

# EU-AUSTRALIA RELATIONS

The European Union (EU) and Australia have a longstanding cooperation and share fundamental values and principles such as democracy, the rule of law, human rights, good governance and a market-based economy.

## FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

The **EU-Australia Framework Agreement** was signed in August 2017. Provisionally applied since 2018, the Framework Agreement formally entered into force on 21 October 2022, marking the **beginning of a new era of strengthened strategic cooperation** between Australia, the EU and its Member States.

#### **CHALLENGES**

At a time where the rules based international order is under increasing pressure, the Framework Agreement will enable the EU and Australia to better work together to tackle challenges in foreign and security policy, sustainable development, climate change, environment, energy, as well as economic and trade matters.

#### **STRENGTHENED COOPERATION**

The Framework Agreement will encourage **closer links** across government, business and civil society, **strengthening EU-Australia bilateral cooperation** as well as relations in **international and regional** fora, in order to jointly engage in **promoting peace**, **stability and prosperity globally**.

The EU and Australia hold regular **Leaders and other high-level meetings** to discuss key bilateral and global concerns such as climate change and energy, foreign policy and security challenges, humanitarian crises, as well as social and demographic issues.

A **Joint Committee** has been in operation to guide the implementation of the Framework Agreement ad interim and it will now move to coordinate and give strategic direction to the whole range of issues covered by the Framework Agreement. In parallel, negotiations are advancing for an EU-Australia Trade Agreement.

### **DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL RELATIONS**

The EU and Australia have established an intensified dialogue and cooperation on foreign policy and security issues, notably in the Indo-Pacific, to act swiftly on maritime security, crisis management, combatting terrorism, deflecting and defeating cyber and hybrid attacks and fighting foreign information manipulation and interference, as well as exchanging information to protect our citizens better. This includes the possibility for Australia to participate in EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) civilian/military missions abroad.

## **EU-AUSTRALIA FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT** TRANSLATING WORDS INTO ACTIONS

#### **TRADE**

The EU and Australia are negotiating a Trade Agreement that will bring significant benefits to business and consumers alike. More jobs, more high-quality products on the supermarket shelves and better protections for goods and services.



THE **EU** IS AUSTRALIA'S **3**<sup>RD</sup> LARGEST TRADING PARTNER FOR GOODS (AFTER CHINA AND JAPAN)



AUSTRALIA IS THE EU'S 2ND LARGEST TRADING PARTNER FOR SERVICES (AFTER THE USA), AND THE **2<sup>ND</sup> LARGEST SOURCE OF INVESTMENT.** 

FOREIGN INVESTMENT TO **billion** AUSTRALIA IN 2021





€45 (A\$ 70) TOTAL TRADE billion IN 2021

IN GOODS WITH THE EU

## CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Climate change affects us all and it is only through increased cooperation, exchange of best practices and collaboration in bilateral and multilateral fora that we will achieve the objectives to resolve the climate, energy, environmental and biodiversity challenges that face us all today. The development of renewable energies, including off-shore wind and solar, as well as green hydrogen, green technologies and critical materials are of particular mutual interest for the green transition.

# **EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

Both European Union and Australia are multicultural societies. Our diversity enriches and unites us. Promoting culture, education, innovation and research are key priorities for the European Union and Australia. Cooperation in these fields will ensure smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The EU and Australia have a long history of productive collaboration in research and innovation: the first EU science and technology cooperation agreement signed by the EU with a non-European international partner country was with Australia in 1994.



Since 2015, more than 2,000 students and scholars have taken part in the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Scheme.



Australian partners are present in over 50 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJMD)



50 Australians have won scholarships to take part in these EMJMDs



50 Australian institutions have been awarded Jean Monnet Grants to promote excellence in teaching and research on European Integration.