


















Procedure file

Basic information		
NLE - Non-legislative enactments	2022/0221M(NLE)	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
	 Foreign Affairs		Appointed 08/09/2022
			 NISTOR Gheorghe-Vlad
			Shadow rapporteur
			 PICULA Tonino
			 PAET Urmas
			 SOLÉ Jordi
			 KARSKI Karol
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion
	 Development		Appointed
	 International Trade		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	 Economic and Monetary Affairs		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	 Employment and Social Affairs		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	 Environment, Public Health and Food Safety		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	 Industry, Research and Energy		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	 Transport and Tourism		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	 Agriculture and Rural Development		Chair on behalf of committee
			03/02/2023
			 LINS Norbert
	 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		

Key events

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	Results of vote in Parliament		
14/06/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0234/2023	Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	2022/0221M(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Motion for a resolution under consent procedure
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/9/10942

Documentation gateway

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

EU-Malaysia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

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

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.