



EU-INDIA TOWARDS A NEW STRATEGIC AGENDA

The European Union and India are intensifying their ties as part of a **new strategic agenda** to enhance prosperity, security and tackle major global challenges together. This builds on the Strategic Partnership established in 2004 and is underpinned by shared interests and complementary strengths.

THE EU AND INDIA AT A GLANCE



The two largest democracies in the world



Together account for approximately 25% of global population and GDP



The EU is India's largest trading partner



**Bilateral Trade (goods and services)
€ 180 billion (2024)**

At the 16th EU-India Summit on 27 January 2026, leaders endorsed the '**Towards 2030: EU-India Joint Comprehensive Strategic Agenda**', which will guide cooperation on five pillars:



PROSPERITY AND SUSTAINABILITY



TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION



SECURITY AND DEFENCE



CONNECTIVITY AND GLOBAL ISSUES



PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE COOPERATION

SNAPSHOT OF EU-INDIA RELATIONS



TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY

STRENGTHENING RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAINS, OPEN MARKETS, AND FOSTERING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

For example:

- > Concluding negotiations of a **Free Trade Agreement** and advancing towards an **Investment Protection Agreement** and **Agreement on Geographical Indications**
- > **EU-India Trade and Technology Council** covers three pillars:  **Trade**  **Trusted technology**  **Research**
- > Strengthening Supply Chains, Economic Security, food security & health preparedness
- > **EU-India Macroeconomic Dialogue**
- > Launching **EU-India Innovation Hubs** and an **EU-India Startup Partnership** for enhancing cooperation on AI, semiconductors, digital public infrastructure, digital skills
- > Proposal of creating **Blue Valleys** which will support industrial collaboration in specific critical value chains
- > Deepening cooperation through a regular **Aviation Dialogue** and **Space Dialogue**
- > Exploring options for **association of India to Horizon Europe**



CONNECTIVITY

BOOSTING SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS AND CONNECTIVITY IN THE REGION AND BEYOND THROUGH GLOBAL GATEWAY



India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)

Global Gateway Green Shipping Corridors and Hubs



EU-Africa-India Digital Corridor

South Asia Energy Connectivity

Over
€15 BILLION

Team Europe investment in Global Gateway projects in India (2021-2025)



Focus on: Urbanisation, Energy, Water, Digital, Biodiversity/Agriculture, Women Economic Empowerment and Sustainable Finance



SECURITY AND DEFENCE

STRENGTHENING COOPERATION IN THE CURRENT GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT

For example:

- Signed a **Security and Defence Partnership**, to deepen cooperation on maritime security, defence industry, cyber and hybrid threats, space and counter-terrorism
- Launched negotiations for a **Security of Information Agreement**, to help facilitate stronger security and defence cooperation
- Launch of an annual **EU-India Security and Defence Dialogue**, supported by specialised thematic dialogues
- Launched the **EU-India Strategic Dialogue on foreign and security policy**
- Enhanced **maritime security cooperation**: EU-India military exercises, including joint naval exercises between India and EUNAVFOR ATALANTA and EUNAVFOR ASPIDES in the Indian Ocean
- Expanding cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, including through the framework of **EU-India Consultations on the Indo-Pacific, the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI), the ESIWA+ security programme**



PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONNECTIONS

STRONG TIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH, CULTURE, TOURISM AND TECHNOLOGY

Research & Education:

- India ranks 1st with **over 2,700 Marie Skłodowska-Curie researchers** since 2014; Initiation of an **Education and Skills Dialogue** to promote talent mobility; Establishment of **Jean Monnet Network**, collaborative platforms for think tanks/academic institutions, and participation in **Track 1.5 Dialogues**

Mobility & Tourism:

- Signed **Comprehensive Framework of Cooperation on Mobility** support skills development and compare skills and qualification frameworks
- **Highest number of EU Blue Cards** issued to Indian high-skilled workers in 2023; **1 million Schengen visas** issued in 2024, Launch of **European Legal Gateway Office pilot**, engagement with Federation of European Business in India



GREEN TRANSITION

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT, OCEANS AND FOSTERING GREEN GROWTH

For example:

- Strengthened energy and climate cooperation through **EU-India Clean Energy and Climate Partnership** with a focus on renewable energy and hydrogen, energy efficiency, regional connectivity, electricity market integration, smart grids and sustainable fuels
- Implementation of international agreements, including **Paris Agreement and BBNJ Agreement**
- Cooperation to foster **decarbonisation** in key industrial sectors and on carbon pricing to support the development of India's Carbon Credit Trading System (CCTS) and prepare for **Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)**
- Improving collaboration on partnership with the **International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure**
- Strengthening environmental collaboration and supporting **resource efficiency and circularity**
- The European Investment Bank has signed projects worth around **€5.5 billion**, of which over 90% are supporting climate action



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COMMON VALUES

A STABLE RULES-BASED INTERNATIONAL ORDER; STRONG AND RESILIENT DEMOCRACIES AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

For example:

- **Expanding trilateral cooperation with third countries** across areas, such as clean energy, sustainable infrastructure, digital connectivity and resilience.
- **Enhanced cooperation in multilateral fora**, such as the G20, IMO, ICAO, UN and WTO
- **Enhanced coordination on disaster preparedness/risk reduction and humanitarian aid**, cooperation through National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- **Continued cooperation on human rights**, including through the bilateral Human Rights Dialogue
- Regular EU-India consultations on **cooperation in the Indo-Pacific**