



October 2024

#EUKorea

EU-REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOR A NEW ERA TOGETHER

The EU and the Republic of Korea are **like-minded partners** sharing similar values and common interests. Strategic Partners since 2010, cooperation between them brings tangible benefits to citizens in both regions and the wider international community. This interaction is facilitated through three core agreements:

- **The EU-Republic of Korea Framework Agreement (2010);**
- **The EU-Republic of Korea Free Trade Agreement (2010);**
- **EU-Republic of Korea Framework Participation Agreement (2014).**

The respective **Indo-Pacific Strategies** provide a supplementary framework for regional cooperation.

At the 10th **EU-Republic of Korea Summit of May 2023** in Seoul, our Leaders celebrated the **60th anniversary** of our diplomatic relations and agreed to further strengthen cooperation in promoting peace and security, greater prosperity and sustainable development.

The EU and the Republic of Korea held their first Strategic Dialogue in November 2024, taking our partnership to the next level by enhancing cooperation and coordination on key foreign policy issues.

PEACE AND SECURITY

On November 2024, the EU and the Republic of Korea announced a **Security and Defence Partnership**, underscoring a new era of cooperation on shared security concerns.

The EU and the Republic of Korea are **defending the rules-based international order** by:

- Speaking out against violations
- Supporting multilateral institutions
- Defending human rights
- Upholding the international nuclear non-proliferation architecture
- Contributing to crisis management and peacekeeping
- Ensuring open sea-lanes
- Addressing hybrid threats and foreign information manipulation and interference
- Promoting sustainable development
- Exploiting synergies in their respective Indo-Pacific strategies

- Since the start of Russia's illegal war of aggression, the EU and the Republic of Korea have stood with the people of Ukraine, providing financial and humanitarian support and conveying a joint message of **unwavering solidarity with Ukraine**, as well as a determination to uphold respect for international law in Europe, the Indo-Pacific and globally.
- The EU and the Republic of Korea are striving for the de-escalation of tensions in the Middle East.
- The EU and the Republic of Korea condemn Russia's deepening military cooperation and arms trade with the DPRK in flagrant violations of multiple UNSC resolutions.



The EU and the Republic of Korea are **supporting peace and denuclearisation on the Korean peninsula** by:

- Urging the DPRK to cease illegal missile launches and resume dialogue with the main partners
- Insisting that the Security Council respond to DPRK missile launches in an appropriate manner
- Encouraging all states to fully implement relevant UN Security Council resolutions
- Highlighting the DPRK's obligation to protect human rights
- Remaining ready to re-engage in and support a new diplomatic process aimed at the goal of complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula.

