With European prosperity and Asian peace and security closely connected, the European Union has decided to strengthen its security cooperation in and with Asia. This is also in line with the steps taken by the EU in the past years to strengthen its role as a global security provider.

Europe and Asia share a fundamental interest in upholding the rules-based international system, as well as the view that the challenges the world faces today go beyond national borders and cannot be tackled alone. The EU-Asia security partnership is therefore both desirable and necessary.

**EU-ASIA SECURITY PRIORITIES**

- Maritime Security
- Cyber Security
- Counter-Terrorism
- Conflict Prevention
- Hybrid Threats
- Regional Cooperation
- Non-Proliferation of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Weapons

**EU-ASEAN COOPERATION**

The European Union and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have agreed to upgrade their relations to a Strategic Partnership and are strengthening cooperation in a range of security fields. Practical examples include:

- **€26 million** for mitigating chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks
- **€10 million** to support cooperation between the ASEAN Centre for Humanitarian Assistance and EU civil protection agencies
- Counterterrorism and military advisors in the EU Delegation to ASEAN

**CASE STUDY: TACKLING PIRACY IN THE HORN OF AFRICA**

The EU’s Naval Operation Atalanta (EUNAVFOR) deters, prevents and represses acts of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia and protects UN World Food Programme (WFP) and other vulnerable vessels.

The Republic of Korea routinely contributes in direct support to EU NAVFOR whilst New Zealand has done so in the past. China, India and Japan operate in the area independently and have supported the Operation by protecting WFP vessels upon request of and coordinated by Atalanta. Several joint exercises have been conducted, notably with China, India and Japan. Planning is underway for closer interactions with Pakistan.
The EU supports peace processes in Asia

The EU offers to support peace in Afghanistan by

1. Helping to make the peace process more inclusive
2. Supporting reforms, including of the security sector
3. Providing incentives to ex-combatants for re-integration
4. Supporting economic development and regional connectivity
5. Having the EU as a guarantor of a peace process