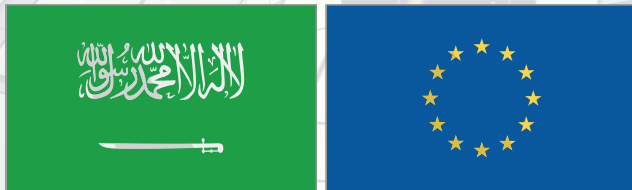


European Union's Relations with Saudi Arabia

“The European Union is the second biggest trading partner of Saudi Arabia and the biggest foreign direct investor... We want to widen the scope of our interaction - on regional issues and global challenges such as the green transition, climate change or digital revolution.

HRVP Josep Borrell, 2021 “



Mission of the Delegation

The Delegation of the European Union in Riyadh 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 on foreign policy areas.

The EU Delegation is accredited to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Sultanate of Oman, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Gulf Cooperation Council Secretariat. The Delegation deals with political relations, economic and trade cooperation, energy, climate change, cultural cooperation, security, space and being a consular focal point.

Bilateral Relations

Cooperation Arrangement

- Signed by the European External Action Service and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on October 3, 2021.
- Provides a framework for our cooperation on both the political and technical levels.



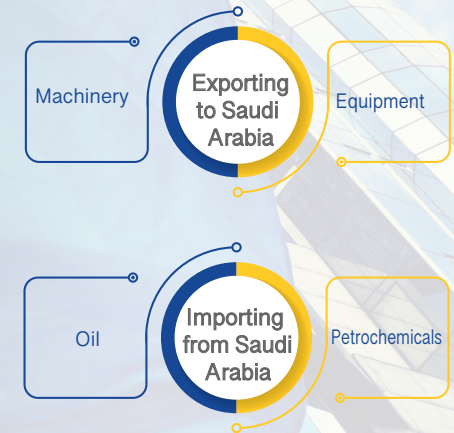
Highlights

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

Priorities and the Way Forward





- Cooperate on Peace & Security in the wider region
- Increase trade & investment
- Support Vision 2030 transformation and economic diversification
- Join forces to make the Green Transition happen
- Promote cultural exchanges; Provide support to EU regional cultural programmes

Trade and Investment Relations



EU is a major contributor to the diversity of food products in the Kingdom

EU Member States' companies are working in Saudi Arabia in several strategic sectors, established in the Saudi Vision 2030, such as:

 Developing the metro lines in Riyadh	 Energy and environment projects
 Tourism, culture, and construction	 Industrial machinery, and pharmaceuticals.

Cultural Relations

The Delegation introduces European culture and facilitates cultural exchanges between Europeans and Saudis in various fields such as film, music, art and education, including through the organisation of cultural events. The Cultural institutes and embassies of Austria, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Spain and the Goethe-Institute established in 2021 the European Union National Institutes of Culture (EUNIC) cluster in Saudi Arabia. The EU Delegation actively supports the cluster's work as the main strategic partner. This cultural network, which already operates in more than 90 countries worldwide, aims at strengthening Saudi-European cultural ties and supporting the exchange.






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 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 Saudi Arabia 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
-  Facebook.com/EUErasmusPlusProgramme
-  Facebook.com/StudyInEurope.Welcome
-  Twitter.com/EUErasmusPlus
-  Instagram.com/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)