

# EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION TO MALAYSIA

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## EU-MALAYSIA NEWS



### UPCOMING EVENT: THE EUROPEAN SOVEREIGN DEBT CRISIS & THE FUTURE OF THE EURO

Dr Peter Bekx (Director of International Economic and Financial Relations and Global Governance in the European Commission) will address the impact of the Sovereign Debt Crisis in Europe – the world's largest economy; the strategy the EU has put in place to guide recovery of the European economy and create growth; the future of the Euro as well as why this matters to Malaysia.

Jointly organised with the EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and the Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute, the event will take place on **March 1, Friday, 2.30pm – 5.00pm at The Westin Kuala Lumpur.**

To register your attendance, please email [delegation-malaysia-events@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:delegation-malaysia-events@eeas.europa.eu) or contact Ms Mariya Sellvam at 03-2723 7373.

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS: SUPPORT TO EU BUSINESS IN SOUTH EAST ASIA MARKETS (MALAYSIA COMPONENT)

Deadline for proposals has been extended to 4 March 2013. [➤ More](#)

## NEWS FROM EU INSTITUTIONS

European Union   
Recipient of the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize®



### EU PRIORITIES AT THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS FORA

The EU will seek for the upcoming main session of the Human Rights Council (HRC) to address the serious human rights violations and abuses perpetuated in Syria, North Korea, Iran and Sri Lanka. The EU will also continue to present resolutions on freedom of religion, children's rights particularly those in armed conflict, gender equality and women's empowerment, among other priority issues. [➤ More](#)

Speaking at the UN Security Council on 13 February, EU High Representative Catherine Ashton further pledged the EU's commitment towards effective multilateralism – with the United Nations at its core. [➤ More](#)



*Photo: UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon with EU High Representative Catherine Ashton*

### DEVELOPING STRATEGIC THINKING IN THE EU – GLOBAL TRENDS 2030

Speaking at the European Strategy and Policy Analysis System conference, Commission President Barroso presented his view on the major trends the European Union and its strategic partners are facing and laid out possible policy responses. The challenge for the future, he said, is not so much the trends coming at us, but our political ability to shape them. [➤ More](#)

### IVORY COAST RATIFIES THE ROME STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

EU High Representative Catherine Ashton warmly welcomed the ratification. Ivory Coast is the 122<sup>nd</sup> country to become a state party to the Rome Statute. [➤ More](#)

### EU CYBERSECURITY PLAN TO PROTECT OPEN INTERNET AND ONLINE FREEDOM AND OPPORTUNITY

The cybersecurity strategy – "An Open, Safe and Secure Cyberspace" - represents the EU's comprehensive vision on how best to prevent and respond to cyber disruptions and attacks. [➤ More](#)

## ECONOMIC NEWS

### EU AND UNITED STATES TO LAUNCH NEGOTIATIONS ON TRANSATLANTIC TRADE & INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

Together, the European Union and the United States account for 47% of the world GDP and one third of global trade flows. Each day goods and services of almost €2 billion are traded bilaterally, contributing to creating jobs and growth in both economies. When negotiations are completed, this EU-US agreement would be the biggest bilateral trade deal ever negotiated.

[➤ More](#)

*Photo: HRVP Catherine Ashton with new US Secretary of State John Kerry in Washington, 14 February*

### EUROPEAN COMMISSION PROPOSES TO OPEN PLURILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS ON SERVICES

21 WTO Members will be at the negotiating table when talks begin in spring 2013, but the EU is keen to encourage others to join. The negotiations will cover all services sectors including information & communication technology, logistics and financial services. [➤ More](#)

### THE EU'S FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS – WHERE ARE WE?

[➤ More](#)

### FIRST ESTIMATE FOR 2012 INTERNATIONAL TRADE

During 2012, international trade in goods recorded a surplus of €81.8 billion in the Euro area, while the EU27 recorded a deficit of €104.6 billion. EU exports to most of its major partners grew in January-November 2012 with notable increases to South Korea, Russia, Japan, the USA and Brazil. [➤ More](#)



## ENVIRONMENT NEWS



### EUROPE'S GREEN RECOVERY

"Europe must not heed short-sighted calls to relax its environmental standards, which some claim harm its competitiveness vis-à-vis countries with looser rules. Given their global reputation as guarantors of quality, Europe's high environmental standards are crucial to its future competitiveness, and should therefore be actively promoted, particularly in trade agreements," said EU Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard, in an editorial published by Project Syndicate. [➤ More](#)

*Photo: EU Commissioner for Climate Action Connie Hedegaard*

## EU RESOURCES

### EU-MALAYSIA PUBLICATIONS

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

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