



20th Anniversary of ASEM: Celebrating Asia-Europe Relations

On 1 March 2016 the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) turns 20. For the past 2 decades ASEM has played a pivotal role as a forum for dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe.

Press Release

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More Information

bit.ly/asefonthego
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The ASEM Process was initiated in 1996 to establish and deepen the relations between Asia and Europe. The 1st ASEM Summit (ASEM1) was organised on 1-2 March 1996 in Bangkok, Thailand. Since then, the ASEM dialogue platform has been instrumental in addressing political, economic and socio-cultural issues to strengthen Asia-Europe connections in mutual respect and equal partnership. The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), established in 1997, is the only institution under the ASEM framework.

"The year 2016, has special importance for both ASEM and ASEF. ASEM partners will mark the 20th Anniversary of the ASEM Process and the ASEM leaders will gather at the 11th ASEM Summit (ASEM11) in Mongolia to discuss and plan the future of ASEM. ASEF will contribute meaningfully to this significant milestone in Asia-Europe relations with a set of events and publications, including the ASEF Photo Exhibition "On the Go" and the ASEF publication for ASEM's 20th Anniversary," highlighted Ambassador ZHANG Yan, ASEF Executive Director.

The "On the Go" exhibition consists of a selection of photos by budding and professional photographers from ASEM countries, visualising differences and similarities between Asians and Europeans. The exhibition was launched on 4 November 2015 in partnership with the City of Luxembourg alongside the 12th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (ASEM FMM12) in Luxembourg. Following the launch, the photographs will be exhibited in a number of other ASEM countries as part of their celebration of the 20th Anniversary of ASEM.

The ASEM 20th Anniversary Publication is a selection of articles contributed by eminent political figures and government representatives from ASEM partners, commemorating ASEM's evolution over the past two decades as well as looking to its future development. This publication will be distributed at the 11th ASEM Summit (ASEM11) to be held in July 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

For more information, please visit:

ASEM InfoBoard bit.ly/aseinfoboard
"On the Go" Exhibition bit.ly/asefonthego
ASEM 20th Anniversary Publication bit.ly/asepublication



About the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)



The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, economy, education, governance, public health and sustainable development. ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

Together with about 750 partner organisations ASEF has run over 700 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. More than 20,000 Asians and Europeans have actively participated in its activities and it has reached much wider audiences through its networks, web-portals, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

For more information, please visit www.asef.org

About the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)



The **Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)** is an intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation established in 1996 to deepen relations between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and socio-cultural issues of common concern.

The initial ASEM partnership in 1996 consisted of 15 EU Member States and 7 ASEAN Member States plus China, Japan, Korea and the European Commission. Currently ASEM brings together 53 partners (21 Asian and 30 European countries, the ASEAN Secretariat, and the European Union): Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, the Lao PDR, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and Viet Nam plus the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Union.

For more information, please visit www.aseminfoboard.org
