## **Supporting Information**

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## SI Materials and Methods

**OT-I Mouse Strain.** OT-I mice were described (1) and were obtained from Taconic on a  $Rag2^{-/-}$  background. Animals were maintained in pathogen-free conditions within the Animal Houses at the IPBLN-CSIC. Five- to 8-wk-old mice were used in all experiments. Animal use adhered to CSIC Bioethical Guidelines.

**Characterization of J\alpha61-C\alpha Transcripts.** The PCR product from the RT-qPCR obtained using the J $\alpha$ 61 and C $\alpha$  primers (Table S1) was extracted from the agarose gel by using the GeneClean Turbo kit (MP Biomedicals). The agarose-purified J $\alpha$ 61 amplified PCR product was ligated into the pGEM-T plasmid (Promega) as recommended by the manufacturer and cloned into DH5 *Escherichia coli* bacteria. Plasmid preparations from independent colonies were sequenced using a 3130XL Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystem). The sequences were aligned using the Pubmed Gene ID: 21473 database.

1. Hogquist KA, et al. (1994) T cell receptor antagonist peptides induce positive selection. *Cell* 76(1):17–27. Western Blot. Thymocyte and T lymphocyte nuclear extracts were prepared as indicated above. Five micrograms of nuclear extract proteins were separated by 12% (wt/vol) SDS/PAGE, transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane (GE Healthcare Lifescience), and then incubated with E12 (sc-762), E47 (sc-763), or CDK9 (sc-484) Abs (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) at a 1:500 dilution. Diluted peroxidase-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG (1:500) (PerkinElmer Life Science) was used, and the bound Abs were detected using enhanced chemiluminescence (Perkin-Elmer Life Science).

Intracellular Staining for Flow Cytometry Analysis. Th cells were fixed and permeabilized using the BD Pharmingen Transcription Factor Buffer Set (BD Biosciences) as recommended by the manufacturer. Intracellular GATA-3 was detected by using GATA-3-PE Ab clone L50-823 (BD Biosciences).



**Fig. S1.** Analysis of TEA exon transcription in RxDO11.10 and Rag2<sup>-/-</sup> × OT-I (RxOT-I)  $\alpha\beta$  T lymphocytes and nucleotide/amino acid sequences of the J $\alpha$  gene segments and the J $\alpha$ 61 transcripts analyzed in this study. (A) Analysis of TEA exon transcription in RxDO11.10 and RxOT-I thymocytes and peripheral T lymphocytes by RT-qPCR. The results were normalized to those for *Actb* and represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM of duplicate RT-qPCR from three independent experiments. Two-tailed Student's *t* tests were used to determine the statistical significance between the values of the RT-qPCR from RxDO11.10 thymocytes versus RxDO11.10 and RxOT-I lymphocytes (\*\*\*P < 0.0005). (*B*) Sequence of the J $\alpha$ 61 transcripts. (C) The J $\alpha$ 61 PCR product obtained by RT-PCR was subcloned into the pGEM-T plasmid to be sequenced using the M13 forward and reverse primers (Promega). Six of six independent clones were sequenced, and the same sequence was obtained in the analysis of all clones. The plasmid pGEM backbone sequence is represented in green; the J $\alpha$ 61 gene segment sequence is represented in black; the genomic region downstream of the J $\alpha$ 61 gene segment that is spliced onto the first exon of the C $\alpha$  region is represented in red; the first C $\alpha$  exon sequence is represented in blue. The sequences of the primers used to amplify the J $\alpha$ 61 transcripts are underlined.



**Fig. 52.** Determination of HindIII digestion efficiency and relative interaction analysis of  $E\alpha$  with the normalization fragment from RxDO11.10 cells. (*A*) Digestion efficiencies at the indicated genomic fragments obtained from DP thymocyte-derived DNA HindIII digestions are represented as black bars, and those obtained from the HindIII digestion of DNA derived from T lymphocytes are represented as gray bars. The digestion efficiency was calculated according to a published protocol (1). Primers used for the determination of restriction efficiency are listed in Table S1. (*B*) Determination of relative interaction of E $\alpha$  with the control -75 kb region measured by qPCR in DP thymocyte and T lymphocyte HindIII-digested and ligated DNA. Primers used are listed in Table S1. The results represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM of duplicate qPCRs of three independent experiments.

1. Hagège H, et al. (2007) Quantitative analysis of chromosome conformation capture assays (3C-qPCR). Nat Protoc 2(7):1722-1733.



