Asia-Europe
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY DIPLOMACY INITIATIVE
for Young Professionals

Asia-Europe Youth Summit on Science and Technology Diplomacy 2025

Asia-Europe Youth Communiqué on Science and Technology Diplomacy

Delivered at the 2nd European Science Diplomacy Conference

18 December 2025, Copenhagen, Denmark

PREAMBLE

We, the delegates of the Asia-Europe Youth Summit on Science and Technology Diplomacy 2025, coming from 29 nations across Asia and Europe, and bringing together diverse disciplines, and professional backgrounds, convened in Copenhagen from the 14th to 16th of December 2025. This Youth Summit has been organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, and the Central European Scientific Society of Innovation and Technology (CESSIT). Our aim through the Youth Summit was to exchange ideas, foster trust, and build the network for stronger collaboration at the intersection of science, technology, policy and diplomacy.

This gathering marks the culmination of a seven-week-long online learning journey, from October to December 2025, where we conducted a dialogue across borders, sectors, and time zones between diplomats, government officials, and research and science managers to explore how our two regions can use Science and Technology Diplomacy to navigate the current global challenges.

We recognise that Science and Technology Diplomacy has emerged as a cornerstone for cooperation in an era defined by shared risks and interconnected futures. It requires a new generation of leaders capable of speaking the languages of both science and policy. We believe collaboration across borders and generations is essential to harnessing science and technology as forces for peace and sustainable progress.

We present the following 20 Recommendations to the Ministers, Diplomats, and Experts gathered at the 2nd European Science Diplomacy Conference, as well as to Science Diplomacy stakeholders more broadly across Asia and Europe. They embody our collective vision of science diplomacy as a bridge between nations, a catalyst for shared resilience, and a foundation for inclusive and sustainable prosperity.

Our recommendations are made across 5 pillars. The recommendations are as follows:

Pillar 1. Cooperation and Dialogue: Bridging Borders Between Asia and Europe

1. **Leverage** science and technology as a common ground that transcends borders to enable constructive dialogue, build trust, and sustain multi-stakeholder cooperation.
2. **Encourage** communication approaches that strengthen mutual understanding amongst all stakeholders.
3. **Urge** open and continuous dialogue among all stakeholders, irrespective of differences, to ensure policies that are informed by the best available evidence.
4. **Use** existing platforms and networks for dialogue to raise awareness of the value of Science and Technology Diplomacy.
5. **Enable** innovative pathways to resource accessibility for scientists through dialogue and collaboration to ensure sustainability in research and development.

Pillar 2. Capacity Building: Empowering Minds for Science Diplomacy

6. **Mainstream** science diplomacy as a distinct and visible career pathway with clearly defined entry points, roles, and progression routes, particularly for early-career professionals and other early-stage science diplomacy practitioners.
7. **Foster** co-designing approaches to science diplomacy education with early-career professionals using flexible, stackable models such as micro-credentials or short courses, and formal recognition of science diplomacy skills in academia.
8. **Institutionalise** practice-based training through internships, fellowships, mentorships, and joint platforms where science diplomacy actors learn together and from each other.
9. **Scale** capacity building through internationally inclusive models that grow science diplomacy ecosystems and networks at all levels.

Pillar 3. Equity and Inclusion: A Seat for Every Voice

10. **Identify** underrepresented populations and understand the structural inequalities that limit access to science and technology.
11. **Ensure** equitable access to science, technology, and innovation knowledge and application through platforms for impactful and sustained participation for everyone.

12. **Develop** mechanisms to simplify mobility, such as visa processes and exchange programmes, to bridge the gaps between nations in terms of access to science and technology.

Pillar 4. Ethics and Governance: Trust at the Core of Innovation

13. **Develop** and align standards for secure, safe, responsible, and transparent use of emerging and disruptive technologies, with respect for universal human rights, international law, and good governance.
14. **Encourage** the adoption of regulations that facilitate innovation and sustainable economic development.
15. **Embed** public engagement, academic freedom, science communication and advice into science governance.

Pillar 5. Sustainability and Social Impact: Science and Technology Diplomacy in Service of Society

16. **Ensure** the health of climate and environmental systems and social progress are embedded in the development of science and technology.
17. **Establish** inclusive multi-stakeholder interfaces for science and technology development with the explicit aim of advancing global public good for present and future generations.
18. **Drive** scientific and technological advancement by accelerating investment in research and development for positive social impact and overcoming shared global challenges.
19. **Measure and monitor** the social and environmental impact of science and technology to inform the development of adaptive policy frameworks.

And

20. Finally, we **encourage** that the proposed recommendations are granted adequate funding and resources committed to ensure their successful implementation and impact for all across Asia and Europe.

CONCLUSION

To conclude, it has been said that science opens the door, but diplomacy decides how wide that door can be. Asia and Europe, representing a significant share of the world's scientific production and diplomatic heritage, have a unique responsibility in facilitating the opening of that door. We, the next generation of science and tech diplomacy leaders, stand ready to support this mission with our energy, our expertise, and our commitment to dialogue. We are grateful to have been given this space here for the youth voice to be heard. We urge you to

turn these recommendations into policy, ensuring that science remains a beacon of trust in a fragmented world.

Signed,

The Participants of the Asia-Europe Youth Summit on Science and Technology Diplomacy 2025