



# Over 100 Singaporean and international students at the 1<sup>st</sup> Model ASEM spin-off in Singapore

**Model ASEM Singapore 2015, held on 10-12 April, marks the beginning of a series of spin-off ASEM youth events for 2015/2016.**

## Press Release

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### More Information

<http://bit.ly/1JrOBi1>

*Model ASEM* spin-off activities across Asia and Europe will promote better understanding of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) among the youth. This youth conference is a simulation of the actual ASEM Summit where the Heads of State and Government from 53 ASEM Members meet biennially to strengthen the political, economic and social-cultural cooperation between the two continents.

*Model ASEM* gave Singaporean and international students the opportunity to enhance their knowledge about Asia-Europe relations, fine-tune their public speaking, negotiation and consensus-building skills while taking on the roles of the political leaders of the ASEM Members. As shared by Mr Eoin EE, student at Singapore Management University: "*Model ASEM gave us the chance to better understand the diverse and dynamic nature of Asia-Europe relations. It was a stimulating experience made more enjoyable by the chance to have met and made friends with so many other participants who represent that very diversity.*"

Speakers of the opening ceremony included Ms LOW Yen Ling, Parliamentary Secretary for Community, Culture and Youth of the Government of Singapore, Mr Zainal Arif MANTAHA, Director-General (Europe), Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Singapore's Alternate ASEM Senior Official, Assistant Professor Clara PORTELA, Singapore Management University, and Mr Xavier NUTTIN, EU Fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy.

As part of the programme, several Embassies and High Commissions of ASEM member countries opened their doors to the participants to witness first-hand roles and activities of diplomatic missions in Singapore. The event in Singapore concluded with the creation and adoption of a joint *Model ASEM Singapore 2015* Chair's Statement, which the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) will channel to the ASEM and ASEF stakeholders.

*Model ASEM Singapore 2015* was organised by the newly initiated ASEM Young Leaders Network, with support from ASEF, the S. Rajaratnam Endowment, the National Youth Council Singapore, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the EU Centre in Singapore.

For more information please visit <http://bit.ly/1JrOBi1>



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## About the Organiser and Supporters

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### Organised by



The **ASEM Young Leaders Network** is a society established in 2015 that seeks to promote Asia-Europe relations among young leaders from both regions. The vision is to be a leading society where young leaders actively champion initiatives that strengthen the relations between Asia and Europe. This is conducted through a platform for dialogue and networking among young leaders of Asia and Europe. For more information, please visit [www.asem-youth.org](http://www.asem-youth.org)

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### Supported by



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 a not-for-profit intergovernmental organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). Together with about 700 partner organisations ASEF has run more than 650 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 17,000 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](http://www.asef.org)



The **S Rajaratnam Endowment (SRE)**, a non-profit philanthropic organisation, is set up by Temasek to recognise Singapore's first and longest-serving Foreign Minister. Its objective is to achieve development, peace and stability in the region by deepening international friendships, promoting regional cooperation, and fostering a greater and common understanding of international rules, based on the twin pillars of good governance and sustainability. For more information, please visit [www.srajaratnamendowment.org.sg](http://www.srajaratnamendowment.org.sg)



**National Youth Council** was set up by the Singapore Government on 1 November 1989 as the national co-ordinating body for youth affairs in Singapore and the focal point of international youth affairs. On 1 January 2015, NYC began its operations as an autonomous agency under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) and housed two key institutions: [Outward Bound Singapore \(OBS\)](#) and [Youth Corps Singapore](#). Together, the agency drives youth development and broaden outreach to young Singaporeans and youth sector organisations.



**Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs** main task is to secure and promote Norway's interests internationally. Norway's interests are determined by such factors as its geographical location in a strategically important area, its open economy, its position as a coastal state and steward of substantial marine resources, and its extensive exports of oil and gas. For more information, please visit: <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/ud/id833/>



The **EU Centre in Singapore** (first established in mid-2008 as a partnership of NUS and NTU, and co-funded by the European Union) has received another 3-year grant (2013-2015) to continue its mission to promote knowledge of the EU and its policies and raise the visibility of the EU in Singapore. A new partner, the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA), the oldest think tank in Singapore, is now part of the consortium. For more information, please visit [www.eucentre.sg](http://www.eucentre.sg)