Basic information

2022/0221M(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure completed
EU-Malaysia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement Accompanying procedure 2022/0221(NLE) **Subject** 6.40.08 Relations with Asian countries **Geographical area** Malaysia	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	NISTOR Gheorghe-Vlad (EPP)	08/09/2022
	Shadow rapporteur PICULA Tonino (S&D) PAET Urmas (Renew) SOLÉ Jordi (Greens/EFA) KARSKI Karol (ECR)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
DEVE Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

ITRE	Industry, Research and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
TRAN	Transport and Tourism	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AGRI	Agriculture and Rural Development	Chair on behalf of committee LINS Norbert (EPP)	03/02/2023
PECH	Fisheries	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
CULT	Culture and Education	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
JURI	Legal Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
LIBE	Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
European External Action Service	BORRELL FONTELLES Josep

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
19/01/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
24/05/2023	Vote in committee		
25/05/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0194/2023	Summary
14/06/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0234/2023	Summary
14/06/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2022/0221M(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Motion for a resolution under consent procedure

Amendments and repeals	Accompanying procedure 2022/0221(NLE)
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/9/10942

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	**Committee**	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Specific opinion	AGRI	PE742.389	03/02/2023	
Committee draft report		PE742.309	20/02/2023	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE745.338	15/03/2023	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0194/2023	25/05/2023	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0234/2023	14/06/2023	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

EU-Malaysia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

2022/0221M(NLE) - 25/05/2023 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted a report by Gheorghe-Vlad NISTOR (EPP, RO) containing a non-legislative motion for a resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Government of Malaysia, of the other part.

EU Strategy for the Indo-Pacific Region and EU Strategic Partnership with ASEAN

Noting that the Indo-Pacific region is of growing strategic importance to Europe, Members reiterated their support for the EU's strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. They called for closer cooperation with the countries of the region, particularly the ASEAN countries.

Members welcomed the reaffirmation by EU and ASEAN leaders of their commitment to mutual respect for the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity enshrined in the UN Charter. They welcomed Malaysia's vote in favour of UN resolutions supporting Ukraine and encouraged Malaysia to promote respect for international law, assist Ukraine and take a firm stance against Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, including within the ASEAN framework.

EU-Malaysia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA)

Members believe that the PCA provides a solid legal framework for strengthening bilateral political and economic relations and for discussing issues of regional and global interest such as the promotion of democracy, human rights and international justice, the strengthening of the international framework for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the fight against terrorism and corruption, among others.

The report called on the EU to place issues relating to the **fight against climate change and the promotion of gender equality and women's rights** at the centre of its relations with Malaysia as part of the implementation of the PCA.

The Malaysian authorities are urged to amend discriminatory laws on nationality and citizenship, which violate women's human rights, and to adopt effective measures to combat discrimination against women in the workplace. The parties should work to support the implementation and enforcement of national legislation on corporate due diligence and accountability.

Members pointed out that Malaysia is facing increasing environmental degradation in many areas, including deforestation, loss of biodiversity and air and water pollution. They urged both parties to pay particular attention to these issues as part of their cooperation to combat these problems.

The report called for the strengthening of bilateral cooperation in the promotion and protection of **human rights**. It reiterated its call on the Malaysian authorities to repeal the excessively broad Sedition Act and to bring all laws into line with international standards on freedom of expression and assembly and the protection of human rights. It also called on the Malaysian authorities to repeal the National Security Council Act 2016, which grants extraordinary powers to this body as well as to the security forces.

The Malaysian government is invited to:

- ratify and implement the key international human rights conventions, as well as all core ILO conventions;

- crack down decisively on forced labour, including the abuse of domestic workers, and prohibit employers from keeping employees' passports without their consent;

- put in place a comprehensive system to protect and support all minority and indigenous groups in the country, respecting their fundamental rights, including religious freedom and cultural rights;

- immediately adopt a legal framework protecting the LGBTIQ+ community against discrimination;

- immediately stop forced expulsions and give the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees rapid access to migrant detention centres;

- maintain the official moratorium on all executions until the death penalty is fully abolished and all death sentences are commuted;

- meaningfully involve civil society, trade unions and human rights defenders in the implementation of the agreement.

The EU must promote, respect and protect international human rights standards, and in particular the principles of non-refoulement and voluntary return, in its cooperation with Malaysia in the field of migration.

EU-Malaysia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

2022/0221M(NLE) - 14/06/2023 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 548 votes to 43, with 25 abstentions, a non-legislative motion for a resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Government of Malaysia, of the other part.

EU Strategy for the Indo-Pacific Region and EU Strategic Partnership with ASEAN

Noting that the Indo-Pacific region is of growing strategic importance to Europe, Parliament reiterated its support for the EU's strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. They called for closer cooperation with the countries of the region, particularly the ASEAN countries.

Members called for the swift implementation of the EU Global Gateway strategy in coordination with the Indo-Pacific strategy and welcomed the announcement of a EUR 10 billion financial package to accelerate infrastructure investments in ASEAN countries, in particular with regard to the green transition and sustainable connectivity.

Parliament welcomed the reaffirmation by EU and ASEAN leaders of their commitment to mutual respect for the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity enshrined in the UN Charter. It welcomed Malaysia's vote in favour of UN resolutions supporting Ukraine and encouraged Malaysia to promote respect for international law, assist Ukraine and take a firm stance against Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, including within the ASEAN framework.

EU-Malaysia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA)

Members believe that the PCA provides a **solid legal framework** for strengthening bilateral political and economic relations and for discussing issues of regional and global interest such as the promotion of democracy, human rights and international justice, the strengthening of the international framework for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the fight against terrorism and corruption, among others.

The resolution called on the EU to place issues relating to the **fight against climate change** and the **promotion of gender equality and women's rights** at the centre of its relations with Malaysia as part of the implementation of the PCA.

Parliament called on the parties to work to support the implementation and enforcement of national legislation on **corporate due diligence and responsibility**. It encouraged both parties to step up efforts to tackle the effects of climate change by adopting and implementing more effective climate policies on energy transition and decarbonisation.

Malaysia is facing increasing environmental degradation in many areas, including deforestation, loss of biodiversity, and air and water pollution. Members urged both parties to pay particular attention to these issues as part of their cooperation to combat these problems.

Parliament called for the strengthening of bilateral cooperation in the promotion and **protection of human rights**. It called on the Malaysian authorities to:

- repeal the excessively broad Sedition Act and to bring all legislation, in line with international standards on freedom of expression and assembly, and the protection of human rights;

- repeal the National Security Council Act in 2016, which grants extraordinary powers to the National Security Council and the security forces;

- change the discriminatory nationality and citizenship laws that undermine women's basic human rights and to take effective action to tackle discrimination against women in the workplace;

- ratify and implement the key international human rights conventions, as well as all core ILO conventions;

- crack down decisively on forced labour, including the abuse of domestic workers, and prohibit employers from keeping employees' passports without their consent;

- put in place a comprehensive system to protect and support all minority and indigenous groups in the country, respecting their fundamental rights, including religious freedom and cultural rights;

- immediately adopt a legal framework protecting the LGBTIQ+ community against discrimination;

- immediately stop forced expulsions and give the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees rapid access to migrant detention centres;

- extend the official moratorium on all executions until the death penalty is fully abolished and all death sentences are commuted;

- meaningfully involve civil society, trade unions and human rights defenders in the implementation of the agreement.

The EU must promote, respect and protect international human rights standards, and in particular the principles of non-refoulement and voluntary return in their cooperation on migration with Malaysia.