



Brussels, 01 May 2014
140501/01

P R E S S R E L E A S E

The EU – Indonesia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement enters into force

The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) EU – Indonesia entered into force today, 1 May 2014. The PCA with Indonesia is the first agreement of its kind to enter into force with one of the EU's South-East Asian partners.

Catherine Ashton, the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice President of the European Commission said: *"I warmly welcome the entry into force today of the EU – Indonesia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA). Indonesia is a key partner in a region of strategic importance for the EU and an increasingly important player on the global scene. We look forward to implementing the PCA together with our Indonesian partners in order to forge a more mature and broad-based relationship"*.

The PCA is a key vehicle to intensify EU-Indonesia relations. It reflects a renewed commitment to reinforcing the growing ties between the EU and Indonesia.

Background

Indonesia is the first ASEAN partner to have signed a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with the EU. Similar agreements have been signed or are currently under negotiation with Vietnam, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei and Malaysia.

The new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement will replace the 1980 EC – ASEAN Cooperation Agreement and will give EU - Indonesia relations a new up-to-date and stronger foundation.

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On the political side, the PCA confirms and deepens the shared commitment of the two sides to respect for democratic principles and human rights, countering the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and combating terrorism. The PCA gives the EU and Indonesia an instrument to address these challenges together.

In the sectoral cooperation field, the PCA will give more scope to our work together in a wide range of areas, such as migration, legal cooperation, customs cooperation, education, culture, energy, climate change, transport and tourism, as well as the fight against corruption and organised crime.

More information on EU-Indonesia relations:

http://www.eeas.europa.eu/indonesia/index_en.htm
