

OVERVIEW

ASEAN-TÜRKİYE DIALOGUE RELATIONS

A. Introduction

1. Türkiye was conferred the status of Dialogue Partner of ASEAN by the 59th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM) on 21 July 2026 in Manila, the Philippines.

2. Prior to this, the 50th AMM on 5 August 2017 in Manila, the Philippines accorded Türkiye the status of Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN. The ASEAN-Türkiye Sectoral Dialogue Partnership was institutionalised through the convening of the 1st ASEAN-Türkiye Joint Sectoral Cooperation Committee (AT-JSCC) Meeting in May 2018. The Meeting adopted the Terms of Reference of ASEAN-Türkiye Joint Sectoral Cooperation Committee (AT- JSCC) and agreed to develop a list of Practical Cooperation Areas (PCA) between ASEAN and Türkiye. There were eight AT-JSCC Meetings between 2018 and 2026 to review and shape the future direction ASEAN-Türkiye cooperation.

3. Pursuant to the outcome of the 1st AT-JSCC Meeting, the ASEAN-Türkiye Sectoral Dialogue Partnership: Practical Cooperation Areas (PCA) for 2019-2023 was developed and adopted at the 2nd AT-JSCC in July 2019. The PCA for 2024-2028 to succeed the PCA for 2019-2023 was adopted at the 5th AT-JSCC Meeting in November 2023. The new PCA continues to serve as a practical guide and priorities for engagement and cooperation between ASEAN and Türkiye, with a focus on practical areas of mutual interests such as combating transnational crime and countering terrorism, peace and reconciliation, women, peace and security agenda, good governance and human rights, trade, investment and private sector engagement, science, technology, innovation, tourism, food, agriculture and forestry, energy security, supply chain and transport, digital transformation, education and youth development, cultural exchanges and cooperation, disaster risk reduction, human resources development, health cooperation, connectivity, cybersecurity, and sustainable development.

4. Türkiye has accredited its Ambassador to ASEAN since September 2011. The current Ambassador of Türkiye to ASEAN, Prof. Dr. Talip Küçükcan, presented his Letter of Credence to the Secretary-General of ASEAN on 14 November 2023.

B. Political-Security Cooperation

5. Türkiye acceded to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) on 23 July 2010 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. This reflects Türkiye's strong commitment to regional peace, stability, mutually beneficial cooperation and a

contribution to the TAC as an important code of conduct governing inter-state relations.

6. Seven Trilateral Ministerial Meetings between the Chair of ASEAN, Türkiye, and the ASEAN Secretariat have been held since the conferment of the status of Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN to Türkiye. The latest Trilateral Meeting was held at the sidelines of the 58th AMM in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in July 2025. The Ministers at the Trilateral Meetings discussed the progress made in the ASEAN-Türkiye partnership, charted out its future direction, and exchanged views on matters of common interest.

C. Economic Cooperation

7. ASEAN and Türkiye have enjoyed considerable trade and investment relations despite recent fluctuations. The two-way merchandise trade increased by 6.95% from US\$D 13.85 billion in 2024 to US\$ 14.81 billion in 2025.¹ Meanwhile, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows from Türkiye to ASEAN declined from US\$ 418.76 million in 2024 to US\$ 4.71 million in 2025.² In tourism, the number of tourist arrivals from Türkiye to ASEAN in 2025 amounted to 292,491 arrivals, a significant increase from 204,727 arrivals in 2024.³

8. Türkiye has supported a number of cooperation projects with ASEAN in the areas of trade and investment, public-private partnership, business-to-business contacts, development of micro, small, and medium enterprises, tourism, food, agriculture, and forestry.

D. Socio-Cultural Cooperation

9. Türkiye has long-standing bilateral socio-cultural cooperation with ASEAN Member States. Türkiye has initiated training programmes for ASEAN Diplomats at the Diplomacy Academy of Türkiye and the Türkiye Scholarships-ASEAN Joint Scholarship Program. In addition, Türkiye has supported several projects to promote cooperation on human resources development, people-to-people contacts, skills training, and education.

10. Türkiye contributed to ASEAN's humanitarian assistance to Myanmar through the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (*Türk İşbirliği ve Koordinasyon İdaresi Başkanlığı*, TİKA), as part of the implementation of Point 4 of the ASEAN Leaders' Five-Point Consensus. Türkiye also contributed 131 units of oxygen concentrator through the Myanmar Red Cross Society, as part of the first batch of ASEAN's humanitarian assistance to Myanmar, which was

¹ ASEAN Statistics, IMTS data as of 1 July 2026.

² ASEAN Statistics, FDI data, preliminary as of 1 July 2026.

³ ASEAN Statistics, preliminary Tourism Data as of 28 April 2026. Brunei Darussalam's data by country-of-origin cover air arrivals only, whereas Malaysia's data from 2024 refer to total visitor arrivals, including both tourists and excursionists. Data for Timor-Leste are available up to Q2 2025.

handed over on 15 September 2021, following the Pledging Conference to support ASEAN's humanitarian assistance to Myanmar on 18 August 2021.

E. Development Cooperation

11. Türkiye established the ASEAN-Türkiye Fund (ATF) at the ASEAN Secretariat and provided its initial contribution of USD 1 million in December 2019. The Fund supports the implementation of cooperation projects/activities between ASEAN and Türkiye in line with the PCA for 2019-2023 and its successor documents.



