

Bilateral Science and Technology cooperation between the EU and Japan before 2009

Bilateral Science and Technology cooperation between the EU and Japan dates back to 1988 – signing of the Euratom-Japan Fusion Cooperation Agreement. In 1991, both parties signed a [Joint Declaration on Relations between the EC and its Members States and Japan](#) (1st EC-Japan Summit) in The Hague' (*promoting joint projects in the field of science and technology with a view to contributing to the promotion of scientific knowledge which is essential for the future prosperity of all mankind*). Will to cooperate in S&T was reiterated in the EU-Japan Action Plan in 2001, where both parties recognised that S&T are key elements for enhancing http://eeas.europa.eu/japan/docs/actionplan2001_en.pdf competitiveness as well as for a sustainable economic and social development.

[Agreement between the Government of Japan and the European Atomic Energy Community for co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy](#) was signed on 24 August 2006 and entered into force on 20 December 2006. Under this Agreement the EU and Japan shall also "*develop co-operation on research and development for peaceful and non-explosive uses of nuclear energy. The Parties or their agencies, may allow the participation in such co-operation of researchers and organisations from all research sectors, including universities, laboratories and the private sector. The Parties shall also facilitate such co-operation between persons in this field.*"

[Agreement between the European Atomic Energy Community \(Euratom\) and the Government of Japan for the Joint Implementation of the Broader Approach Activities in the Field of Fusion Energy Research](#) was signed on 5 February 2007 and entered into force on 1 June 2007. It established a framework for Japan to conduct research and development in support of International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) over a period of ten years. Within the Broader Approach three projects were set into motion that focus on the following areas: materials testing, advanced plasma experimentation and simulation, and the establishment of a design team to prepare for DEMO—the demonstration power plant that will be the next step after ITER. The Broader Approach projects carry great importance for the advancement of fusion energy and will complement the global efforts on realizing ITER.