

“ASEF is uniquely placed to bring civil societies into the ASEM process. It is therefore a crucial focal point for constructive inter-regional cooperation, contributing greatly to our efforts to rise to the multiple and complex challenges that confront the global community. In this age of globalisation, when uniting in our efforts is the only way to overcome our common challenges, ASEF’s time has truly come.”

H.E. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

“With its far-reaching projects in the fields of economic, environmental, cultural and scientific co-operation, the Asia-Europe Foundation has also laid the intellectual groundwork for a better understanding between the two regions at the political level. In my experience, ASEF is an indispensable forum of cultural dialogue in an era of increasing tensions along civilisational lines and geopolitical instability.”

Prof. Dr Hans Köchler, University Professor and Chairman, Department of Philosophy, University of Innsbruck, Austria

“As a researcher on issues of race, religion and multiculturalism, I have found my involvement in ASEF projects to be of immense value and inspiration, not least because participants come together in equality and fraternity. Coming from a historical background of great divisions and differences between Asia and Europe, being able to work, worry and wonder collectively about our common world in such a spirit not only advances our work on important issues, but also renews faith that new arrangements and relationships between Asia and Europe – in humanity itself – could be forged.”

Lai Ah Eng, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Singapore

We invite you to visit our website
www.asef.org
and participate in our celebrations!

We have created an on-line guestbook where you can write your birthday wishes for ASEF. You can give us a few lines about your personal involvement and experience with ASEF and how this experience has impacted you personally and professionally.

We look forward to hearing from you!



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ASEF

10 YEARS AND BEYOND



EMBRACING DIVERSITY
BRINGING PEOPLES
SHAPING PARTNERSHIPS

*years
and beyond*



ASEF, TEN YEARS AND BEYOND: Embracing Diversity, Bridging Peoples, Shaping Partnerships

The Asia-Europe Foundation celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Launched on 15 February 1997 in Singapore, the foundation's mission is to promote greater mutual understanding between the peoples of Asia and Europe through closer intellectual, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges. This mission draws on the agreement of leaders reached at the inaugural Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in Bangkok (March 1996), to forge a comprehensive partnership and strengthen links between the two regions for mutual benefit.

In the past ten years of operation, ASEF has implemented over 310 projects, which have brought together more than 13,500 participants and reached out to an even wider audience in the countries of Asia and Europe.

Some of the key flagship programmes include the Asia-Europe Environment Forum, the ASEM Informal Seminars on Human Rights, the Asia-Europe Museum Network (ASEMUS), the ASEF University Programme (AU), the Asia-Europe Editors' Roundtables and the numerous dialogues on cultures and civilisations of Asia and Europe.

At the 5th ASEM Summit in Hanoi (October 2004), the ASEM process expanded from the original 26 partners to 39, including the 10 new members of the European Union as well as Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar.¹ Year 2007 will be another historic juncture. The next round of ASEM enlargement will bring in India, Pakistan, Mongolia, Romania, Bulgaria and the ASEAN Secretariat. Thus, the Asia-Europe Foundation's constituency will increase to a total of 45 partners.

ASEF is the only permanent physical institution of ASEM. It is funded by contributions from the partner governments, but the costs of most projects are shared with other public or civil society organisations as well as private corporations in ASEM countries.

¹ Current ASEM partners: Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Myanmar, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom and Vietnam, plus the European Commission.

Some 20 key projects have been selected as signature events during this commemorative year. These projects will be conducted in various cities across Asia and Europe. In addition, a celebration will be held in Singapore on 13 April 2007.

12 – 27 Feb	19th ASEF Lecture Tour: Lessons and Reflections on Regionalisation: an Asian and European Perspective	Europe: Brussels (Belgium), Paris (France), Berlin (Germany), Dublin (Ireland), Warsaw (Poland), London (UK), The Hague (Netherlands)	16 July	Launch of CULTURE 360 Web Portal In conjunction with the 3rd ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
12 – 23 Mar	20th ASEF Lecture Tour: Lessons and Reflections on Regionalisation: an Asian and European Perspective	Asia: Beijing (China), Jakarta (Indonesia), Tokyo (Japan), Manila (Philippines), Singapore	24 Jun – 7 Jul	14th ASEF University	Vietnam
26 Feb – 2 Mar	6th Asia-Europe Young Parliamentarians' Meeting	The Hague, Netherlands	27 – 28 Sep	8th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights	Siem Reap, Cambodia
13 Apr	ASEF 10th Anniversary Celebration In conjunction with ASEF Board of Governors' Executive Committee and Finance & Audit Committee Meetings	Singapore	Oct	Model ASEM (co-organised with ASEFUAN)	Bangkok, Thailand
23 Apr	Public Panel Discussion on Climate Change: "Global climate policy after 2012 – ASEM's contribution" In conjunction with the 3rd ASEM Environment Ministers' Meeting	Copenhagen, Denmark	Oct	5th Asia-Europe Environment Roundtable	China
23 – 25 May	5th Asia-Europe Roundtable: "Sustaining the Peace through Post-conflict Reconstruction"	Singapore	Oct	Special event held in conjunction with the 20th ASEF Board of Governors' Meeting	Warsaw, Poland
27 May	4th Asia-Europe Journalists' Seminar In conjunction with the 8th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting	Hamburg, Germany	Nov	5th Asia-Europe Art Camp: New Media and Performance	Nottingham, UK
2 – 10 Jun	I'mPULSE: 4th Asia-Europe Music Camp	Gothenburg, Sweden	Nov	Cultures and Civilisations Conference	Paris, France
18 Jun	5th ASEF Journalists' Colloquium In conjunction with the 3rd ASEM Interfaith Dialogue	Nanjing, China	Dec	ASEM Youth Dialogue 2007	Manila, Philippines
			7 – 14 Dec	6th Asia-Europe Film Development Plan Meeting	Poitiers, France
			Dec	Pointe to Point: 5th Asia-Europe Dance Forum	China

Note: Dates and venues of the listed projects are subject to change.