



NO 4: MARCH, APRIL & MAY 2021

EUPOP Gazette



**Towards a Better World:
The EU and Asia join up
to improve quality of life
through environment,
education, culture
and more**



What's inside



This edition of EUPOP Gazette takes a look at What has been happening in India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines.

From March to May 2021, EU Public diplomacy engaged Asian audiences in thinking of a post Covid-19 green recovery, marking International Earth Day, fostering artistic cultural ties, learning through quizzes, discovering European higher education, and enabling civil society.



Click the following icons to navigate more details on the activities:



European Green Deal

INDIA

EU and India discuss global recovery

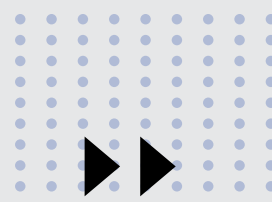
Held virtually on 13 April, the 5th EU-India Think Tanks Annual Conference on the theme "EU-India leading the global recovery" brought senior officials from Brussels and New Delhi together to discuss EU-India relations and opportunities for enhanced cooperation against the backdrop of the ongoing pandemic, the emergence of the Indo-Pacific as a new focal point of global policy dialogue and the imperative of a stronger multilateral order. The EU-India partnership is being shaped by the common goal of sustainable recovery, with specific reference to the digital transition and the security of supply chains.



INDIA

Towards a Green Recovery

The EU and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee marked Earth Day on 22 April with a virtual discussion on the theme "EU-India Cooperation in Climate and Energy". The online event highlighted the joint initiatives with India in the area of climate action, clean energy transition, biodiversity including policy dialogues, and the role of innovation. European climate and energy policies, including the EU recovery package NextGenerationEU, the European Green Deal, and research and innovation initiatives were also explained.



EU DAY

EU-India Cooperation in 'Climate and Energy'

Thursday, 22 Apr 2021 | 9:30 to 12:40 hours (IST)

 H.E. Mr. Ugo Astuto Ambassador of the European Union to India	 Prof. Ajit K. Chaturvedi Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee	
 Ms. Tanja Friederichs Minister Counsellor, EU Delegation to India	 Prof. N. P. Padhy Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Roorkee	 Ms. Edwin Koelkebeck Counsellor, Energy and Climate Action, EU Delegation to India
 Prof. R. Gopichandran Professor, NITPC School of Business	 Prof. Chandra Shekhar Prasad Ojha Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Roorkee	 Ms. Luisa Terranova Counsellor in charge of Global Affairs, Political Section, Embassy of France
 Mr. Bruno Bosle Country Director, Agence Française de Développement (AFD)	 Dr. Antje Berger Counsellor, Climate & Environment, Embassy of Germany	 Dr. Winfried Damm Head of Indo-German Energy programme, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
 Prof. P. Arumugam Dean of International Relations, and Professor of Physics, IIT Roorkee	 Mr. Viggo Bormen Second Secretary, Trade, Economic & Cultural Affairs, Embassy of Sweden	

JOIN THE WEBINAR www.bit.ly/EUDAY-IITR





INDIA



EU India Leaders' Meeting: Outcome Assessment

On 12 May, as part of the EU-India Think Tanks Twinning Initiative, leading think tanks and experts from the EU and India assessed the outcome of the EU-India Leaders' Meeting held on 8 May. The discussion focused on how EU-India could advance the implementation of the actions set out in the EU-India Roadmap 2025, including building global health preparedness and resilience during the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond. The discussions further elaborated on why the EU and India have a common interest in ensuring security, prosperity and sustainable development in a multipolar world and emphasised the possible new synergies for jointly contributing to a safer, greener, cleaner, more digital, resilient and stable world.



INDONESIA

Impacts on a plate!

The EU invited young people from across Indonesia to mark Earth Day 2021 by sharing their thoughts on how each individual can contribute to a reduction of their ecological footprint through sustainable production and consumption of food. The lively talk show "Preserve the Earth Starts from Your Plate" brought together prominent figures including an organic seaweed farmer, a fisherman-rights activist, a rock musician, a comic writer, and a celebrity chef. Andrew Kalawait, a young YouTuber widely known for his adventurous and ecologically conscious lifestyle in the Kalimantan forest, also joined the discussion. The recorded discussion has so far earned more than 9,000 views, while the video Andrew recorded for the event has already clocked up over 730,000 views.



Art and Culture



SINGAPORE

Getting artistic with SEA AiR

The EU and Nanyang Technological University in Singapore launched the Studio Residencies in the EU for Southeast Asian Artists (SEA AiR) on 23 March. Aimed at enhancing public discussion of EU-Singapore and EU-ASEAN partnerships through creative cultural and artistic exchanges, the programme will foster artistic research and multiform expressions of creative enquiry, allowing for free expression and giving artists latitude to question society in its plurality. It will also support networks of EU institutions in Southeast Asia. WIELS Contemporary Art Centre in Brussels, Belgium is to become the first host of this new programme that will see selected artists enjoy a residency in Europe for up to 3 months. The offer includes studio access, accommodation and research trip opportunities.





