ABOUT ASEM

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental process established in 1996 to foster dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe. ASEM addresses political, economic, financial, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership.

Through its informal process based on equal partnership and enhancing mutual understanding, ASEM facilitates and stimulates progress but does not seek to duplicate bilateral and other multilateral relationships between Asia and Europe.

Key Features

Social Media & E-Newsletter

Stay updated via ASEM social media and the monthly AIB e-newsletter.

ASEM History

The ASEM Process arose from a mutual recognition in both Asia and Europe that the relationship between the two regions needed to be strengthened. In November 1994, Singapore and France proposed to build a new partnership between the two regions at the EU-ASEAN Summit Meeting. Following this proposal, the 1st ASEM Summit (ASEM1) was held on 1-2 March 1996 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The initial ASEM Partnership in 1996 consisted of 15 EU Member States, 7 ASEAN Member States, China, Japan, Korea and the European Commission. Today, ASEM comprises 53 Partners: 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat.

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