Fig. S3. Comparative H3K4me1 and H3K4me3 analyses in DP thymocytes and Th2 lymphocytes from WT mice by ChIP-sequencing. A public database of H3K4me1 and H3K4me3 results obtained from ChIP-sequencing experiments performed in WT DP thymocytes and Th2 cells (data from ref. 1) was analyzed. The figure shows a screenshot of the UCSC Mouse mm8 Genome Browser (data from ref. 2) with the alignments of the reads obtained from the different samples downloaded as BED files. The genomic location of E $\alpha$  (T $\alpha$ 1-T $\alpha$ 4 core region) is also indicated.

1. Wei G, et al. (2011) Genome-wide analyses of transcription factor GATA3-mediated gene regulation in distinct T cell types. *Immunity* 35(2):299–311. 2. Karolchik D, et al. (2004) The UCSC Table Browser data retrieval tool. *Nucleic Acids Res* 32(Database issue):D493–D496.



**Fig. S4.** Comparative H3ac, H3K4me2, and H3K4me3 analyses in DP thymocytes and T lymphocytes from E $\alpha$ KI alleles by qChIP. Analysis of indicated histone H3Ac (A), H3K4me2 (B), and H3K4me3 (C) at V $\beta$ 13p, V $\beta$ 13, and V $\beta$ 12 gene segments, and E $\alpha$ i in DP thymocytes from RxBtg and E $\alpha$ KI RxBtg mice, and T lymphocytes from E $\alpha$ KI  $\beta$ tg and  $\beta$ tg mice. *MageA2*, negative control (1). Data represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM of duplicate qPCR analysis of three independent experiments. Two-tailed Student's *t* test were used to determine the statistical significance between the values of the qChIPs from DP thymocytes versus T lymphocytes (\*P < 0.05, \*\*P < 0.005).

1. Hao B, Krangel MS (2011) Long-distance regulation of fetal V6 gene segment TRDV4 by the Tcrd enhancer. J Immunol 187(5):2484–2491.



**Fig. S5.** Measure of CD25, TCR $\beta$ , and CD69 upon TCR-mediated stimulation of T lymphocytes by flow cytometry. (A) CD25 and CD69 expression is upregulated, whereas TCR $\beta$  expression is down-regulated upon in vitro TCR-mediated stimulation of T lymphocytes. CD25, TCR $\beta$ , and CD69 expression was analyzed by flow cytometry in unstimulated and plate-bound CD3 $\epsilon$  and CD28 Ab-stimulated RxDO11.10 T lymphocytes. The green line represents staining with the control Ab, and the purple graphic represents staining with specific CD25 or TCR $\beta$  Abs after 24 h of stimulation. Similar TCR $\beta$ /CD69 double-expression patterns were observed upon 24 h and 48 h of T lymphocyte stimulation. (*B*) CD69 expression is up-regulated upon in vivo TCR-mediated stimulation of T lymphocytes. CD69 up-regulation is maximal at 24 h after OVA 323–339 + CFA-immunization, whereas it is down-modulated 48 h after immunization.



**Fig. S6.** Measure of *Gata3*, *Tbet*, *Rorgt*, and *Tcfe2a* transcription upon Th differentiation. (*A*) Analysis of *Gata3*, *Tbet*, and *Rorgt* transcripts in Th0, Th1, Th2, and Th17 cell populations from RxDO11.10 mice by RT-qPCR. (*B*) Comparative analysis by flow cytometry of intracellular GATA-3 expression in Th0 (red), Th1 (1), Th2 (green), and Th17 (yellow) cells. (*C*) Analysis of *Gata3* and *Tcfe2a* transcripts in sorted DP thymocytes, T lymphocytes, and Th0, Th1, Th2, and Th17 cell populations from RxDO11.10 mice by RT-qPCR. The results were normalized to those for *Actb* and represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM of duplicate RT-qPCR from three independent experiments. Two-tailed Student's *t* tests were used to determine the statistical significance between the values of the RT-qPCRs from Th0 vs. Th populations in *A* and T lymphocytes vs. DP thymocytes or Th populations *C* (\**P* < 0.05, \*\**P* < 0.005, and \*\*\**P* < 0.0005).

1. Takeda S, Rodewald H-R, Arakawa H, Bluethmann H, Shimizu T (1996) MHC class II molecules are not required for survival of newly generated CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells, but affect their long-term life span. *Immunity* 5(3):217–228.



**Fig. S7.** Comparative CTCF binding analysis to TEAp in DP thymocytes and T lymphocytes, and Fli-1, E-12, HEB, and GATA-3 binding analyses in DP thymocytes from unrearranged and rearranged *Tcra* alleles by qChIP. (*A*) Analysis of CTCF binding to TEAp in DP thymocytes and T lymphocytes from RxDO11.10 mice. (*B*) Analysis of the indicated TF binding to E $\alpha$  in DP thymocytes from RxBtg mice (unrearranged *Tcra* alleles) and  $\beta$ tg mice (rearranged *Tcra* alleles) using the control (c) or indicated Abs. DNA purified from the input and Ab-bound fractions was used as a template for qPCR to evaluate the presence of TEAp and E $\alpha$ . The results are representative of three independent experiments.



