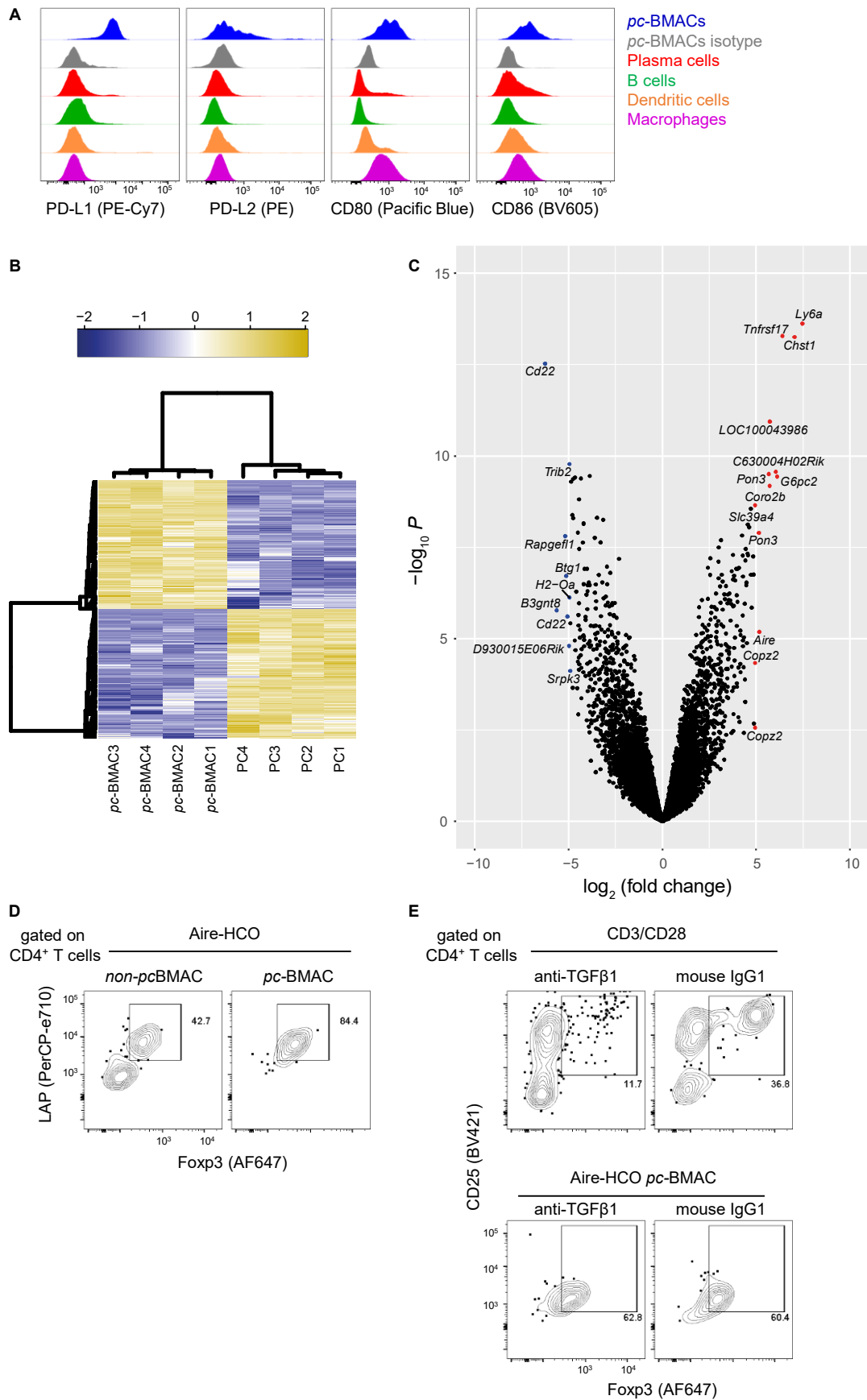


Figure S5. Related to Figure 5. *pc*-BMACs induce Treg conversion *in vitro*.

(A) Flow cytometric analysis of CD80, CD86, PD-L1 and PD-L2 expression on Aire-GFP⁺CD138⁺B220⁻ *pc*-BMACs and various APC subsets (CD138⁺B220⁻ plasma cells, CD138⁻B220^{hi} B cells, CD11c⁺ DCs, F4/80⁺ macrophages) from the BM of Adig mice (n = 3). **(B)** Heatmap of differentially expressed genes (adjusted $P < 0.05$) in *pc*-BMACs compared to BM plasma cells (PC). **(C)** Volcano plot of genes analyzed (*pc*-BMAC vs PC), with labels of the genes which had a significant fold change > 30 (red) or < -30 (blue). **(D)** Frequencies of LAP⁺Foxp3⁺ cells among HA-specific CD4⁺ cells after co-culture with non-*pc*BMACs or *pc*-BMACs from Aire-HCO mice. **(E)** Frequencies of CD25⁺Foxp3⁺ cells among HA-specific CD4⁺ cells after co-culture with CD3/CD28 activation beads, non-*pc*BMACs or *pc*-BMACs from Aire-HCO mice in the presence of anti- TGFβ1 antibody (clone 19D8) or mouse IgG1 isotype control antibody.

