

Asia-Europe
**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
DIPLOMACY INITIATIVE**
for Young Professionals

**Asia-Europe Youth Summit on Science
and Technology Diplomacy 2026**

Asia-Europe Youth Communiqué
on Science and Technology Diplomacy

23 October 2026, Jakarta, Indonesia

PREAMBLE

We, the delegates of the Asia-Europe Youth Summit on Science and Technology Diplomacy 2026, coming from 31 nations across Asia and Europe, and bringing together diverse disciplines, and professional backgrounds, have come together to advance a shared vision of Science and Technology Diplomacy that is inclusive, culturally sensitive, intergenerational and responsive to the needs of our societies.

This Youth Summit has been organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), the National Research and Innovation Agency Indonesia (BRIN), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, in Jakarta from the 19th to 23rd of October 2026. 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.

Through dialogue and collaborative learning, we have explored how science, technology, policy and diplomacy can work together to address shared challenges. Our exchanges have affirmed that meaningful cooperation begins with listening, recognising different experiences and priorities, and creating opportunities for all participants to shape the field.

We believe that Science and Technology Diplomacy must bridge not only nations, but

also disciplines, sectors, communities and generations. It must connect researchers with policymakers, make scientific knowledge accessible beyond specialist audiences, and create pathways for young people to contribute meaningfully. It must also value local knowledge, sustain intergenerational learning and enable balanced exchanges between Asia and Europe.

Building on the Asia-Europe Youth Communiqué on Science and Technology Diplomacy 2025, and the voices of 41 of peers - we the delegates of the 2026 Youth Summit, provide 25 recommendations to International Organisations and Multilateral Forums, National Governments and Diplomatic Services, and Academic, Research and Funding Institutions; as well as to Science Diplomacy stakeholders more broadly across Asia and Europe.

Our recommendations are made across 6 pillars. The recommendations are as follows:

Pillar 1: Connect, commit, embed: a coordinated pathway for science diplomacy education.

1. **Facilitate** and build shared and accessible educational reference points for knowledge exchange on science diplomacy through the efforts of international organisations (such as UNESCO) delivering activities such as summer schools, conferences, fellowships, mentorship programs, delegation visits, online seminars/workshops, and micro-credentials.
2. **Develop** national guidances at the governmental levels to integrate science diplomacy into higher education considering national qualifications frameworks and national plan/curricula/roadmap, in consultation with international organizations and stakeholders such as higher education institutions.
3. **Integrate** science diplomacy literacy in educational programs and roadmaps of higher education institutions, led by academic staff.
4. **Ensure** quality by keeping the programs updated, maintaining evaluation cycles, using the frameworks from higher education commissions/networks/accreditation agencies (international organizations).

Pillar 2: Clear Career Pathways: Professionalizing Science Diplomacy

5. **Develop** a shared, adaptable international science diplomacy career framework through individual consultations and international state need and capacity mapping by 2030, with a regular independent review and improvement assessment procedure. The framework should define entry points, core competencies, and progression pathways across research, industry and government, recognising diverse disciplinary and professional backgrounds.

6. **Integrate** the framework or improve the existing ones into national systems by aligning qualification recognition, competency-based recruitment and career structures.
7. **Embed** science diplomacy in relevant institution job descriptions, recruitment, performance assessment and promotion criteria, supported by competitive early-career opportunities, mentoring, secondments and mid-career transitions, including in diplomatic and civil services. **Recognise** science policy and diplomacy activities in criteria for research personnel career progression within research and academic institutions.