**Fig. S8.** E2A expression is down-regulated in peripheral T lymphocytes compared with DP thymocytes. (*A*) Analysis of *Tcfe2a* (E2A) transcription in DP thymocytes from E $\alpha$ KI Rxßtg mice, sorted DP and CD4<sup>+</sup> SP thymocyte populations and peripheral T lymphocytes from E $\alpha$ KI  $\beta$ tg and  $\beta$ tg mice by RT-qPCR. Transcript level was normalized to that of *Actb* in each sample. (*B*) Western blot of the E2A isoforms E12 and E47 present in DN3 thymocytes from  $Rag2^{-/-}$  mice, DP thymocytes from Rxßtg mice, and peripheral T lymphocytes from  $\beta$ tg mice. The presence of cyclin-dependent kinase 9 (CDK9) was analyzed as loading control.



**Fig. S9.** Analysis of expression of hE47 and *Tcra*-C $\alpha$  transcription, binding of E2A to E $\alpha$ , and J $\alpha$ 58 transcription upon TCR-mediated cell stimulation after forced hE47 expression in transduced T lymphocytes. (*A*) Forced expression of hE47 by retroviral transduction of T lymphocytes from RxDO11.10 and E $\alpha$ KI  $\beta$ tg mice. GFP<sup>-</sup>, GFP-low-, and GFP-high-expressing transduced populations expressing MigR or MigR-hE47 were sorted, and the levels of hE47 transcription were quantified by RT-qPCR. (*B*) Analysis of E2A binding to E $\alpha$  by qChIP upon retroviral transduction of T lymphocytes from  $\beta$ tg mice. Chromatin preparations from untransduced or transduced T cells with MigR-hE47 were immunoprecipitated with control (c) or E47 Abs. DNA purified from the input and Ab-bound fractions was used as a template for qPCR to evaluate the presence of E $\alpha$ . Data represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM of duplicate qPCR from two independent experiments. These ChIPs correspond to the samples presented in *D*. (*C*) Analysis of *Tcra*-C $\alpha$  transcription in sorted GFP<sup>-</sup>, GFPlow and GFPhi  $\beta$ tg T lymphocytes by RT-qPCR. (*D*) Analysis of *Tcra*-C $\alpha$  and hE47 transcription in untransduced, and hE47-transduced and -sorted GFPhi  $\beta$ tg T lymphocytes by RT-qPCR. (*E*) Analysis of *Tcra*-C $\alpha$  and hE47 by retroviral transduction in unstimulated and PMA + ionomycin-stimulated T lymphocytes from RxDO11.10 mice. GFP<sup>-</sup>, GFP-low, and GFP-high-transduced populations expressing MigR (control) or MigR-hE47 (hE47) were sorted, and J $\alpha$ S8 transcription was analyzed by RT-qPCR. The results represent the went  $\pm$  SEM of duplicate RT-qPCR from MigR-hE47 (hE47) were sorted, and J $\alpha$ S8 transcription was analyzed by RT-qPCR. The results represent the went  $\pm$  SEM of duplicate RT-qPCR from MigR-hE47 (hE47) were sorted, and J $\alpha$ S8 transcription was analyzed by RT-qPCR. The results represent the went  $\pm$  SEM of duplicate RT-qPCR from MigR-hE47 (hE47) were sorted, and J $\alpha$ S8 transcription was analyzed by RT-qPCR. The results represent the went  $\pm$  SEM of duplicat

