European Union's Relations with the Sultanate of Oman

The EU stands ready to support further regional integration within the Gulf Cooperation Council and to strengthen its long-standing partnership with the GCC.

HRVP Josep Borrell, 2021





Mission of the Delegation

The Delegation of the European Union in Riyadh, which is accredited to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Bahrain, was officially opened in 2004. With the Lisbon Treaty and the setup of a unified diplomatic service (European External Action Service), it is representing the EU as a whole and speaking on behalf of the Member States where there is unanimous agreement in foreign policy areas. The Delegation deals with a wide variety of areas, including political relations, economic and trade cooperation, energy, climate change, cultural cooperation, security, education, and acts as a consular focal point.

Bilateral Relations

Cooperation Arrangement

- Signed by the European External Action Service and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman in September 2018.
- Provides framework for cooperation on both the political and technical levels.





Highlights

- Discussing common challenges
- Exchanging experience
- Increasing mutual understanding
- Annual senior official meetings
- Regular consultations

Joint Communication on a Strategic Partnership with the Gulf 18 May 2022

High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell: The European Union and Gulf countries stand to gain from a stronger and more strategic partnership... We need to work more closely together on:

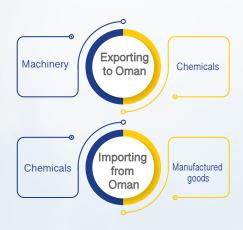
- . Stability in the Gulf and the Middle East, global security threats
- . Energy security
- . Climate change and the green transition
- . Digitalisation
- . Trade and investment
- Strengthening contacts between students, researchers, businesses and citizens

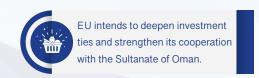
Trade and Investment Relations





Total trade of € 3.3 billion





- The EU has finalised negotiations on an Aviation Agreement with Omani authorities.
- The EU intends to deepen investment ties and strengthen its cooperation with Oman.

Cultural Relations

The Delegation introduces European culture and facilitates cultural exchanges between Europeans and Omanis in various fields such as music, arts and education, including through the organisation of cultural events in collaboration with EU Member State Embassies.



Erasmus+

For over 30 years, Europe has funded the Erasmus programme, which has enabled over 4 million European students to study, train and gain experience abroad. Now most Erasmus+ opportunities are also open to the Gulf region with individual students able to apply for scholarships to study in Europe as well as universities in Oman able to establish partnerships with their European peers to perform student and staff exchanges.



For further info check the links below:

erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu

education.ec.europa.eu/study-in-europe

- **f** EUErasmusPlusProgramme
- StudyInEurope.Welcome
- EUErasmusPlus
- studyineurope.welcome



EU-GCC Relations

EU-GCC Cooperation Agreement from 1988 Areas of cooperation



Projects:

- Enhanced EU-GCC Political Dialogue, Cooperation and Outreach
- EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification
- EU-GCC Clean Energy Technology Network (2010-2022)

y euinthegcc
eeas.europa.eu/delegations/saudi-arabia