

9th MAY 2014 EUROPE DAY EUROPE IN THE WORLD



Pacific Region

Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands (RMI), Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

Priorities

- Climate change is the single greatest threat for the region. For some islands their survival is at stake. Pacific islanders have learned to cope with some impacts of climate change, e.g. by restoring mangroves against sea level rise, protecting coral reefs, building sea walls, water reservoirs and desalination facilities.
- The EU supports the Pacific countries in a political and development partnership that covers:
 - Trade and economic relations with Europe;
- Security issues and governance, sustainable use of natural resources, and development cooperation;
 - Human rights;
- Democracy, good governance and the rule of law.

Top 3 Facts

Like stars in the sky, the numerous island states lie within **30 million km² of the Pacific Ocean**. They have proud traditions and great aspirations. They are guardians of important and diverse biological and cultural resources.

Protecting the Pacific's rich fishery stocks and its biodiversity is essential for the future of the global ecosystem. Do you know that EU imports 64% of the fish it consumes?

The total size of the Exclusive Economic Zone surrounding the Pacific countries is larger than Africa.

The **Papua rain forest** area (including the Indonesian part) **is the third largest primary rainforest still existing on the planet.**

Did you know?

The Pacific Ocean's capacity as a carbon sink is vital to our climate.

Protecting it has a direct impact on the lives of people in the EU, on generations to come.

Pacific countries' economic exclusive zone is potentially home to **large deep-sea mineral resources**, including rare-earth minerals.

While having a common major challenge to mitigate Climate Change, each country in the Pacific region has its own specificities. Population, GDP, natural resources, political stability may vary considerably from one country to another. In the framework of the Cotonou ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, **the EU has ties with each of the 15 Pacific countries** while also supporting regional integration.

There are four EU territories in the Pacific with nearly half a million European citizens (French Polynesia, Wallis and Futuna, New Caledonia, Pitcairn). They help us establish closer ties with the 15 Pacific countries.

In September 2014 Samoa will host a UN conference focusing on the needs of Small Islands Developing States, which the EU supports.

HR/VP Cathy Ashton:

The High Representative, Cathy Ashton, co-chaired the 19th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting, opened an office in Rangoon, paid a visit to Thailand, Pakistan and Hong Kong, held the 3rd strategic dialogue with China and called on Hong Kong. She attended the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Ministerial Meeting and signed in its margins the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) on behalf of the EU.



Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC):
EU Accession to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation.

Catherine Ashton at ASEAN:

High Representative Catherine Ashton travelled to Asia this week and participated in the 19th ASEAN Regional Forum taking place in Cambodia. Whilst in Cambodia, Ashton visited a number of EU-funded projects.



Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC) :
HR/VP Ashton signing the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation (TAC).

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Main links:

EU Delegation for the Pacific:

http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/fiji/index_en.htm

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/DelegationOfTheEuropeanUnionForThePacific>

Delegation to Papua New Guinea:

http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/papua_new_guinea/index_en.htm

Delegation to Timor Leste:

http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor_leste/index_en.htm

Delegation to Solomon Islands :

<http://www.facebook.com/EUSolomonIslands>