

CHRONOLOGY OF BILATERAL RELATIONS

OVERVIEW

- **1990:** Vietnam and European Communities officially established diplomatic relations.
- **1992:** Vietnam and European Communities signed textile agreement.
- **1995:** Vietnam and European Community signed Vietnam – EC framework cooperation agreement.
- **1996:** European Commission set up its permanent Delegation to Vietnam.
- **1997:** Vietnam joined ASEAN – EU cooperation agreement.
- **2003:** Vietnam – EU human rights dialogue was launched.
- **2004:** First Vietnam – EU Summit in Hanoi.
- **2005:** Vietnam adopted a Master Plan and Action plan in developing Vietnam – EU relations towards 2010 and orientations towards 2015.
- **2008:** the negotiations on a Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Partnership and Cooperation (PCA) were launched.
- **2010:** Vietnam – EU PCA was initialled.
- **2012:** Vietnam – EU PCA was officially signed and the negotiations for a Vietnam – EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) started.
- **2015:** Celebration of 25 Years of EU-Vietnam Diplomatic Relations.
- **2015:** Conclusion of the negotiations of a European Union - Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- **2016:** Conclusion of the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) negotiations.
- **2018:** Signature of the Framework Participation Agreement (FPA) allowing Vietnam to participate in EU CSDP missions and operations
- **2019:** Signature of the EU - Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) and the EU-Vietnam Investment Protection Agreement (IPA).
- **2020:** The EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) and the Framework Participation Agreement (FPA) entered into force.

MEETINGS AND HIGH- LEVEL VISITS

On the Vietnamese side:

- **7/1993:** Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet visited the EC.
- **2/1995:** National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh visited the European Parliament (EP).
- **1/1996:** Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong visited the EC.
- **4/1998:** Prime Minister Phan Van Khai visited the EC.

- **9/2002:** Prime Minister Phan Van Khai visited the EC.
- **3/2004:** General Secretary Nong Duc Manh visited the EC.
- **3/2005:** Chairman of the National Assembly Nguyen Van An visited the EP.
- **9/2006:** Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung visited the EC.
- **4/2010:** Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung met with President of the European Council Van Rompuy on the sidelines of the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, USA.
- **7/2010:** Vice Chairwoman of the National Assembly Tong Thi Phong visited the EP.
- **10/2010:** Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung visited the EC.
- **6/2011:** Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Pham Gia Khiem met with EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton on the sidelines of the FMM 10 in Hungary.
- **12/2011:** Chairman of the National Assembly Nguyen Sinh Hung visited the EP.
- **3/2012:** Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung met with President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy and the EC President Barroso on the sidelines of the Nuclear Summit in Seoul, Republic of Korea.
- **4/2012:** Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh met with EU's High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy Catherine Ashton on the sidelines of the AEMM-19 in Brunei.
- **6/2012:** Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh visited the EU and officially signed the Vietnam – EU PCA. EU Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht and Vietnamese Minister for Industry and Trade Vu Huy Hoang officially launched negotiations for a FTA between the EU and Vietnam in Brussels.
- **1/2013:** General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Nguyen Phu Trong paid an official visit to the European Union.
- **1/2014:** Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh met with EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum.
- **3/2014:** Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung met with EC President Barroso on the sidelines of the Nuclear Summit in The Hague, Netherlands.
- **10/ 2014:** Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung paid an official visit to the EU, Belgium, Germany and Vatican and attend the 10th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM 10), in Milan, Italy.
- **12/ 2015:** Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung paid an official visit to the EU, Belgium. During this visit, the two sides signed a declaration on the conclusion of the negotiations of a European Union (EU) - Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- **07/2016:** Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc met with EC President Jean-Claude Juncker on the sidelines of the 11th ASEM Summit (Mongolia).
- **07/2016:** Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh met with High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini on the sidelines of the 11th ASEM Summit (Mongolia).
- **05/2017:** Vice Minister of Defence Gen. Nguyen Chi Minh paid a visit to Brussels for the Chief of Staff meeting organized by the EU Military Committee.

