Iran and the EU

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The conclusion and implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) has opened the way for a renewal of broader relations in areas of common interest. This renewed gradual engagement between the EU and Iran takes place on the basis of the full and continued implementation of the JCPOA by Iran and the other parties.

The overarching agreed joint objectives of EU-Iran relations are:

- Ensuring and supporting the full implementation of the JCPOA in order to further improve and deepen bilateral cooperation.
- Developing cooperative relations in areas of mutual interest to benefit the economic development, human rights, prosperity and well-being of the people of Iran and the EU. These include cooperation on energy, environment, migration, drugs, humanitarian aid, transport, civil protection, science, education and culture.
- Promoting regional peace, security and stability as well as peaceful settlement of regional conflicts through dialogue and engagement.

In the follow-up to the Joint Statement by the High Representative/Vice-President of the European Union, Federica Mogherini and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mohammad Javad Zarif from 16 April 2016, activities have been launched in many sectors including economic cooperation, trade and investment, agriculture, transport, energy and climate change, civil nuclear cooperation, science, research and innovation, education, culture, environment, drugs, migration, humanitarian issues and regional issues. The EU-Iran sectoral cooperation takes place in the form of high level visits, expert meetings, projects and policy dialogues. The two sides hold regular consultations at the level of the HRVP and the Iranian Foreign Minister and meet regularly for a High-Level Dialogue at Deputy Minister/ EEAS Secretary General level.

So far four High-Level Dialogues took place: the latest was held in Brussels in November 2018. The EU was represented by the EEAS Secretary General Helga Schmid, DG for Energy, Dominique Ristori, and the EU Counterterrorism Coordinator, Gilles de Kerchove, as well as several other Commission services.
Based on the Joint Statement, the EU and Iran are also determined to enhance and promote human rights. In this context, in parallel to the High-Level Dialogue, three discussions on human rights have been held to date. During these discussions the EU was represented by then-EU Special Representative for Human Rights Stavros Lambrinidis.

In Iran, the EU is represented by the Embassy of Romania until 30 June 2019, followed by the Embassy of Finland until 31 December 2019. The Iranian Embassy in Belgium is accredited to the EU.

**Relevant documents:**

- Statement on the JCPoA by the High Representative of the European Union and the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany and the United Kingdom
- Council Conclusions on Iran, 4 February 2019
- Chair’s statement following the meeting of the Joint Commission of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, Vienna, 6 March 2019
- Implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action: Joint Ministerial Statement, New York, 24 September 2018
- Statement following the Joint Commission of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, Vienna, 6 July 2018
- Trade – Country Fact Sheet Iran
- Cooperation with Iran

**See also**

- Decision concerning restrictive measures against Iran
- Regulation concerning restrictive measures against Iran
- Decision concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities
- Regulation concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities
- Common Position on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism
- Regulation on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism
- Decision on concerning restrictive measures against Syria
- Regulation restrictive measures against Syria

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