Figure S6

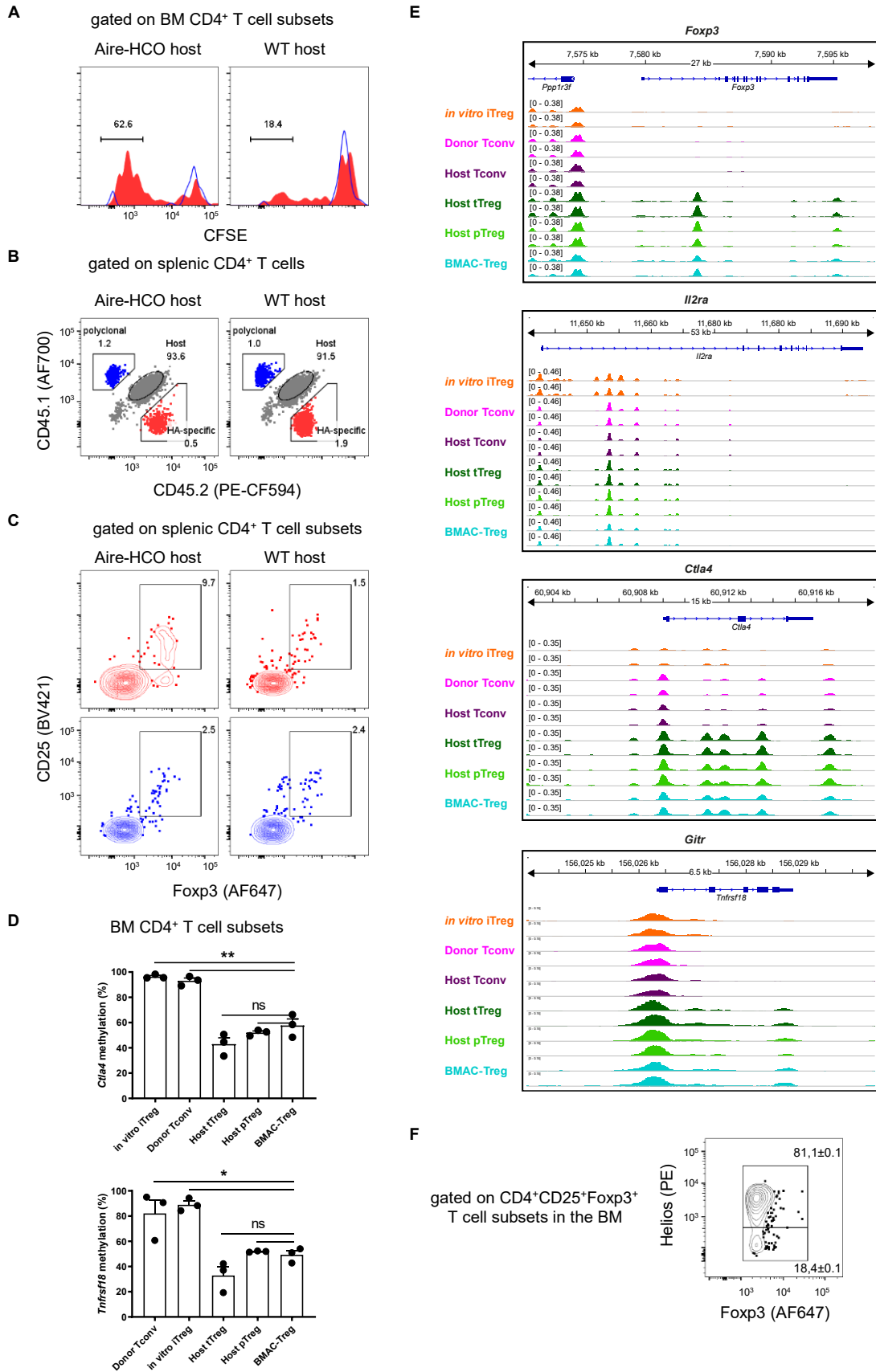


Figure S6. Related to Figure 6. HA-specific T cells are activated and converted to stable Tregs in the BM.

