Basic information

2023/2128(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
EU-India relations **Subject** 6.40.08 Relations with Asian countries **Geographical area** India	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	ALAMETSÄ Alviina (Greens/EFA)	26/04/2023
	Shadow rapporteur MEIMARAKIS Vangelis (EPP) PAPANDREOU Nikos (S&D) EROGLU Engin (Renew) RUISSEN Bert-Jan (ECR) MARIANI Thierry (ID) VILLANUEVA RUIZ Idoia (The Left)	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
European External Action Service	BORRELL FONTELLES Josep

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
12/07/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
07/12/2023	Vote in committee		
12/12/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0435/2023	Summary
16/01/2024	Debate in Parliament		
17/01/2024	Decision by Parliament	T9-0033/2024	Summary

17/01/2024	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2023/2128(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 121
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/9/12643

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE753.444	28/09/2023	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE754.761	27/10/2023	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0435/2023	12/12/2023	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0033/2024	17/01/2024	Summary

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency

Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
ALAMETSÄ Alviina	Rapporteur	AFET	15/01/2024	Embassy of India
ALAMETSÄ Alviina	Rapporteur	AFET	24/10/2023	Embassy of India, Brussels
EROGLU Engin	Shadow rapporteur	AFET	16/10/2023	Stichting Diaspora in Action for Human Rights And Democracy
ALAMETSÄ Alviina	Rapporteur	AFET	12/10/2023	Stichting Diaspora in Action for Human Rights And Democracy
ALAMETSÄ Alviina	Rapporteur	AFET	21/09/2023	INTPA
ALAMETSÄ Alviina	Rapporteur	AFET	19/09/2023	Embassy of India, Brussels
ALAMETSÄ Alviina	Rapporteur	AFET	01/09/2023	EEAS

EU-India relations

2023/2128(INI) - 12/12/2023 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Foreign Affairs adopted the own-initiative report by Alviina ALAMETSÄ (Greens/EFA, FI) on a European Parliament recommendation to the Council, Commission and the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy concerning EU-India relations.

In 2022, the EU and India marked the 60th anniversary of their bilateral partnership. While this partnership has gained momentum in recent years, it has, however, not yet reached its full potential.

The aim of this recommendation is to broaden and deepen EU-India relations by making progress in priority areas that are in the interest of both sides and the well-being of their respective citizens through enhanced cooperation in various areas, as outlined in the EU-India Roadmap 2025.

Recommendations

The report made the following recommendations to the Council, Commission and the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy:

The EU-India Strategic Partnership: the institutional framework

- continue to broaden and deepen EU-India relations as strategic partners and to uphold the commitment to regular multi-level dialogues and summits;

- pursue a ‘Team Europe’ approach to the partnership;

- make tangible advances on priority areas of the partnership, in particular climate change and green growth, digitalisation and new technologies, research and development, connectivity, trade and investment, foreign, security and defence policy and human rights and the rule of law;

- establish a more structured and multi-level inter-parliamentary dialogue between the European Parliament and its Indian counterparts.

EU-India cooperation on foreign and security policy

- further develop both parties’ growing cooperation on foreign and security policy and promote greater synergies in this field through existing dialogue mechanisms and other fora set up under the EU-India Roadmap to 2025;

- encourage India to strengthen regional security cooperation while acknowledging the volatile context of proliferation, military modernisation, and territorial disputes;

- enhance cooperation on hybrid threats, particularly in the fight against disinformation campaigns, through mechanisms aiming to share evidence and intelligence;

- expand and broaden EU-India cooperation on maritime security;

- strengthen EU-India cooperation on disarmament and non-proliferation and encourage India to join EU efforts to promote nuclear safety and the non-proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons in the region;

- engage with India on the issue of its heavy military dependency on Russia and on the EU’s sanctions policy towards Russia and on its continued purchases of crude oil from Russia at low prices.

Human rights and democracy: from an appendix to the heart of EU-India relations

- effectively enshrine human rights and democratic values at the heart of the EU’s engagement with India with the aim of a constructive and results-based dialogue;

- develop a strategy and plan of action to address these issues, and to integrate them across the wider EU-India partnership;

- engage with India on its efforts to investigate and prevent gender-based violence and discrimination and promote gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Connecting on climate, energy and digital issues

- enhance cooperation on climate and energy issues with India as a key partner in the global fight against climate change and biodiversity degradation and in a green transition towards renewable energy and climate neutrality, with due regard to their impact on the most vulnerable.

