



# Japan-EU Relations



December 2022  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
JAPAN

- Japan and the European Union are strategic partners, sharing fundamental values and principle such as freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, market economy, and work together for building peace, prosperity and stability of the world.
- Based upon this concept, we have concrete cooperation and multi-layered dialogues, including annual [Japan-EU Summit](#) between the Prime Minister of Japan and the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission and Foreign Ministers' Meetings.
- Japan-EU Relations are more closer than ever before thanks to [Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement](#) (EPA) and [Strategic Partnership Agreement](#) (SPA). Japan supports firmly the united European Union. Japan and the EU signed "[the Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure between Japan and the European Union](#)" in 2019, and launched [the Japan-EU Green Alliance](#) in 2021 and [the Japan-EU Digital Partnership](#) in 2022.
- The EU announced the Joint Communication on [EU strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific](#) in September 2021 and a joint communication on connectivity strategy "[the Global Gateway](#)" in December 2021.

## Key areas of cooperation

### 1. Security and defense

- Carrying out Japan-EU joint port calls and exercises
- Conducting various dialogues and cooperation such as cyber and space

### 2. Economy

- Enhancing a free and open trade based on the EPA
- Making efforts toward the review of the EU's measures on Japanese food products
- Conducting various economic dialogues such as industry, ICT and transport

### 3. Global issues

- Enhancing Japan-EU cooperation based on the SPA on connectivity, digital, environment, climate change, COVID-19 and others

### 4. Mutual understandings for future cooperation

- Youth exchange programmes such as Erasmus+ and Japan's friendship ties program "MIRAI"
- Promoting exchanges of researchers in the field of science and technology