

# EU-SINGAPORE

Free Trade Agreement  
Investment Protection Agreement

## Strategic benefits

Building bridges,  
shaping globalisation



An even  
**closer**  
relationship



**Taking a**  
**stand** for  
open trade



Working together  
to **shape**  
**globalisation**



**Strengthening**  
**our ties**  
with Asia

# EU-SINGAPORE

Free Trade Agreement  
Investment Protection Agreement

The EU-Singapore trade and investment agreements will help us in the EU achieve our goals in the wider world. They'll allow us to deepen our already close relationship with Singapore, take a stand for open trade, and work to shape global trade rules. They could even pave the way for an agreement with the whole ASEAN region, strengthening the EU's position in Asia.

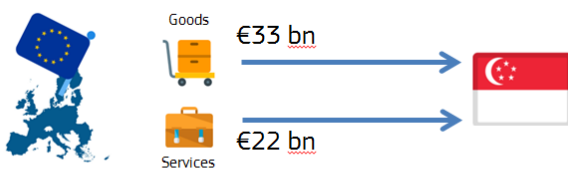


Building an even  
**closer**  
**relationship**

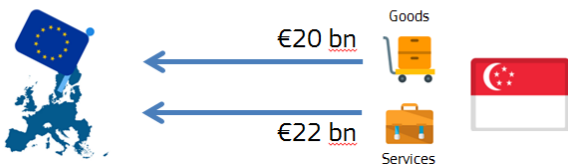
The EU and Singapore already have close trading and investment ties.

There are many reasons why Singapore is a natural trade and investment partner for the EU.

EU exports to Singapore



EU imports from Singapore



Gateway to major growth economies



EU's top trade partner in ASEAN



Trade and transport hub



High standards for trade



Wealthy middle class



Strong market for services

The EU-Singapore trade and investment agreements will help us bind our economies even more closely together. In so doing they will create opportunities for companies in both territories.

# EU-SINGAPORE

Free Trade Agreement  
Investment Protection Agreement



Taking  
a stand  
for **open  
trade**

Open trade happens when goods and services flow freely across borders. It:

- allows us to tap into new markets, creating growth and higher-paying jobs
- helps our companies compete by getting the parts they need to make their products
- helps us shape the rules of global trade so it promotes economic growth, labour rights and environmental protection, and is fair.

The EU-Singapore agreements promote open trade and investment. And by doing so they help us in the EU to reap the benefits of globalisation – the increasing flow of money, products and services, ideas and culture around the world.

For these reasons, the EU and Singapore believe that now is the time to build bridges, not walls.

We can only address the challenges our societies face by keeping trade and investment open – not by resorting to protectionism, which involves:

- imposing customs duties on imported goods,
- applying quotas (limits on the amount of imports), or
- restricting trade or investment in other ways.

The EU-Singapore agreements sends a signal to the rest of the world that two developed economies are committed to open trade – a signal echoed by the EU's agreements with other Asian partners like South Korea and Japan.



# EU-SINGAPORE

Free Trade Agreement  
Investment Protection Agreement



Working together to  
**shape  
globalisation**

We in the EU need to work with like-minded countries and regions. And Singapore is a close partner of the EU, with similar values.

For example, we both:

- set high health and safety standards for products on the market
- apply some of the highest labour and environmental standards in the world
- share similar ideas about the rules needed to protect our societies.

We also face many challenges with a global dimension, such as:

- protecting the environment
- tackling climate change
- securing access to reliable energy supplies.

With the EU-Singapore agreements, we're building on our history of close cooperation, and on our shared values, to address these challenges.

We want to influence globalisation so everyone in our societies benefits – for example, by ensuring that trade between us promotes environmental protection and labour rights.





# EU-SINGAPORE

Free Trade Agreement  
Investment Protection Agreement



## Strengthening our ties with Asia

Singapore is one of the 10 member countries of ASEAN - the Association of South East Asian Nations.

Over the past seven years the EU has launched talks on trade agreements with six ASEAN states, including Singapore.

EU trade talks with ASEAN countries			
Country		Launched	Status
	Singapore	2010	Concluded
	Malaysia	2010	On hold
	Vietnam	2012	Concluded
	Thailand	2013	On hold
	Philippines	2014	Ongoing
	Indonesia	2016	Ongoing







The EU hopes that these agreements will serve as building blocks towards a future EU trade agreement with the whole of ASEAN.



The EU wants its partners to open up their markets in particular for:



ASEAN - a potentially valuable partner for trade agreements with the EU

	An alternative to investing in China		Young and dynamic population
	Fast-growing, wealthy middle class		A deepening Economic Community
	EU's 3 <sup>rd</sup> largest trade partner		Outward-looking region

# EU-SINGAPORE

## Free Trade Agreement Investment Protection Agreement

The agreements with our ASEAN partners aim to make trade and investment easier ...

...and they bring other benefits



### Services

Lifting restrictions that stop EU companies from selling services.



### Clear rules

The agreements put in place stable, predictable rules that encourage EU firms to:

- export to our partner countries and
- do business and invest in them.



### Investment

Making it easier for EU companies to invest in partner countries and attract investment.



### Transparency

The agreement will enable the EU and Singapore to work together more closely to foster transparency and involve civil society in their trade and investment policies.



### Public procurement

Enabling EU suppliers to bid for contracts to supply goods and services to governments in partner countries.



### Sustainability

The agreements enable the EU and our partners to develop our economies in a way that is sustainable, i.e. that respects:

- people's rights at work
- the environment



### Research and development

Protecting intellectual property rights and enforce them more effectively; this includes:

- the results of research and development which EU companies invest in
- the work which EU artists produce.
- distinctive EU food and drink products from specific regions (geographical indications).



### Jobs

The agreements help create jobs and prosperity in Europe. On average every extra €1 bn in EU exports supports around 14,000 higher-paying EU jobs.



### Integration

The EU's two agreements with Singapore complement its trade agreements with Japan and South Korea. Together they strengthen our presence in Asia, and allow us to compete more effectively there.