

EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION TO MALAYSIA

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EU-MALAYSIA NEWS

HEAD OF DELEGATION LUC VANDEBON SPEAKS TO BFM'S BREAKFAST GRILLE

In his first radio interview in Malaysia, EU Head of Delegation Luc Vandebon candidly discussed, among others, the Eurozone's economic recovery, progress and difficult areas in the EU – Malaysia Free Trade Agreement negotiations as well as forest governance and sustainability. [> More](#)

NEWS FROM EU INSTITUTIONS

European Union 
Recipient of the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize®



WHERE THE EU'S HUMANITARIAN AID WILL GO IN 2013?

The EU has just adopted its plan for the allocation of over €661 million in humanitarian aid funding for this year. Based on an in-depth assessment of the needs of the most vulnerable populations in the world, the five largest humanitarian operations will be in the Sahel region of West Africa, including further response to the conflict in Mali (€82 million), Sudan and South Sudan (€80 million), the Democratic Republic of Congo (€54 million), Pakistan (€42 million) and Somalia (€40 million). [> More](#)

Photo: A young girl in Pakistan enjoys clean water from a water pump installed after the floods destroyed infrastructure in her village

THE DETERIORATING HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN SYRIA

An estimated 4 million people are affected by the increasing violence in Syria, with the UN reporting some 2 million displaced. Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva has strongly appealed for Syrian Authorities to allow more international humanitarian relief workers into the country to enable aid to reach all affected areas. [> More](#)

FIGHTING IN THE KACHIN STATE OF MYANMAR

In a January 15 statement following latest reports of the shelling of Laiza, High Representative Catherine Ashton urged all sides to end the hostilities and to engage in dialogue towards a settlement in earnest immediately. The EU also continues to stress the urgency of providing unhindered access for humanitarian relief to the displaced population. [> More](#)

NEW EU ASSISTANCE FOR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

The EU has decided to bring forward the first part of its 2013 assistance package for the Palestinian people to the beginning of the year in order to ensure that the support to the Palestinian Authority (PA) and United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNWRA), who provide vital services to the Palestinian people, is not interrupted. [> More](#)

THE SITUATION IN MALI: JANUARY 15 STATEMENT BY HIGH REPRESENTATIVE CATHERINE ASHTON

[> More](#)

2013 EUROPEAN YEAR OF CITIZENS

This European Year comes at a critical juncture in European integration – 2013 also marks the 20th anniversary of EU Citizenship. [> More](#)

EUROPEAN CYBERCRIME CENTRE (EC³) OPENED IN THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS

The newly launched Centre will fulfil its mission by helping EU Member States to dismantle and disrupt more cybercrime networks. It will develop detection and forensic tools for cybercrime investigators. It will provide specialised threat assessments, as well as offer more focused training for law enforcement, judges and prosecutors. Fraud, intrusion and internet related abuse of children are also amongst the crimes that will be targeted in the centre's initial phase. [> More](#)

NEW EU INITIATIVE TO COMBAT PIRACY IN THE GULF OF GUINEA

The Critical Maritime Routes in the Gulf of Guinea Programme (CRIMGO) will help governments across West and Central Africa to improve safety of the main shipping routes by providing training for coastguards and establishing a network to share information between countries and agencies across the region. [> More](#) and [here](#) on the EU's fight against piracy.





REFORMING EUROPE, BEATING THE CRISIS

"2012 was not the year the eurozone broke up. It was a year in which the eurozone proved its political resilience, a year in which we took the necessary bold decisions to ensure the unity and the sustainability of the euro. Today, those still predicting a break-up of the eurozone are sadly behind the curve."

In his speech on 10 January at the European Policy Centre, Vice President Olli Rehn further shared that latest economic sentiment for 2013 is showing signs of stabilisation and growing confidence in financial markets. [➤ More](#)

Photo: Vice President Olli Rehn delivering the speech at the EPC Breakfast Policy Briefing

EUROPE AS A SOLUTION: FACTS AND MYTHS

In his speech in Lisbon, Commission President Barroso addressed a number of myths surrounding the European economic "crisis" including allegations that European institutions did not act in time and that the Euro caused the crisis. [➤ More](#)

AID FOR TRADE: STAYING IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

Read Trade Commissioner Karel de Gucht's speech at the OECD Policy Dialogue for Trade [here](#).

NEW EUROPEAN RULES TO REGULATE CREDIT RATINGS AGENCIES

The [new rules](#) will allow agencies to issue unsolicited sovereign debt ratings only on set dates, and enable private investors to sue them for negligence. This matters because ratings have a direct impact on the financial markets and the wider economy. [➤ More](#)

EU AND SINGAPORE CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS FOR FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

The ambitious agreement will be the EU's first "green" FTA and the second signed with a key Asian partner, after Korea. Main elements of the deal include improved opportunities for trade in services, public procurement, intellectual property rights including geographical indications and sustainable development. [➤ More](#)

EURO AREA INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS SURPLUS OF €13.7 BILLION (NOVEMBER 2012)

[➤ More](#)

EU RESOURCES

EU-MALAYSIA PUBLICATIONS

The EU Delegation annually publishes various material which gives an overview of the cooperation between the EU and Malaysia. 2012 publications include the Key Facts Leaflet, Trade & Investment Booklet, Cooperation Booklet and the Study in Europe Guide for Malaysian Students. To obtain a copy, please contact delegation-malaysia-press@eeas.europa.eu

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