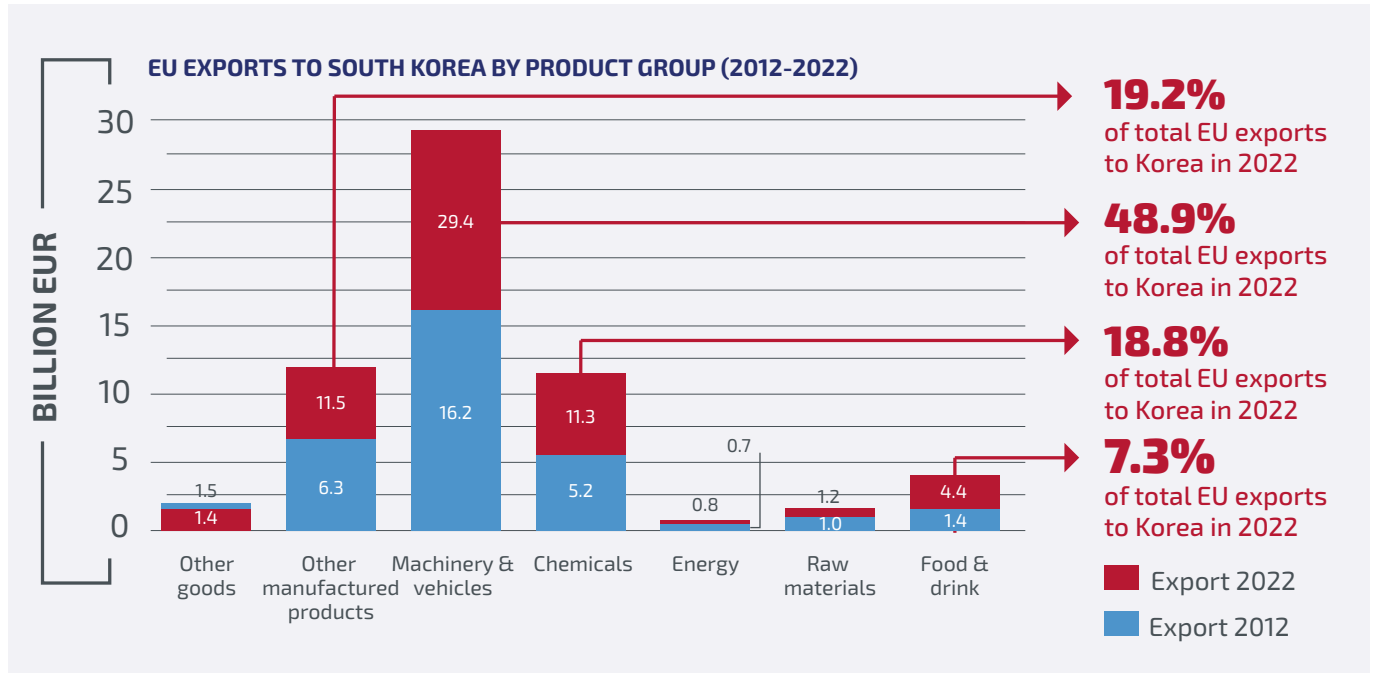
SECURITY AND DEFENCE COOPERATION

The EU and Republic of Korea work closely on crisis management operations, maritime security, cyber security and the fight against terrorism.

The **Framework Participation Agreement** enables the Republic of Korea to contribute to and participate in EU crisis management operations. The **Republic of Korea's naval forces** participate regularly in the **EU naval Operation Atalanta**, combatting piracy in seas around the Horn of Africa.

PROSPERITY

TRADE

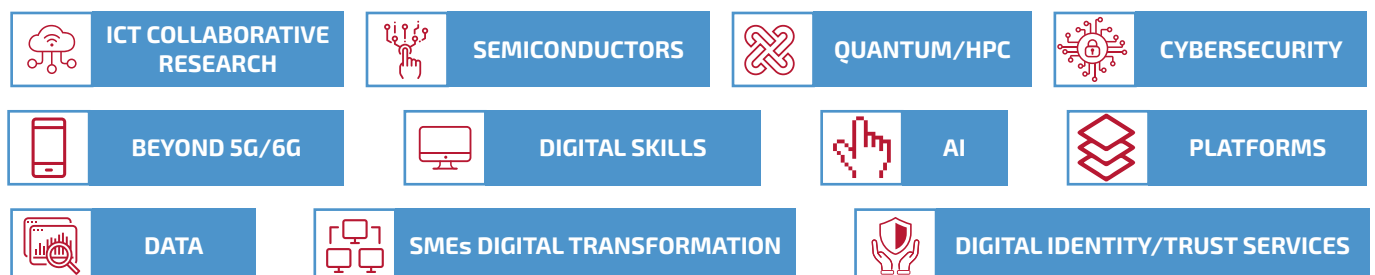


EU- REPUBLIC OF KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT a solid bedrock for a dynamic economic relationship



DIGITAL

In November 2022, the EU and the Republic of Korea launched a comprehensive **Digital Partnership** to strengthen cooperation in crucial areas. Since the launch of the Digital Partnership, two Digital Partnership Councils have taken place in June 2023 and March 2024.



As a key deliverable under the new Partnership, the EU and the Republic of Korea also signed a set of **Digital Trade Principles**, which reflect a shared vision of an open digital economy, free of unjustified barriers to international trade. In October 2023, the EU and the Republic of Korea took the next step and launched negotiations for a **Digital Trade Agreement**, building on the cooperation and convergence shown by the Digital Trade Principles.

Since 2021, personal data flows freely and safely from the EU to the Republic of Korea on the basis of an **adequacy decision**.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT



The EU and the Republic of Korea are committed to climate neutrality by 2050 and the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Together, they have launched a landmark **Green Partnership** to enhance cooperation on climate action, carbon pricing, the just and clean energy transition, green technology, biodiversity, zero pollution and circular economy. In early 2024, the EU funded Green Partnership Project started to operate with a budget of €4 million for 4 years with the implementation of the Partnership as one of its key objectives.



HEALTH

The EU and the Republic of Korea have signed a working arrangement on **health emergency preparedness and response** in the area of medical countermeasures, through the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA). HERA aims to collaborate with the Korean Ministry of Health and Welfare to explore supply chain diversification.



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The EU and the Republic of Korea are addressing shared global challenges and support the green and digital transitions through research and innovation cooperation, including on the technologies of the future. With **Korea's association to Pillar II of the EU's €95 billion Horizon Europe framework programme planned as from 2025**, they will strengthen this collaboration and increase people-to-people contacts, building on the more than 176 collaborative projects with Korean entities under Horizon Europe and its predecessor Horizon 2020.



EDUCATION

Citizens of the Republic of Korea are eligible to take part in the **EU's Erasmus+ mobility programme**. Under current projects, students and academic professionals travel to and from the EU and Republic of Korea to engage in work, research and study.



TRANSPORT

The EU and the Republic of Korea are increasing their cooperation on connectivity. Since 2020, the **EU-ROK horizontal aviation agreement** strengthens aviation ties by allowing any EU airline to fly to ROK from any EU Member State with a bilateral air services agreement with ROK, thereby aligning those agreements with EU law. A **High-Level Transport Dialogue** established in 2022 is promoting new cooperation across all modes of transport.