Basic information

2018/0122(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	Procedure completed
EU/Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement Accompanying procedure 2018/0122M(NLE) **Subject** 6.40.11 Relations with industrialised countries **Geographical area** Japan	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	PETERLE Alojz (PPE)	09/10/2018
	Shadow rapporteur MARTIN David (S&D) BELDER Bas (ECR) VAUTMANS Hilde (ALDE) SCHOLZ Helmut (GUE/NGL) BUCHNER Klaus (Verts/ALE) CASTALDO Fabio Massimo (EFDD)	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Environment	3666	2018-12-20

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
European External Action Service	MOGHERINI Federica

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary

27/04/2018	Preparatory document	JOIN(2018)0011	Summary
18/09/2018	Legislative proposal published	08462/2018	Summary
01/10/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/11/2018	Vote in committee		
23/11/2018	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0383/2018	Summary
11/12/2018	Debate in Parliament		
12/12/2018	Decision by Parliament	T8-0506/2018	Summary
12/12/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
20/12/2018	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
20/12/2018	End of procedure in Parliament		
21/05/2024	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2018/0122(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Amendments and repeals	Accompanying procedure 2018/0122M(NLE)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 212 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p8-a2 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 337
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/8/12970

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE628.680	23/10/2018	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0383/2018	23/11/2018	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0506/2018	12/12/2018	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	08463/2018	12/06/2018	
Legislative proposal	08462/2018	18/09/2018	Summary

National parliaments

Document type	Parliament /Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	PT_PARLIAMENT	JOIN(2018)0010	01/10/2018	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
ECHR	Document attached to the procedure	JOIN(2018)0010	27/04/2018	
ECHR	Preparatory document	JOIN(2018)0011	27/04/2018	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Parliament	Briefing	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2024/1394
OJ OJ L 21.05.2024 Summary

EU/Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement

2018/0122(NLE) - 23/11/2018 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted the report by Alojz PETERLE (EPP, SI) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part.

The committee recommended that the European Parliament **give its consent** to the conclusion of the agreement.

The purpose of the agreement is to strengthen the overall partnership between the Parties by promoting political and sectoral cooperation and joint actions on issues of common interest, including regional and global challenges. The agreement will contribute to the promotion of shared values and principles, in particular democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms. It will serve as a platform for closer cooperation and dialogue on a wide range of bilateral, regional and multilateral issues.

EU/Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement

2018/0122(NLE) - 12/12/2018 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 474 votes to 152, with 40 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part.

The European Parliament **gave its consent** to the conclusion of the agreement, which aims to strengthen cooperation and dialogue on a wide range of bilateral, regional and multilateral issues.

In parallel, it adopted a non-legislative resolution on the draft decision.

EU/Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement

2018/0122(NLE) - 27/04/2018

PURPOSE: to conclude the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States and Japan.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the EU and Japan have a history of extensive political, economic and sectoral cooperation, which has evolved with time. Building on shared fundamental values, the EU established a Strategic Partnership with Japan in 2001.

On 29 November 2012, the Council adopted a Decision authorising the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to negotiate a framework agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part. These negotiations began in April 2013 and were concluded in April 2018.

Following the adoption of the Council Decision on the signing and provisional application of the Strategic Partnership Agreement, the Agreement was signed.

The High Representative and the Commission considered that the objectives set by the Council in its directives on the negotiation of the Agreement have been met and that the Agreement can be submitted for conclusion.

The present joint proposal concerns the legal instrument concluding the Agreement.

CONTENT: this draft Council Decision seeks to approve, on behalf of the Union, the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part.

This Agreement is the first-ever bilateral framework agreement between the EU and Japan. It will provide a **legal foundation** for improving bilateral cooperation and cooperation in international and regional organisations and fora.

The Strategic Partnership Agreement and the Economic Partnership Agreement are part of one negotiating context and have a clear legal link. Together, they are expected to provide tangible benefits and opportunities to the people of the EU and Japan.

The Strategic Partnership Agreement aims to strengthen political, economic and sectoral cooperation across a wide spectrum of policy fields, such as climate change, research and innovation, maritime affairs, education, culture, migration, counter-terrorism and the fight against organised crime and cybercrime.

A Joint Committee shall be established with the objective of coordinating the overall partnership which is built upon this Agreement.

EU/Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement

2018/0122(NLE) - 18/09/2018 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union, the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the Council can adopt the act only if the European Parliament has approved it.

BACKGROUND: the EU and Japan have a history of extensive political, economic and sectoral cooperation, which has evolved with time. Building on shared fundamental values, the EU established a Strategic Partnership with Japan in 2001.

On 29 November 2012, the Council adopted a Decision authorising the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to negotiate a framework agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part. The negotiations began in April 2013 and were concluded in April 2018.

