

# India-EU Relations

Posted at: 28/02/2025

## India-EU Relations: European Commission Delegation's Visit to India

### Context

- The EU is India's largest trading partner and a key ally in technology, defence, and climate action.
- Diplomatic ties date back to 1962, evolving into a comprehensive strategic partnership.
- The European Commission (EC) College of Commissioners, led by EC President Ursula von der Leyen, visited New Delhi to strengthen trade, technology, and defence cooperation.

---

### Key Areas of Cooperation

#### 1. Trade and Investment

- India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations resumed in 2021.
- Bilateral trade (FY 2023-24): \$135 billion
- EU's FDI in India (2000-2024): \$117.4 billion (16.6% of total FDI equity inflows)
- Indian FDI in the EU: \$40.04 billion
- Impact: Strengthens trade, boosts exports, and reduces dependence on China.

---

#### 2. Technology and Digital Cooperation

- India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) launched in 2022.
- Key Areas:
  - Semiconductor R&D MoU (2023)
  - Supercomputing & AI collaboration
- Impact: Enhances digital sovereignty and promotes tech innovation.

---

#### 3. Green Energy & Climate Cooperation

- India-EU Green Hydrogen Initiative: €1 billion EIB investment.
- Goal: Establish a Green Hydrogen Ecosystem by 2030.
- Impact: Supports India's Net-Zero by 2070 and the EU's carbon neutrality goals.

---

#### 4. Defence & Space Collaboration

- **First India-EU Joint Naval Exercise (2023)** in Gulf of Guinea.
  - **ISRO-EU Collaboration:**
    - **PROBA-3 mission (2024)**
    - **Support for Chandrayaan-3, Aditya-L1, Gaganyaan**
  - **Impact:** Strengthens Indo-Pacific security and space research.
- 

#### 5. People-to-People Ties

- **Erasmus Scholarships:** 6,000+ Indian students in 20 years.
  - **Indian Researchers in EU:** 2,700+ funded under Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.
  - **20% of EU Blue Cards (2023-24)** issued to Indian professionals.
- 

#### Conclusion

This visit **reinforces India-EU strategic ties** in trade, technology, defence, and green energy. Advancements in **FTA, semiconductor R&D, and hydrogen projects** will boost economic growth and global leadership. **As geopolitical shifts unfold, India and the EU remain committed to a resilient, sustainable, and secure future.**