SINGAPORE

Europe on the screen

The European Film Festival (EUFF) celebrates its 30th anniversary. Running from 6 to 23 May, and in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the festival marks the return of the art scene in Singapore. It is offering an experience to audiences in understanding the complexities and cultures that shape our world. The Festival is bringing 23 contemporary European movies to film fans, and continues the EUFF's long tradition of collaborating with the Ngee Ann Polytechnic's School of Film and Media Studies in showing the work of young Singaporean filmmakers.



VIETNAM

Let's get closer!



Launched on Europe Day, this month-long online campaign features Ambassadors of the EU and twelve EU Member States (EUMS) in Vietnam. The #ClosermEandU series, broadcast in partnership with local opinion leaders and national media, presents the EU Ambassadors in a lively and heart-warming way. The appeal lies in their discoveries of localities and includes their fascination with local culture, places or delicacies. While each Ambassador's story is unique, they clearly reflect the EU's motto - United in Diversity. Through this series, audiences will get to appreciate the fact that Europe is enriched by many different cultures, traditions and languages.



Education

PHILIPPINES

Filipino Youth of the FEUture

Young people in the Philippines swung into gear for the 2021 edition of the EU Whiz, a fun event that invites the new generation to rediscover the ties that bind Filipino and European people together. The May and June tournament introduces them to the EU, its institutions and the EU's partnership with the Philippines. For the first time since 2006, the competition will take place online, enabling young people from all across the country to join. EU Whiz has also expanded to include two new categories: the "My Space, My Rights" video competition and the "Green ECO I See" digital art competition. The event is supported by the Filipino Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and various partner universities.



THAILAND

Alumni join hands to promote EU scholarships



The EU is working with Thai alumni of Erasmus+ and Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) on a media campaign that aims to kindle interests of Thai students' and researchers' in EU scholarship programmes by sharing their study-in-Europe stories and its impacts on their lives and profession via podcasts, videos and articles. The campaign starts with The Momentum's interview with Ambassador Pirkka Tapiola in which he explains how EU scholarship programmes can shape future generations' outlooks and prepare them to become global citizens.




Sustainability, Accountability and Legitimacy of CSOs:
Challenges and Good Practices from Korea and Europe

Human Rights



REPUBLIC of KOREA

Strengthening accountability in civil society space

On 13 April, a webinar held explored how accountability and transparency can strengthen civil society organisations (CSOs). Shin Jae Eun, Director of the Policy Education Centre at the Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation, and Eszter Hartay, Senior Legal Manager at the European Centre for Not-for-Profit Law, were amongst guest speakers who stressed that openness and transparency are key to establishing public trust. It is therefore important that CSOs and governments make joint efforts to promote these principles in the civil society space. They also shared measures that can be taken to enhance CSOs' legitimacy and provided examples of successful self-regulatory initiatives as well as legal frameworks. The webinar was attended by 35 CSO representatives mainly from the Republic of Korea, but also from the Asian region and Europe.



MAY	JUNE	JULY
<p> China : 1 Jan-30 June Food Culture Programme with GI promotion: Taste Europe</p> <p>China : May-June Europe Day Online Forum on Biodiversity</p>	<p> China : 1-30 May European Culture Diversity - Virtual Museum</p> <p>China : 17 May Forum on Circular Economy with EU-China Best Practise Synergy</p> <p> India : 24 May Virtual Session on "Strengthening EU-India partnership on Disability Inclusion in the Attainment of SDGs"</p> <p> Singapore : 6-23 May 30th Edition of the EU Film Festival in Singapore</p> <p> Vietnam : 22 May TV Show: Clean and Sustainable Energy</p> <p>Vietnam : 26 May TV Show: EU Green Recovery</p> <p>Vietnam : 30 May TV Show: European Policy in Time of Covid-19</p>	<p> Malaysia : 3-16 July EU-ASEAN Economic Diplomacy Course: FTA & EU-ASEAN Economic Cooperation</p>
<p> China : 5-10 June Environment Day Campaign Activity</p> <p>China : June (TBC) Environment Day Campaign Activity</p> <p> India : 5 June Virtual Media Event on "Bio-diversity and Health"</p> <p> Indonesia : 3 June CEPA Roadshow in Palembang, South Sumatra</p> <p> Philippines : 26 June Grand Final - EU Whiz: Filipino Youth of the FEUTURE - University Online Competitions</p> <p> Vietnam : 10 June TV Show: Blue economy/waste management/plastic pollution</p> <p>Vietnam : 19 June TV Show: EU Green Deal</p>	<p>AUGUST</p> <p> Vietnam : August (TBC) European Green Deal - Exclusive Talk and On-site Visit for Vietnamese Journalists</p>	
<p> Thailand : May-June EU Urban Heritage in Bangkok: Media Outreach</p> <p>Thailand : May-June EU Scholarship & Alumni Promotion: Media Outreach</p>	<p> Vietnam : May-June Europe Day Social Media Campaign</p>	