The Strategic Partnership Agreement signed between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, on the other hand subject to its conclusion at a later date, must now be approved.

CONTENT: the draft Council decision aims to approve, on behalf of the European Union, **the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan,** of the other part.

The Agreement aims to:

- **strengthen the overall partnership** by promoting political and sectoral cooperation and joint actions on issues of common interest, including on regional and global challenges;

- provide a legal foundation for improving bilateral cooperation and cooperation in international and regional organisations and fora. It will help **promote shared values and principles,** in particular democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- serve as a platform for **closer cooperation and dialogue across a broad range of bilateral, regional and multilateral issues**. It strengthens political, economic and sectoral cooperation across a wide spectrum of policy fields, such as climate change, research and innovation, maritime affairs, education, culture, migration, counter-terrorism and the fight against organised crime and cybercrime.

In addition, the Agreement:

- restates the Parties' commitment to **safeguard international peace and security** by preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and by taking measures to deal with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;
- establishes a **Joint Committee** with the objective of coordinating the overall partnership which is built upon the Agreement. The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy shall co-chair the Joint Committee;
- provides for the possibility of **suspending** its application if there is a violation of essential elements of the Agreement, i.e. the human rights clause and the non-proliferation clause.

EU/Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement

2018/0122(NLE) - 27/04/2018 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States and Japan.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the EU and Japan have a history of extensive political, economic and sectoral cooperation, which has evolved with time. Building on shared fundamental values, the EU established a Strategic Partnership with Japan in 2001.

On 29 November 2012, the Council adopted a Decision authorising the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to negotiate a framework agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part. These negotiations began in April 2013 and were concluded in April 2018.

Following the adoption of the Council Decision on the signing and provisional application of the Strategic Partnership Agreement, the Agreement was signed.

The High Representative and the Commission considered that the objectives set by the Council in its directives on the negotiation of the Agreement have been met and that the Agreement can be submitted for conclusion.

The present joint proposal concerns the legal instrument concluding the Agreement.

CONTENT: this draft Council Decision seeks to approve, on behalf of the Union, the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part.

This Agreement is the first-ever bilateral framework agreement between the EU and Japan. It will provide a **legal foundation** for improving bilateral cooperation and cooperation in international and regional organisations and fora.

The Strategic Partnership Agreement and the Economic Partnership Agreement are part of one negotiating context and have a clear legal link. Together, they are expected to provide tangible benefits and opportunities to the people of the EU and Japan.

The Strategic Partnership Agreement aims to strengthen political, economic and sectoral cooperation across a wide spectrum of policy fields, such as climate change, research and innovation, maritime affairs, education, culture, migration, counter-terrorism and the fight against organised crime and cybercrime.

A Joint Committee shall be established with the objective of coordinating the overall partnership which is built upon this Agreement.

EU/Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement

2018/0122(NLE) - 21/05/2024 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union, the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2024/1394 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part.

CONTENT: under this Decision, the Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Japan, of the other part is hereby approved on behalf of the European Union.

The new Strategic Partnership Agreement is the first-ever bilateral framework agreement between the EU and Japan. It intends to lay the foundation for increased consultation and coordination in multilateral fora. Its purpose is to strengthen the overall partnership between the Parties by promoting

political and sectoral cooperation and joint actions on issues of common interest, including regional and global challenges. The Agreement will contribute to the promotion of shared values and principles, in particular democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms. It will serve as a platform for closer cooperation and dialogue on a wide range of bilateral, regional and multilateral issues.

The Agreement aims to:

- strengthen the overall partnership by promoting political and sectoral cooperation and joint actions on issues of common interest, including on regional and global challenges;

- provide a legal foundation for improving bilateral cooperation and cooperation in international and regional organisations and fora. It will help promote shared values and principles, in particular democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- serve as a platform for closer cooperation and dialogue across a broad range of bilateral, regional and multilateral issues. It strengthens political, economic and sectoral cooperation across a wide spectrum of policy fields, such as climate change, research and innovation, maritime affairs, education, culture, migration, counter-terrorism and the fight against organised crime and cybercrime.

In addition, the Agreement:

- restates the Parties' commitment to safeguard international peace and security by preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and by taking measures to deal with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

- establishes a Joint Committee with the objective of coordinating the overall partnership which is built upon the Agreement. The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy shall co-chair the Joint Committee;

- provides for the possibility of suspending its application if there is a violation of essential elements of the Agreement, i.e. the human rights clause and the non-proliferation clause.

Lastly, the SPA will provide for a joint committee to coordinate the overall partnership providing a forum to discuss all the issues covered in the agreement, and a dispute settlement procedure.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 22.04.2024.