EU-India relations

2023/2128(INI) - 17/01/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 585 votes to 10, with 36 abstentions, a recommendation to the Council, Commission and the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy concerning EU-India relations.

The EU and India intend to convene at leaders’ meeting in New Delhi in early 2024, in particular to reaffirm the commitments of both sides to their strategic partnership and to review the implementation of the EU-India Roadmap 2025.

Parliament made the following **recommendations** to the Council, Commission and the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy:

The EU-India Strategic Partnership: the institutional framework

- continue to broaden and deepen EU-India relations as strategic partners and to uphold the commitment to regular multi-level dialogues and summits;

- pursue a 'Team Europe' approach to the partnership;

- make tangible advances on priority areas of the partnership, in particular climate change and green growth, digitalisation and new technologies, research and development, connectivity, trade and investment, foreign, security and defence policy and human rights and the rule of law;

- begin to develop an ambitious, multi-faceted and thoroughly renewed partnership and cooperation strategy based on the values of freedom, democracy, pluralism, the rule of law, equality, respect for human rights, social justice and sustainable development;

- establish a more structured and multi-level inter-parliamentary dialogue between the European Parliament and its Indian counterparts.

EU-India cooperation on foreign and security policy

- further develop both parties' growing cooperation on foreign and security policy and promote greater synergies in this field through existing dialogue mechanisms and other fora set up under the EU-India Roadmap to 2025;

- hold bilateral security dialogues on an annual basis and ensure, further, that this increasingly prominent component of the partnership effectively promotes shared security, stability and peaceful development in the Indo-Pacific region;

- encourage India to strengthen regional security cooperation while acknowledging the volatile context of proliferation, military modernisation, and territorial disputes;

- enhance cooperation on hybrid threats, particularly in the fight against disinformation campaigns, through mechanisms aiming to share evidence and intelligence;

- expand and broaden EU-India cooperation on maritime security and recognise India's contributions to freedom of navigation worldwide, as well as its recent deployment of navy ships to protect merchant vessels in the Red Sea that have been facing ongoing harassment by Houthi rebels;

- strengthen EU-India cooperation on disarmament and non-proliferation and encourage India to join EU efforts to promote nuclear safety and the non-proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons in the region;

- engage with India on the issue of its heavy military dependency on Russia and on the EU's sanctions policy towards Russia and on its continued purchases of crude oil from Russia at low prices and its subsequent sale of refined oil products on international markets, as well as its involvement in the trade in Russian diamonds.

Human rights and democracy

- effectively enshrine human rights and democratic values at the heart of the EU's engagement with India with the aim of a constructive and results-based dialogue;

- develop a strategy and plan of action to address these issues, and to integrate them across the wider EU-India partnership;

- express serious concern about India's Citizenship Amendment Act and other laws that discriminate on grounds of religion, encourage India to guarantee the right to freely practice the religion of one's choice and counter hate speech that incites discrimination or violence against any religious minority;

- engage with India on its efforts to investigate and prevent gender-based violence and discrimination and promote gender equality and women's empowerment;

- work with India to ensure a safe and democratic environment for the work of defenders of human rights, the environment, the rights of indigenous peoples and Dalit rights, political opponents and trade union activists, journalists and other civil society actors;

- reiterate that any free trade agreement with India should be based on prior human rights and sustainable development impact assessments carried out by both parties.

Connecting on climate, energy and digital issues

- enhance cooperation on climate and energy issues with India as a key partner in the global fight against climate change and biodiversity degradation and in a green transition towards renewable energy and climate neutrality, with due regard to their impact on the most vulnerable;

- step up cooperation in high performance computing and quantum technologies and recognise the substantial potential of digital issues as part of the EU-India partnership. The EU is better placed to advance global standards in the digital sector;

- step up engagement with India on health emergencies, pharmaceuticals and digital health innovations for universal health coverage, as it is the largest producer and exporter of generic medicine and an active player on global health matters in multilateral fora.