Pillar 3: Promoting Balanced Mobility and Cross-Border Exchange for shared progress across Asia and Europe

8. **Map** existing bilateral and multilateral Asia-Europe policies, collaborations and opportunities to build and maintain an integrated repository and R&D hub. This will enable the identification of policy and knowledge gaps, country-specific capacities, opportunities, and potential sectors for collaboration by 2028, enabling faster and more cost-effective cooperation.
9. **Establish** Targeted Joint Funding Programs: Create co-funding schemes aligned with SDGs to bridge the identified capacity gaps between complementary areas of countries, and provide dedicated support for early-career researchers who cannot fund their own mobility by 2029.
10. **Initiate** a dialogue by 2028, to develop a common multilateral research visa mechanism across Asian and European countries to facilitate balanced cross-border scientific mobility. This will mitigate systemic and structural inequalities in mobility amongst participating countries.
11. **Establish** a dedicated Joint Committee as a governance body for Cooperation, Implementation, Oversight & Accountability, aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and contributing to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.
12. **Empower and Connect** Individuals & Institutions in Science & Technology diplomacy via diaspora by facilitating communication channels flow with relevant stakeholders. Create Science & Technology diplomatic capacities and build networks with diaspora researchers to share opportunities, co-lead projects and mentor researchers in their home countries.

Pillar 4: Equitable and Responsible Emerging Technologies and Data Governance

13. Create an open access data policy agreement within an Asia-Europe

multi-stakeholder consortium (which should include players from Industry, Academia, Governments, and International Organizations) to promote inclusive access to scientific data as well as facilitate equitable development and capacity-building in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence.

14. **Diversify** tech supply chains and pool as well as share common resources to reduce shocks from geopolitical tensions and thus create shared capacity for global impact.
15. **Accelerate** the development and implementation of inclusive global artificial intelligence standards through existing international forums, adopting a *quadruple-helix approach* involving government, academia, industry, and civil society, including youth and underrepresented groups.
16. **Provide** accessible educational opportunities on ethical and responsible use of artificial intelligence to empower all strands of society, through short courses and integration into school curriculums.

Pillar 5: Intergenerational Participation and Joint Accountability

17. **Integrate** young professionals on scientific advisory bodies on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI), ensuring their active participation in defining institutional, national, and international research priorities, ethical frameworks, and funding mechanisms.
18. **Establish** a science-to-policy platform with an integrated data-to-policy relevance assessment to which researchers can submit scientific findings and data. The platform should evaluate the policy relevance and impact of the scientific findings, match research data with policy needs and provide policymakers with accessible evidence for developing new policies or revise existing ones.
19. **Facilitate** direct research-to-policy implementation through youth-led Europe-Asia Policy Labs, empowering young scientists and diplomats to pitch science-based proposals through formal uptake channels that require senior decision-makers to review, respond to, and integrate viable initiatives
20. **Call upon** national governments to ensure shared responsibility of cross-border STI policies and standards by defining clear roles for both young professionals and senior experts to co-deliver and evaluate outcomes.

21. **Encourage** authorities, such as Ministries of Foreign Affairs, to embed science diplomacy into the foundational training and capacity-building programs for young diplomats.

Pillar 6: Inclusive Communication and Accessible Knowledge

22. **Develop** an international inclusive definition of science diplomacy that encompasses core principles such as open dialogue, scientific integrity, and adaptability.
23. **Establish** a government-appointed national focal point to map relevant institutions and practices related to science diplomacy.
24. **Promote** communication strategies that are inclusive and responsive to the needs of marginalized communities, including but not limited to persons with disabilities.
25. **Inaugurate** an international youth council on science diplomacy, composed of representatives from diverse backgrounds and experiences, ensuring balanced participation across countries and including youth voices in the science diplomacy dialogue.

CONCLUSION

Together, these pillars express our commitment to moving from dialogue to **action** through shared ownership, clear responsibilities and measurable progress. Science and Technology Diplomacy will be judged not only by the partnerships it establishes, but by whose voices shape them, how knowledge is shared and whether their benefits reach communities across countries and generations. Our shared ambition is a form of cooperation in which participation is meaningful, exchange is reciprocal and innovation serves the public good.

We commit to carrying this work forward through our institutions, networks and communities: communicating science accessibly, sharing knowledge across disciplines and generations, strengthening connections between research and policy, and learning from one another. We invite governments, academic and research institutions, international organisations, industry and civil society across Asia and Europe to work with us in translating this vision into practice.

Signed,

The Delegates of the Asia-Europe Youth Summit on Science and Technology Diplomacy
2026