

EU-ASEAN Summit

Brussels, 14 December 2022

EU and ASEAN leaders will meet in Brussels on **14 December 2022** to mark 45 years of diplomatic relations between the two blocs. The commemorative summit will be co-chaired by the President of the European Council, Charles Michel and the 2022 ASEAN Chair, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen.

The EU and ASEAN became **strategic partners in 2020**. The relationship is based on shared values and principles such as the rules-based international order, effective and sustainable multilateralism and free trade.

Leaders should discuss past achievements and future endeavours in a wide range of areas of the strategic partnership, including:

- connectivity
- clean and just energy transition
- trade
- digital transition.

They will also focus on global challenges, economic cooperation, the Indo-Pacific region and the EU-ASEAN Plan of Action 2023-2027.

[EU-ASEAN commemorative summit, 14 December 2022](#)

[EU-ASEAN commemorative summit and side-events \(EEAS\)](#)

Leaders are expected to issue a joint statement at the end of the summit.

Indicative agenda (local time)

Wednesday, 14 December 2022

11.00: Arrival of EU and ASEAN representatives

13.15: Official welcome by President Charles Michel and President Ursula Von der Leyen

13.30: Opening ceremony

14.30: Family photo

14.45: Plenary session

17.30: Press conference with President Charles Michel, President Ursula von der Leyen, Prime Minister of Cambodia Hun Sen and President of the Philippines Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

The press conference and public events will be live streamed on Council live: <http://video.consilium.europa.eu> and on Europe by Satellite: <https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/aboutebs>

Videos and photos are available to download from the Council newsroom: <https://newsroom.consilium.europa.eu/>

Europe by Satellite will be distributing the host broadcaster pool signals so that they are accessible to all, free of rights and free of charge at: <https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/aboutebs>

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Connectivity

EU and ASEAN Leaders will focus on **shared geostrategic approaches**. They will reiterate the importance of connectivity for mutual **economic growth, security and resilience** in the region.

Discussions will also cover cooperation in the **Indo-Pacific** region. Leaders will stress the importance of common principles and synergies between the **EU Indo-Pacific Strategy** and the **ASEAN Indo-Pacific Outlook**.

The EU is expected to announce Global Gateway projects in the ASEAN region.

[Indo-Pacific: Council adopts conclusions on EU strategy for cooperation](#) (press release)

[EU-ASEAN joint ministerial statement on connectivity](#)

[A globally connected Europe: Council approves conclusions](#) (press release)

Clean and just energy transition

Leaders will examine actions to support common **green priorities** and the **green agenda** with a focus on Southeast Asia's potential for **renewable energies**.

Discussions on close cooperation between institutions will also revolve around acceleration on the **energy transition** and **climate targets**.

[ASEAN and EU enhance cooperation on Environmental Protection and Climate Change \(Bangkok, 8 July 2019\)](#)

[Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument \(E-READI\)](#)

Trade

EU and ASEAN Leaders will discuss **two-way trade** and **investment flows** between ASEAN and the EU to boost confidence, improve economic stability and strengthen connectivity and economic linkages between the two regions.

[Key indicators - EU ASEAN trade and investment \(infographic\)](#)

[EU-ASEAN economic cooperation \(EEAS, factsheet\)](#)

Digital transition

Leaders will stress the importance of increased access to **digital services**, an open, secure, stable and peaceful **ICT environment**, consumer and personal **data protection** and investment in **digital infrastructure**.

[ASEAN and EU work together towards establishing an ASEAN Digital Index](#)

[EU and ASEAN: Partners in connectivity](#)

Global challenges

The EU-ASEAN commemorative summit is expected to demonstrate the two organisations' shared commitment to the rules-based international order, international law and respect for national sovereignty with the UN Charter at its core.

As regional actors striving for a peaceful, fair and prosperous world, the EU and ASEAN engage in dialogue on security related concerns for example Russia's war against Ukraine, the crisis in Myanmar, and the situation in the South China Sea, on the Korean Peninsula and in Afghanistan. The EU participates in the ASEAN Regional Forum and seeks to join all relevant ASEAN-led security mechanisms, including the East Asia Summit and the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting-Plus.

As strategic partners and responsible stakeholders, the EU and ASEAN work together to address the most pressing challenges of today and tomorrow, including through the Global Gateway strategy - the EU's principle tool for enhancing cooperation with the region.

EU-ASEAN Plan of Action 2023-2027

Leaders should welcome the **EU-ASEAN Plan of Action 2023-2027**, which outlines cooperation in various areas such as:

- pandemic recovery
- sustainable trade
- rules-based and sustainable connectivity
- promoting decent work
- disaster preparedness
- security cooperation.

[Plan of action to implement the ASEAN-EU strategic partnership \(2023-2027\) \(EEAS\)](#)

Signature ceremonies

In the margins of the summit, after the plenary session, the High Representative together with the Czech Prime Minister will sign Partnership and Cooperation Agreements with Malaysia and Thailand. There will also be a photo opportunity related to the Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement signed between EU and ASEAN in October.

[ASEAN and the EU sign the world's first bloc-to-bloc Air Transport Agreement](#) (joint press release)

Background

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand by Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Brunei Darussalam joined ASEAN in 1984, followed by Vietnam in 1995, Lao PDR and Myanmar in 1997, and Cambodia in 1999. The ten member states of ASEAN have an estimated total population of about 668 million. The secretariat of the association is based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

[ASEAN website](#)
