



# 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**



**The EU is India's largest  
trading partner**



**Together account for  
approximately **25%**  
of global population  
and GDP**



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

At the 16<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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**