



Council of the European Union

PRESS
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BACKGROUND
Brussels, 3 October 2017

EU-India Summit

New Delhi, 6 October 2017

The 14th EU-India Summit will be held in New Delhi on 6 October 2017.

The EU will be represented by Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, and by Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission. India will be represented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The EU High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission Federica Mogherini will also attend.

At the summit, leaders will be expected to progress on concrete areas such as foreign and security policy, migration, trade, climate, energy, research and innovation and urban development. The summit with India, one of the EU's ten strategic partners, will also mark the 55th anniversary since the establishment of EU-India diplomatic relations.

The summit will start with a meeting among the leaders followed by the plenary session and a working lunch. After the exchange of signed documents, leaders' press statements are foreseen around 14:30 (11:00 Brussels time).

Press conferences by video streaming: <http://video.consilium.europa.eu/>

*Video coverage in broadcast quality and photos in high resolution:
<http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu>*

Bilateral relations

The summit should strengthen the **Strategic Partnership** by confirming the momentum of the 2016 EU-India Summit. Leaders will note the steps taken on the implementation of the **EU-India Agenda for Action 2020** endorsed last year and will call for further progress. The agenda establishes joint goals for cooperation in areas such as foreign and security policy, trade and investment, economy, global issues as well as people-to-people contacts.

On **security**, leaders are expected to discuss how to take further the EU and India's joint efforts on counterterrorism, including combating violent extremism and radicalisation. The two parties will also aim to deepen their cooperation on maritime security, in the context of the ongoing exchanges on counter-piracy and India's interest in escorting World Food Programme ships in the Gulf of Aden in support of EU's Naval Force Operation Atalanta.

Cooperation in **trade and investment** will also be addressed. Leaders will review the state of play and next steps towards relaunching negotiations for a comprehensive and mutually beneficial Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The summit will welcome the launch of an Investment Facilitation Mechanism for EU investors in India and the strong engagement of the European Investment Bank (EIB) in India, in particular in renewable energy and urban transport. A signature of another EIB loan for urban transport development is foreseen. Both parties will confirm their determination to keep working together to create opportunities for EU and Indian businesses.

Leaders are also expected to adopt joint declarations on **climate and energy** and on **urban development**. The aim is to strengthen the EU-India cooperation in these areas, in particular in climate friendly technologies in the context of the development of smart cities in India.

The summit should further enhance the cooperation in **research and innovation**, with the signature of an implementing arrangement between the European Research Council and the Scientific and Engineer Research Board (SERB). This would facilitate research opportunities for early career researchers and increase research collaboration between the EU and India.

[Factsheet on EU-India relations \(EEAS\)](#)

[EU delegation in India](#)

Global issues

The summit will reinforce the role of the EU and India **as partners for peace, stability and prosperity in the current context of global uncertainties**. The EU and India are leading the fight against global challenges on the basis of their belief in shared values, common interests, multilateralism, diversity and the respect for the rules-based international order.

In their discussion about global issues, leaders are expected to promote enhanced **cooperation within the G20** in order to achieve strong, sustainable and balanced growth to the benefit of citizens.

On **environment and climate**, the summit will confirm the EU and India's commitment to the Paris Agreement and its full implementation. Leaders will reaffirm the importance of joint efforts at a global level to achieve the **Sustainable Development Goals**. The summit will also discuss migration and mobility, including the Rohingya crisis and the work on the Global Compacts for Migration and for Refugees.

Foreign and security policy

In their discussions on foreign policy, the leaders will focus on the latest developments in the EU's and India's respective wider neighbourhoods, including the situation in the Korean peninsula, the latest developments regarding Ukraine and the state of play in Afghanistan, as well as EU-India cooperation in the Indian Ocean area and Africa.

Furthermore, the situation in the Middle East, including Iran, Syria and the Middle East Peace Process, could be raised.