(A) Proliferation of CD45.2⁺ HA-specific CD4⁺ T cells (red) and CD45.1⁺ polyclonal CD4⁺ T cells (blue) in the BM of CD45.1⁺CD45.2⁺ hosts on day 3 post-transfer (n = 4). Numbers indicate percentages of gated cells among HA-specific donor CD4⁺ T cells. **(B)** Proportions of CD45.2⁺ HA-specific CD4⁺ T cells (red) and CD45.1⁺ polyclonal CD4⁺ T cells (blue) in the spleen of CD45.1⁺CD45.2⁺ hosts on day 14 post-transfer (n = 4). Numbers indicate percentages of gated cells among CD4⁺ T cells. **(C)** Frequencies of CD25⁺Foxp3⁺ Treg cells of CD45.2⁺ HA-specific CD4⁺ T cells (red) and CD45.1⁺ polyclonal CD4⁺ T cells (blue) in the spleen of CD45.1⁺CD45.2⁺ host on day 14 post-transfer (n = 4). Numbers indicate percentages of gated cells. **(D)** CG methylation status of *Ctla4* and *Tnfrsf18* loci in BMAC-Tregs, Donor Tconvs, Host tTregs and Host pTregs from BM CD4⁺ T cells, as well as *in vitro* iTregs (n = 3, mean ± SEM). **(E)** Chromatin accessibility of *Foxp3*, *Ilr2a*, *Ctla4*, and *Gitr* loci in BMAC-Tregs, Donor Tconvs, Host tTregs, Host pTregs, and Host Tconvs from BM CD4⁺ T cells, as well as *in vitro* iTregs. Gene information and genomic location is shown on top. All samples are group-normalized to allow peak height comparison (scale of ATAC-seq signal shown in brackets). **(F)** Frequencies of tTregs (Helios⁺Foxp3⁺) and pTregs (Helios⁻Foxp3⁺) among CD25⁺Foxp3⁺ Treg cells in the BM, shown in percentage (n = 3, mean±SEM). *P* > 0.05; *, *P* < 0.05; **, *P* < 0.01. Data are representative of three (A-C) or two (D-F) independent experiments.

Figure S7

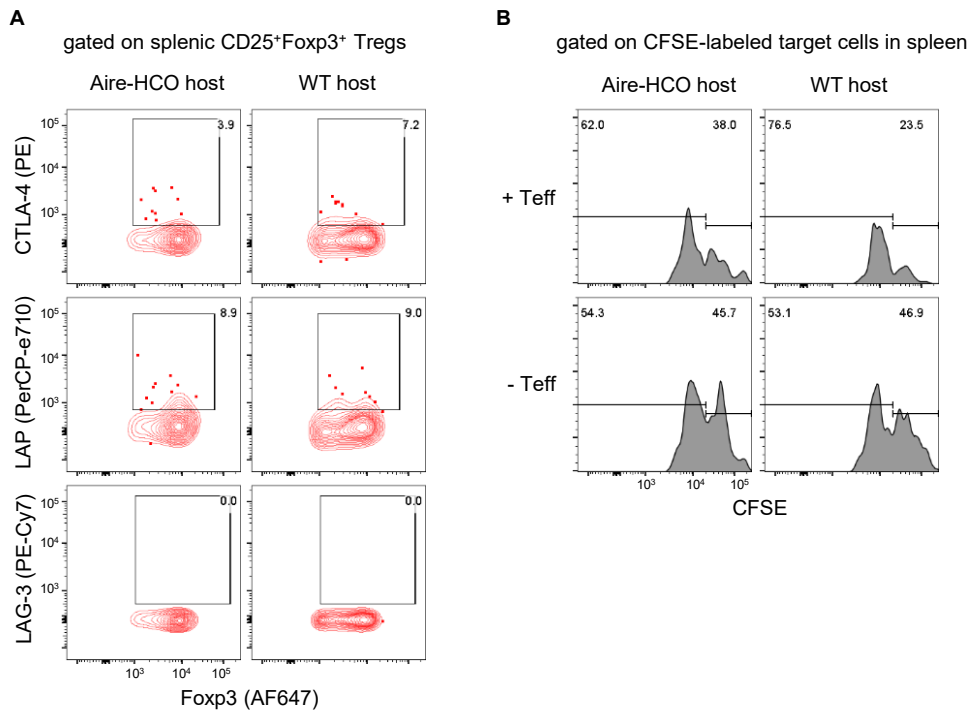


Figure S7. Related to Figure 7. HA-specific Tregs induced in the spleen manifest no activated status and suppressive function.

(A) Representative data of the frequencies of CTLA-4⁺, LAP⁺ and LAG-3⁺ cells among CD25⁺Foxp3⁺ HA-specific Treg cells in the spleen of Aire-HCO or WT hosts (n = 4). Numbers indicate percentages of gated cells. (B) Frequencies of B220⁺CFSE^{high} and B220⁺CFSE^{low} target cells and specific cytotoxicity (18 h after target cell transfer) in the spleen of Aire-HCO or WT hosts with or without co-transfer of HA-specific effector T cells. Numbers in histograms indicate percentages of gated B220⁺ cells (n = 3). Data are representative of three (A) or two (B) independent experiments.

Supplementary Tables

Table S1. Related to Figure 3. TRAs expressed in BMACs.

TRA genes expressed (detection $P < 0.01$) in BMACs. TRA genes exclusively expressed in BMACs but not in mTECs are highlighted in yellow. Self-antigens associated with autoimmune diseases are labeled in red. Tumor-associated antigens are labeled in blue.

Table S2. Related to Figure 3. Aire-regulated genes in *pc*-BMACs.

Differentially expressed genes in CD138⁺B220⁻TACI⁺Aire-GFP⁺*Aire*^{+/+} *pc*-BMACs compared to CD138⁺B220⁻TACI⁺IgM⁺*Aire*^{-/-} *pc*-BMACs. Genes classified as TRAs are highlighted in yellow.