

# EU-ASEAN RELATIONS

The European Union's relations with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN): [Brunei Darussalam](#), [Cambodia](#), [Indonesia](#), [Lao PDR](#), [Malaysia](#), [Myanmar \(Burma\)](#), [Philippines](#), [Singapore](#), [Thailand](#), and [Vietnam](#) date back to 1977 when official "Dialogue Relations" began. On June 2015, the EU confirmed the adoption of a new strategy "[The EU and ASEAN: a partnership with a strategic purpose](#)". In August 2017 during the [EU-ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference](#), the [second EU-ASEAN Plan of Action \(2018-2022\)](#) was agreed.

## TRADE AND INVESTMENT



The EU is the **biggest provider of Foreign Direct Investment** in ASEAN



The EU has built an investment stock of over **€194 billion** in the region



The EU has concluded negotiations for **Free Trade Agreements (FTA)** with [Singapore](#) and with [Vietnam](#) and is negotiating FTAs with several other ASEAN countries ([Thailand](#), [Malaysia](#), [Indonesia](#) and the [Philippines](#)).

In March 2017, the EU and ASEAN agreed to take new steps towards resuming talks for this **region-to-region** agreement

## POLITICAL, SECURITY AND DEFENCE-RELATED COOPERATION



In July 2012, the EU [acceded to](#) ASEAN's **Treaty of Amity and Cooperation**. The EU and ASEAN work together to enhance crisis response and disaster management, including through EU support to the [ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance](#). In October 2015 the [first EU-ASEAN Policy Dialogue on Human Rights](#) took place. A second edition of the Dialogue was held in Philippines, in November 2017. The EU organises with ASEAN High Level Dialogues on **Maritime Security**.

The EU has also co-chaired a number of initiatives in the **ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)** framework, including **Meetings on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime**, the **Defence Officials Dialogue**.

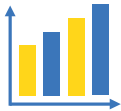
## INTEGRATION, CONNECTIVITY AND SECTORAL COOPERATION



The EU is a **major development partner** of ASEAN and the **biggest donor** to the ASEAN Secretariat with some €200 million of **regional funding**. This comes in addition to bilateral cooperation, which will amount to over **€2 billion in the period 2014-2020**.



The new [Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument](#) programme (E-READI) with €20 million supports policy dialogues and experience sharing between the EU and ASEAN.



The EU supports with €85 million the **ASEAN Economic Community [Blueprint 2025](#)** in the areas of **trade facilitation, standards conformance, customs and transport, civil aviation, intellectual property rights, statistics and integration monitoring**.



The **EU-ASEAN Migration and Border Management Programme** [started in 2015](#) (€3.4 million) supports the exchange of information between immigration officials in ASEAN capitals and the easing of visa requirements for ASEAN and non-ASEAN nationals within the region.



€60 million of EU funds over the period 2014-2020 will support initiatives and projects tackling **climate change and environmental issues**.

## MOBILITY, EDUCATION AND CULTURE



**10 million**

people travel  
between our two  
regions each year



Each year over  
**1.300**   
students and staff from  
ASEAN universities  
receive scholarships

**7 million**

are EU citizens who  
travel to ASEAN



Almost  
**600**



European students and staff will  
travel to ASEAN countries under  
the [Erasmus+](#) programme



ASEAN and the  
EU are currently  
negotiating a  
region-to-region  
Comprehensive  
Air Transport  
Agreement (**CATA**)



The [EU Support to Higher Education in ASEAN Region](#) project (SHARE) is supporting the creation of an ASEAN Inter-University Network through **€10 million** in funding