- **07/2017:** Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc met with President of the European Council Donald Tusk and EC President Jean-Claude Juncker in the margin of G20 Summit (Germany).
- **08/2017:** Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh met with High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini in the margin of the AMM50 (Philippines).
- **09/2017:** Deputy Prime Minister Vuong Dinh Hue paid a working visit to the EU.
- **11/2017:** Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc met with President of the European Council Donald Tusk in the margin of the 31st ASEAN Summit, Manila, Philippines.
- **11/2017:** Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh met with High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini in the margin of the 13th Meeting of ASEM Foreign Minister FMM13 (Nay Pyi Taw).
- **01/2018:** Deputy Prime Minister Vuong Dinh Hue met with EU Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström in the margin of the World Economic Forum.
- **03/2018:** Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Nguyen Xuan Cuong paid a working visit to the EU.
- **05/2018:** Vice-Minister of Defence Nguyen Chi Vinh paid a working visit to the EU.
- **08/2018:** Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh met with High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini in the margin of the AMM51 (Singapore)
- **10/2018:** Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc paid a working visit to the EU.
- **2/2019:** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh paid a visit to Germany and met with Vice President of the German Bundestag (Parliament) Hans-Peter Friedrich in Berlin.
- **5/2019:** Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc visited Sweden where he was received by Trade Minister of Sweden Ann Linde and his counterpart, Stefan Löfven.
- **10/2019:** Vietnamese Minister of Defence, General Ngo Xuan Lich, was welcomed in Brussel by HRVP Federica Mogherini. Together they signed the Framework Participation Agreement (FPA) to strengthen security and defence cooperation between Vietnam and the EU and facilitate Vietnam's participation and contribution to the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions and operations.
- **12/2019:** Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh paid a visit to EU to take part in the 12th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Madrid.

On the EU side:

- **7/1994:** EC commissioner in charge of foreign affairs Hans van den Broek visited Vietnam.
- **9/1995:** EC Vice-President Manuel Marin visited Vietnam.
- **1/2004:** Member of the EC in charge of Food Safety, Public Health and Consumer Protection David Byrne visited Vietnam.
- **7/2004:** EU Special Representative in charge of ASEM Hans van den Broek paid a working visit to Vietnam.

- **10/2004:** EC President Romano Prodi and EC Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy paid a working visit to Vietnam.
- **4/2005:** EC Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson paid a working visit to Vietnam.
- **10/2005:** Director General for External relations of EC Eneko Landaburu visited Vietnam.
- **11/2005:** EC Commissioner in charge of Food Safety, Public Health and Consumer Protection M. Kyprianou visited Vietnam.
- **4/2006:** EC Commissioner in charge of foreign affairs Benita Ferrero-Waldner visited Vietnam.
- **5/2006:** Chairman of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and Chairman of the EP's Delegation to the Southeast Asia and ASEAN Mr Harmut Nassauer visited Vietnam.
- **11/2007:** EC President José Manuel Barroso officially visited Vietnam (the first official visit of the President of the EC since the two sides established diplomatic relations).
- **5/2009:** EC Commissioner in charge of foreign affairs Benita Ferrero-Waldner met with Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung.
- **2/2010:** EC Trade Commissioner Karel de Gucht paid a working visit to Vietnam.
- **3/2010:** European Parliament delegation visited Vietnam.
- **2/2012:** David O'Sullivan, The Chief Executive Officer of the European External Action Service (EEAS) visited Vietnam and carried out for the first time political consultations at the level of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs with Vietnam.
- **3/2012:** EC Commissioner in charge of Development Cooperation Andris Piebalgs visited Vietnam.
- **10/2012:** President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy visited Vietnam.
- **3/2013:** EC Trade Commissioner Karel de Gucht paid a working visit to Vietnam and attended the 3rd ASEAN-EU business summit in Hanoi.
- **10/2013:** European Parliament delegation for relations with ASEAN visited Vietnam and attended the 9th EP - Vietnam Parliamentary Meeting.
- **11/2013:** Vice President cum Commissioner for Industry and Entrepreneurship of the European Commission Antonio Tajani paid a visit to Vietnam.
- **3/2014:** EC Trade Commissioner Karel de Gucht paid a working visit to Vietnam in the context of the EU-Vietnam Free Trade negotiations.
- **8/2014:** High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Catherine Ashton paid an official visit to Vietnam.
- **8/2014:** President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso paid an official visit to Vietnam.
- **9/2017:** Chairman of the European Parliament INTA Committee Bernd Lange visited Vietnam
- **12/2017:** Vice-Chair of the EP INTA Committee Jan Zahradil visited Vietnam
- **12/2017:** Chair of the EUMC, General Mikhail Kostarakos visited Vietnam.

- **01/2018:** Vice-President of the EIB Jonathan Taylor visited Vietnam
- **02/2018:** EC DEVCO Director General Stefano Manservigi and EEAS Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific Gunnar Wiegand visited Vietnam.
- **05/2018:** Working visit to Vietnam of a delegation DG-MARE
- **07/2018:** Chairman of the European Parliament INTA Committee Bernd Lange visited Vietnam
- **12/2018:** Mr Gabor Iklody, EEAS CMPD Director, visited Vietnam
- **01/2019:** EP Vice-President Heidi Hautala visited Vietnam
- **06/2019:** European Commissioner for Trade, Cecilia Malmström, paid a visit to Vietnam for the signature of the EU – Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA) and the Investment Protection Agreement (EVIPA) in Hanoi.
- **08/2019:** HRVP Federica Mogherini visited Hanoi and met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh to discuss the ratification of EVFTA and EVIPA.
- **02/2020:** The European Parliament ratified the EVFTA and EVIPA.