Gene or transcript and application	· Primer sequence
RT-aPCR	
Acth	5'- ACACCCGCCACCAGTTC
	5'- TACAGCCCGGGGGGGCAT
Tcfe2a	5'- CAGATGGTGGCCTGGATACT
	5'- CATCCCTGCTGTAGCTGTCA
Gata3	
hE47	
Tbet	
Rorgt	
	5'- IGCAGGAGTAGGCCACATTACA
Vα transcripts	
IRAV21	
	5'- IAGCCACGCCACAAICAGI
TRAV17	5'- GCCTCCAGTTTCTCCTCAAA
	5'- GCTGGGGATTTCTTCAGGTT
TEA transcripts	
TEA exon	5'- TCCAAGATTCCTGGGGACAAC
	5'- AAGCAGGAGCCTTTGCATTA
Spliced Ja transcripts	
Jα61	5'- GCCATGACTGGAAGACTCAT
Jα58	5'- TGGGTCTAAGCTGTCATTTGG
Jα47	5′- GCTTGGGAACCATTTTGAGA
Cα	5'- AAGTCGGTGAACAGGCAGAG
Vβ transcripts	
Vβ11	5'- AAGGAACGATTCTCAGCTC
	5'- CTCTGTGTCTAAGCTGCTT
V612	5'- TCAGCTGTGTATCTGTGTG
· þ · =	5'- AAAGTTCAGAACTGGTGGG
Vβ13	
aChIP	
lα61	5'- GCCΔΤGΔCTGGΔΔGΔCTCΔΤ
5401	
Jα58	
1 47	
Jα47	
_	5'- CACCIGGAGCIIIGIIIGII
Εα	5'- AGCCCIGCIIIGGGIAAAA
	5'- CCATTICCIGTICIACTICIGG
Ea CTCF	5'- AGGAAGTCGCAGAACCTGAA
	5'- CGTAGGATGCAGGGATTTTC
ТЕАр	5′- ATGGGAAAGGGACCGATAAG
	GCTCAAAGGACACTGGAAGG
Vβ13p	5'- CTTACCATTCCCTATGGAAGTTCAG
	5'- CATATGCACAGACTGCATGTGAG
Vβ13	5'- ACAGCCACCTATCTCTGT
	5'- GGAGTATAAGAAATAGTCCC
Vβ12	5'- TCAGCTGTGTATCTGTGTG
	5'- AAAGTTCAGAACTGGTGGG
ΕαΚΙ - 1	5'- ACCACATATGTGTAGAGTC
	5'- ATCTGACCAGCTTACCCATTTC
ΕαΚΙ - 2	
MageA2	
Asth promotor	
Actb promoter	5'-CGCCAIGGATGACGATATCG
	5'-CGAAGCCGGCTTTGCACATG
2-Oct	5'-CGGGTGTGAGAGGTGTGG
	5'-CGAGTCTGAAGCAAGCCAGT
HindIII digestion efficiency and 3C	
TEAp	5′- GCGGATTTGGGCAAGAATAA (3C)

## Table S1. Sequence of oligucleotides used as PCR primers

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Table S1. Cont.

Primer sequence
5'-CACAGGCTGCTCCAGAGATG
5'- AGCATGGGAGACAGACGTAATG (3C)
5'-ATTCCGGTCTCCGTGTGAAT
5'- GGCAAAATCAGAAGACAAGATG (3C)
5'- GCAGGAGTCGGTTCTTTCC
5'- CTGCCCAAAAGAGAGCTTGG (3C)
5'- GCATGTGAATGAGAGAGGATGG

The primer for J $\alpha$ 49 transcripts was previously described (1). The primers for V $\beta$ 11, V $\beta$ 13, and V $\beta$ 12 germ-line transcription were described as primers for ChIP experiments of the gene segments (2). The primers for *Actb*, *Gata3*, and *Tcfe2a* were described (3–5). The primers for qChIP of E $\alpha$ i–1, V $\beta$ 13p, V $\beta$ 13, and V $\beta$ 12 were described (2). The E $\alpha$ i–1 primers were used in the qChIP experiments performed with mononucleosomes (Fig. S4), whereas the E $\alpha$ -2 primers were used in the qChIP experiments performed with sonicated chromatin (Figs. 4 and 6). The *MageA2* and *Oct2* primers were described for qChIP (6, 7). The HindIII digestion efficiency and 3C primers for TEAP, E $\alpha$ , and –75 region were described (8). Each pair of primers was used for HindIII digestion efficiency determinations, whereas the primers labeled 3C were used for 3C experiments.

1. Abarrategui I, Krangel MS (2006) Regulation of T cell receptor-α gene recombination by transcription. Nat Immunol 7(10):1109–1115.

2. Jackson A, Kondilis HD, Khor B, Sleckman BP, Krangel MS (2005) Regulation of T cell receptor β allelic exclusion at a level beyond accessibility. Nat Immunol 6(2):189–197.

3. Dionne CJ, et al. (2005) Subversion of T lineage commitment by PU.1 in a clonal cell line system. Dev Biol 280(2):448-466.

4. David-Fung ES, et al. (2009) Transcription factor expression dynamics of early T-lymphocyte specification and commitment. Dev Biol 325(2):444-467.

5. Yui MA, Rothenberg EV (2004) Deranged early T cell development in immunodeficient strains of nonobese diabetic mice. J Immunol 173(9):5381-5391.

- 6. Hao B, Krangel MS (2011) Long-distance regulation of fetal Vδ gene segment TRDV4 by the Tcrd enhancer. J Immunol 187(5):2484–2491.
- 7. del Blanco B, García-Mariscal A, Wiest DL, Hernández-Munain C (2012) Tcra enhancer activation by inducible transcription factors downstream of pre-TCR signaling. J Immunol 188(7): 3278–3293.

8. Seitan VC, et al. (2011) A role for cohesin in T-cell-receptor rearrangement and thymocyte differentiation. Nature 476(7361):467-471.