

## ***4 Asian and European Students from Model ASEM 2014 meet the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission***

**More than 120 students from all 49 Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) member countries met between 8 - 12 October 2014 in Milan, Italy, for Model ASEM 2014, a 4-day simulation of the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit. During the programme, participants jointly developed key messages for the ASEM Leaders' attention and action.**

### **Press Release**

#### **For Immediate Release**

17 October 2014  
Singapore

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#### **More Information**

<http://bit.ly/7ASEFEditorsRoundtableMilan>

Under the theme of "Responsible Partnership for Sustainable Growth and Security", Model ASEM 2014 provided the students a platform to exchange perspectives and to create proposals on pertinent issues in Asia-Europe relations, including sustainable development, climate change mitigation and adaption, migration & human rights or public health. In Plenary Sessions and Working Groups, the students sharpened their negotiation and consensus-making skills and adopted a Chair's Statement of Model ASEM 2014, which 4 selected students from Indonesia, Italy, Malta and Pakistan officially handed over and presented to the President of the European Council, H.E. Herman VAN ROMPUY, and to the President of the European Commission, H.E. Jose Manuel BARROSO.

During their 45-minutes interaction with the EU Leaders, the student representatives emphasised the importance for ASEM governments to consider "development" in a more holistic way. They also called for a wider participation and stronger engagement of the youth in the ASEM process. In particular, the students proposed the creation of an annual ASEM Youth Summit to foster human connectivity between both regions.

"On the eve of the ASEM Summit, it is essential to reflect on the future of Asian-European relations" said President VAN ROMPUY. "The Model ASEM simulation therefore provides a welcome opportunity for young students from both continents to contribute to formulating this future. I was very impressed with what they have delivered and I am confident that our relations are in safe hands also in the future." he added.

Following the success of Model ASEM 2014, spin-offs of Model ASEM are planned to take place in France, Viet Nam, Singapore and Netherlands.

Model ASEM was organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), together with the ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN) and the Politecnico de Milano School of Management as the only youth project in support of the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit (ASEM10) on 16 and 17 October 2014 in Milan, Italy.

For more information, please visit: <http://bit.ly/ModelASEM2014>



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## About the Organisers

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The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, economy, education, governance, public health and sustainable development. ASEF is a not-for-profit intergovernmental organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). Together with about 700 partner organisations ASEF has run more than 650 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 17,000 Asians and Europeans have actively participated in its activities and it has reached much wider audiences through its networks, web-portals, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

For more information, please visit [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)



The **ASEF University Alumni Network (ASEFUAN)**, founded in Bali, Indonesia, in April 2002, is an association of former participants of the Asia-Europe Foundation University, a two-week intensive scholarship programme for undergraduates at venues alternating between Asia and Europe. Since 1998, the Asia-Europe Foundation has sponsored 18 sessions of the ASEF University Programme. The AU19 will take place in India and look into the role of cultural heritage in the process of sustainable urbanisation and its relevance to modern-day societies. Combining elements of the 17th and 18th editions of the ASEF University programme, it will be aligned with the priorities identified by ASEM leaders. ASEFUAN's goals are: the strengthening of cross-cultural ties and the promotion of excellence within its membership, as well as the fostering of Asia - Europe relations at a grass roots or local community level. Its members are typically university graduates in the fields of Business economics, law and political science. It currently has a membership of about 600 people. ASEFUAN organises activities to maintain and reinforce the relationships forged among participants of the ASEF University programme and undertakes projects to promote a meaningful intercultural dialogue between Asia and Europe, particularly among the younger generation.

For more information, please visit <http://www.asefuan.org/>



**Politecnico di Milano, School of Management (SoM)** was founded in 2003. It covers numerous areas of research, education and high level consultancy in the fields of economics, management and industrial engineering, which Politecnico di Milano undertakes through its own structures and those of the consortium. The School is composed of the Department of Management, Economics and Industrial Engineering and MIP Graduate School of Business.

For more information, please visit <http://www.mip.polimi.it/mip/en.html>

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## About the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

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The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation established in 1996 to deepen relations between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and socio-cultural issues of common concern.

ASEM brings together 51 member states (30 European and 21 Asian countries), the ASEAN Secretariat, and the European Union.

For more information, please visit [www.aseminfoboard.org](http://www.aseminfoboard.org)



This project is sponsored by the **Government of Japan**.