

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE**  
**RELEASE**

Singapore  
12 March 2013

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# ASEM Outlook Report: a solid basis for discussions on Asia-Europe relations

**The ASEM Outlook Report 2012 examines Asia-Europe relations  
from two distinct points of view**

“The key message of the report is the need to move Asia-Europe dialogue to the next level: focusing on concrete cooperation,” said Mr Karsten WARNECKE, Asia-Europe Foundation’s (ASEF) Deputy Executive Director, during the ASEM Outlook Report 2012 Presentation on Monday 11 March at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand.

This two-volume report, produced by ASEF and the United Nations University-Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS), examines Asia-Europe relations from two distinct points of view.

The first volume deals with the current status of Asia-Europe relations looking at key economic, demographic and social statistics. It also looks at the perceptions of Asia and Europe, citing research on the public, media and opinion leader attitudes. The second volume looks at the future trends of relations in four distinct policy areas: security and conflict management, economic and financial integration, environmental governance, and public health. This volume draws from the findings of over 3 years of expert consultations carried out by ASEF, in partnership with top institutions in Asia and Europe.

The key findings of the report that were presented in Bangkok include: Asia and Europe must build bi-regional strategic partnerships centred on mutual interests in targeted fields, they should jointly address the issues of equitable access, and they should further integrate non-state actors in policy formulation and implementation.

The presentation was followed by a discussion with a panel of experts representing different sectors including the media, government, think tanks and academia. The panel discussed the current status of Asia-Europe relations, the future trends and challenges facing each region, and the potential for further cooperation between the two regions.

The entire event was jointly hosted by the Faculty of Economics, the MA in European Studies programme and the Centre for European Studies of Chulalongkorn University.

This event will be followed by a presentation in Europe.

For more information please visit <http://tinyurl.com/aruxdfc>  
Download ASEM Outlook Report Volume 1 <http://tinyurl.com/bn33udk>  
and Volume 2 <http://tinyurl.com/d7rqonf>

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## ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

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The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), which currently comprises 49 member states plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat ([www.aseminfoboard.org](http://www.aseminfoboard.org)). ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since engaged over 17,000 direct participants through more than 600 projects in the realms of governance, economy, sustainable development, public health, culture and education.

For more information, please visit [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)

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The **United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS)** is a research and training institute of the United Nations University. UNU is a global network of institutes and programmes engaged in research and capacity development to support the universal goals of the UN. It brings together leading scholars from around the world with a view to generate strong and innovative knowledge on how to tackle pressing global problems. UNU-CRIS focuses on the study of processes of regional integration and co-operation and their implications. It acts as a resource for the UN system, with particular links to UN bodies dealing with regional integration, and works in partnership with institutes and initiatives throughout the world that are concerned with issues of integration and co-operation. UNU-CRIS is based in Bruges, Belgium. It receives its core funding from the Flemish Government and collaborates with the College of Europe in Bruges as a result of a Memorandum of Understanding, instituting their institutional collaboration. UNU-CRIS is further supported by the Province of West-Flanders. As a UN Agency, UNU-CRIS is also a member of the UN Team in Belgium.

For more information, please visit [www.cris.unu.edu](http://www.cris.unu.edu)

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ASEF's contribution is with the financial support of the **European Commission**.