ASEM factsheet

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is a unique, informal platform for political dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe.

55%
global trade

60%
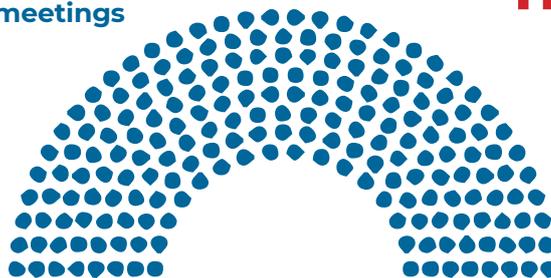global population

65%
global GDP

75%
global tourism

A policy-making laboratory since 1996

63 Ministerial meetings

12 Summits

117 Senior Official Meetings

437 Events

39 Forums

The 3 pillars of ASEM

Political pillar
Important issues and challenges affecting both continents, including the fight against terrorism, common responses to international security threats, global environmental issues, management of migratory flows, human rights, welfare of women and children, etc.

Economic and Financial pillar
Promoting growth and employment, enhancing cooperation on global financial issues, dialogue in priority industrial sectors, fostering connectivity between the two regions, etc.

Social and Cultural pillar
A wide range of enhanced contacts and dialogue between the two regions on topics such as education, social protection and employment, and co-operation on the protection of cultural heritage.

ASEM: CONNECTING ASIA AND EUROPE

The ASEM Sustainable Connectivity Portal

Connectivity is a top priority for ASEM. All ASEM partners agree that connectivity is about bringing countries, people and societies closer together, a means to foster deeper economic and people-to-people ties. It must be inclusive, mutually beneficial, and should work towards the achievement of the sustainable development goals (www.consilium.europa.eu/media/31705/annex-i.pdf).

With the aim of providing a scientific-based contribution to the policy discussions in the framework of ASEM on connectivity, the European Commission Joint Research Centre, together with experts coming from Europe and Asia, has developed the ASEM Sustainable Connectivity Portal.

The portal is an interactive online tool, which contains a repository of data to help explore how connectivity relates to sustainability between ASEM countries.

Structured according to two indices, one measuring cross-border connectivity via five pillars and the other measuring sustainability related to connectivity via three pillars. It gathers in one place a wealth of connectivity-related data coming from a range of international sources.

ASEM policymakers, as well as researchers, businesses and citizens can use the Portal to explore how their countries connect with other ASEM peers and investigate further how each country performs in terms of sustainable connectivity.

ASEM Sustainable Connectivity

CONNECTIVITY INDEX

Physical
It measures physical infrastructure in terms of transport, energy and information and communications technology (ICT), mainly between countries.

Economic/financial
It measures the trade of goods and services and financial flows.

Political
It measures political relations with other countries.

People to people
It measures the mobility of people in education, tourism and migration, the collaboration in research and innovation, the exchange of culture and communication.

Institutional
It measures the regulatory environment to facilitate trade and investment as well as to facilitate the mobility of people.

SUSTAINABILITY INDEX

Social
It measures elements related to poverty, inequality, education, gender balance and inclusive and open societies.

Economic / Financial
It measures financial sustainability, economic growth, research expenditure and youth unemployment.

Environmental
It measures the domestic environmental status of a country in terms of CO_2 emissions, domestic material consumption, forest loss, etc.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS