

OVERVIEW OF ASEAN-PACIFIC ALLIANCE RELATIONS

BACKGROUND

- The Pacific Alliance is a regional integration initiative comprising **Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru**, initiated in April 2011 through the signing of the Lima Declaration and formalised by its Framework Agreement in 2012. The Alliance aims to increase competitiveness of its member economies by promoting the free movement of capital, goods, people, and services, while also expanding trade and economic engagement with the Asia-Pacific region.
- It has also attracted 64 observer states to date, including Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.
- As a bloc, the Pacific Alliance is the eighth economic power¹ and the eighth export force worldwide.² In Latin America and the Caribbean, the Pacific Alliance represents 42% of the GDP,³ 53% of the total trade⁴ and attracts 41% of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)⁵.
- The total two-way merchandise trade between ASEAN and the Pacific Alliance reached USD 50.82 billion in 2025.⁶ The inflow of FDI from the Pacific Alliance to ASEAN in 2025 accounted for USD 2.45 million.⁷

ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meetings

- The Ministers of ASEAN and the Pacific Alliance met for the first time on 25 September 2014 at the sidelines of the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, during which both sides agreed to explore cooperation in areas of mutual interest.
- Since then, eight ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meetings have been convened at the sidelines of the UNGA. The 8th ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial

¹ IMF World Economic Outlook, July 2026.

² <https://alianzapacifico.net/en/what-is-the-pacific-alliance/>

³ IMF World Economic Outlook, July 2026.

⁴ UNCTAD database, retrieved from

<https://unctadstat.unctad.org/datacentre/dataviewer/US.TradeMerchTotal> as of July 2026

⁵ UNCTAD. World Investment Report 2026. July 2026.

⁶ ASEAN Statistics, IMTS preliminary data as of 1 July 2026

⁷ ASEAN Statistics, FDI data. Preliminary as of 1 July 2026.

Meeting was held on the sidelines of the 80th Session of the UNGA on 24 September 2025, in New York. The Meeting reviewed the progress of the implementation of the ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Work Plan (2021-2026) under its five pillars, with 14 of 23 action lines addressed thus far. The Meeting underscored the need to intensify and concretise joint efforts to fully implement the Work Plan prior to its expiry.

The Meeting between the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) and the Group of External Relations of the Pacific Alliance (GER) / National Coordinators of the Pacific Alliance

- The ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Framework for Cooperation stipulates that the CPR and GER of the Pacific Alliance, supported by the Ambassadors of the Pacific Alliance member countries to ASEAN, shall engage with each other at least once a year in Jakarta, unless otherwise mutually agreed, to assess the progress implementation of the Framework for Cooperation as well as identify possible new areas for future engagement. Five meetings between the CPR and the GER of the Pacific Alliance were held between 2015 and 2019.
- The role of the GER has since been assumed by the National Coordinators of the respective Pacific Alliance countries. The addendum to the ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Framework for Cooperation on subparagraph 9.2 of the Framework for Cooperation to replace “GER” with “National Coordinators” was adopted at the 7th ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting on the sidelines of the 79th Session of the UNGA on 25 September 2024, in New York.
- The CPR and the National Coordinators of the Pacific Alliance met virtually for the first time on 29 September 2020 to take stock of cooperation and discuss future areas of collaboration as well as to exchange views on efforts by both regions in addressing the Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. At the first Meeting between the CPR and the National Coordinators of the Pacific Alliance, both sides agreed to develop a new Work Plan for the period of 2021-2025, which was subsequently deliberated by ASEAN and the Pacific Alliance, and adopted at the Meeting between the CPR and the National Coordinators of the Pacific Alliance on 24 November 2021. The ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Work Plan sets out the activities to implement the ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Framework for Cooperation. To date, seven meetings between the CPR and the National Coordinators of the Pacific Alliance have been held, with the most recent held on 5 August 2026 at the ASEAN Secretariat/ASEAN Headquarters, in hybrid format.

ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Framework for Cooperation and its Work Plan

- The ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Framework for Cooperation was adopted at the 3rd ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting held on 24 September 2016. This Framework for Cooperation laid foundation for cooperation between the two sides in four priority areas, namely: (i) Economic Cooperation; (ii) Education and People-to-people Contacts; (iii) Science, Technology and Innovation; and (iv) Sustainable Development.
- The Work Plan was adopted at the 3rd CPR-GER Meeting and noted by the 4th ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting in 2017. The timeline of the Work Plan was extended to December 2019 by the 4th CPR-GER Meeting held in August 2018. It was further extended to December 2020 by the 5th CPR-GER Meeting held on 16 August 2019.
- The 2020 Interface between the CPR and the National Coordinators of the Pacific Alliance agreed to develop new Work Plan for the period of 2021-2025. The Work Plan has been deliberated by both sides and was adopted at the Meeting between the CPR and the National Coordinators of the Pacific Alliance on 24 November 2021, which was held virtually. The Work Plan aims to encourage closer engagement between ASEAN and the Pacific Alliance, to implement relevant action lines in the 2016 ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Framework for Cooperation, including through the exchange of communication, as well as to follow-up on decisions by the ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting. On 30 October 2024, ASEAN and the Pacific Alliance agreed to extend the current ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Work Plan (2021-2025) by one year until December 2026. In early 2026, ASEAN and the Pacific Alliance further agreed to extend the Work Plan until the end of 2027 to ensure the continuity of ASEAN-Pacific Alliance cooperation.

Coordinatorship of ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Relations

- The coordinatorship of ASEAN-Pacific Alliance relations is rotated alphabetically among ASEAN Member States on a one-year basis. Thailand is the country coordinator for ASEAN-Pacific Alliance relations for 2026.
- Mexico is the current Pro Tempore Presidency (PTP) of the Pacific Alliance, having assumed the presidency from Colombia at the Meeting of the Council of Ministers on 30 January 2026 in Bogotá, Colombia.⁸

⁸ <https://alianzapacifico.net/en/council-of-ministers-concludes-with-signing-of-the-bogota-act/>