Priorities

The EU is a natural supporter of regional integration in South-East Asia. A strong, united and self-confident ASEAN is good for regional stability, security and prosperity.

EU-ASEAN cooperation has intensified substantially on the basis of the ASEAN-EU Plan of Action for Enhanced Cooperation adopted by Foreign Ministers in April 2012.

Did you know?

ASEAN is composed of ten countries and has a population of approximately 600 million people.

If ASEAN were a single entity, it would rank as the eighth largest economy in the world.

Like the EU, ASEAN has its own flag, motto, anthem and “ASEAN Day” (8 August). ASEAN’s motto is “One Vision, One Identity, One Community”.

The EU and ASEAN are the two most advanced regional integration initiatives in the world. They are longstanding, natural partners in integration.

In recent years, the EU-ASEAN partnership has grown significantly and cooperation now spans a wide range of policy areas, including non-traditional security challenges.

The EU is an active member of the ASEAN Regional Forum. The EU and Myanmar co-chair the ARF Inter-Sessional Support Group on Confidence Building Measures and the related Defence Officials Dialogue in 2013-2014.

Top 3 Facts

In 2013, the EU was ASEAN’s third largest trading partner and continues to be ASEAN’s biggest source of foreign direct investment (24% of the total).

10 million people travel between the EU and ASEAN each year. These numbers are growing year by year.

EU aid to ASEAN and its member countries will increase to €3 billion between 2014-2020.
Main links:

EEAS page on ASEAN
http://eeas.europa.eu/asean/

EU COREPER:
EU COREPER meets with the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives for the first time, February 2013.

EU-ASEAN Summit:
President Barroso and President Van Rompuy at the 9th EU-ASEAN Summit, November 2012.

HRVP:
HRVP Catherine Ashton meets ASEAN Secretary General Le Luong Minh at the ASEAN Secretariat, November 2013.