

Maritime Security for Europe and Asia

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The **European Union (EU)** has taken a leadership role as a global maritime security provider, in working to uphold and promote a strong, fair and transparent governance of the seas and oceans, in particular through the 2016 EU Global Strategy, the EU Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS), and its Action Plan revised in 2018, Council Conclusions on Enhanced Security Cooperation In and With Asia and several other Council Conclusions on Global Maritime Security (2017) as well as Maritime Security (2021). Over the years, Maritime Cooperation has become a priority of security cooperation, and even more so since the 2020 EU-ASEAN Strategic Partnership. Maritime security also features prominently in the 2021 EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

Five crosscutting areas of action



International cooperation



Maritime awareness and information sharing



Maritime capability development, research and innovation



Risk awareness and management



Education and training

[Implementation of the EUMSS Action Plan - factsheet](#)



Maritime Security: Regional Fora for Cooperation

The European Union and the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations Strategic Partnership

In the field of maritime security, the EU-ASEAN cooperation focuses mainly on transnational maritime threats and the impacts of pollution and climate change.

ASEAN-EU High Level Dialogue on Maritime Security Cooperation

The ARF (ASEAN Regional Forum)

The ARF is a multilateral forum with 27 members and 1 observer mandated to foster dialogue on security issues. The EU co-chaired with Vietnam and Australia the Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (2018 - 2021).

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ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting)

The major political platform linking Europe and Asia since 1996: maritime security is one of its priorities. Its 53 partner countries represent 60% of the world's population.

High-level meetings on maritime security issues, such as green shipping or marine sustainability.



Transnational maritime threats

- Territorial disputes
- Proliferations of weapons
- Piracy
- Natural disasters
- Climate Change
- Pollution
- Terrorism
- Organized crime
- Trafficking
- Conditions that weaken growth



Main EU Maritime Security Actions in Asia

EU-Vietnam-Australia co-chairmanship of ASEAN Regional Forum Inter-sessional Meeting on Maritime Security

2017-2021 Enhancing Cooperation between Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies
Implementing UNCLOS and other Legal Instruments
27 ASEAN Regional Forum Participants

EU-ASEAN High Level Dialogue on Maritime Security Cooperation

2013 ongoing Maritime security
Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Vietnam

CRIMARIO I and II - Critical Maritime Routes - Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia

2015-2024 Maritime security and maritime domain awareness
Brunei, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam

ESIWA Enhancing Security Cooperation in and with Asia

2020-2024 Maritime Security, Cyber security, Terrorism, Crisis management
India, Indonesia, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Vietnam

EU NAVFOR – Operation ATALANTA

2008 ongoing Maritime security and countering piracy
Western Indian Ocean

MASE - Promoting maritime governance through regional centres

2019- 2022 Maritime governance and capacity building
Comoros, Djibouti, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles

Port Security and Safety of Navigation in Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean

2020-2024 Port security and Maritime safety
Angola, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles and Tanzania

Looking ahead

Main areas of work

- Traditional maritime security issues, such as freedom of navigation, dispute management and the fight against piracy
- Emerging challenges such as climate change
- Linkages between ocean warming, sea level rise, the environment and maritime security
- Deepening connections with information-sharing centers and ReCAAP (Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia)
- Improving local and regional Maritime Domain Awareness solutions

Report on the Implementation of the EUMSS Action Plan



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Advancing the European Union's role
in multilateral fora in **Asia**

