

Programme

# ASEM at 20

## The challenge of connectivity

CONFERENCE

Wednesday 9 September 2015

Brussels



#ASEM - @friendsofeurope

Follow us on Twitter and tweet during the debate

With the support of



Media partner

**Europe's World**  
THE ONLY EUROPE-WIDE POLICY JOURNAL

## Programme

**13.30 - 14.00**

Welcome and registration of participants

**14.00— 15.30**

### SESSION I

## Transport and infrastructure connectivity

Trucks, trains, ships and  
airplanes

### Keynote address by

**Helga Maria Schmid\***

Deputy Secretary General at the European External  
Action Service (EEAS)

ASEM is about connecting countries, regions and people. The significance of Asia-Europe infrastructure connectivity was underscored by the 2014 ASEM summit in Milan with leaders urging the establishment of an integrated, sustainable, secure, efficient and convenient air, maritime and land transportation system, including intermodal solutions, in and between Asia and Europe. Is connectivity a credible recipe for reinforcing and reviving ASEM? What are the different projects and ideas which should get special attention when discussing Asian-European connectivity? Can Asia and Europe work together on digital connectivity? What lessons can be shared from the EU's experience in establishing a single market, building transport networks and connecting member states and regions as well as the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity and the soon-to-be-launched EU-China Connectivity Platform? What is the role of the private sector in helping to connect ASEM?

## Speakers

**Paolo Costa** / President of the Venice Port Authority

**Henrik Hololei** / European Commission Deputy Secretary-General and incoming Director General for Mobility and Transport

**Uwe Leuschner** / Vice President for Business Development, East Region at DB Schenker Rail AG

**Miodrag Pesut** / Chief of the Transport Facilitation and Economics Section in the Sustainable Transport Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

**Andrejs Pildegovičs** / Latvian State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

**Zhang Xiaokang** / Ambassador and ASEM Senior Official at the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Moderated by  
**Shada Islam**, Director of Policy at Friends of Europe



15.30 - 16.00

Coffee break

16.00 - 17.30

## SESSION II

# Connecting people, institutions and ideas

It's a networked world

Connectivity is an important ASEM buzzword but it is not just about transport and infrastructure links – it's also about establishing strong networks between institutions and in areas such as education, science and technology as well as through trade, business, security and culture. ASEM leaders last year underlined the contribution increased ties could make to economic prosperity and sustainable development and to promoting free and seamless movement of people, trade, investment, energy, information, knowledge and ideas and greater institutional linkages. What is being done to encourage institutional and people-to-people connectivity in ASEM? What are the results of recent ASEM meetings on education in terms of enhancing connectivity? Is ASEM doing enough to involve all stakeholders, including industry and the think-tank and academic community in connectivity initiatives? What is the special role of youth and women in the drive to connect Asia and Europe?

### Speakers

**Ugo Astuto** / Acting Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific at the European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Aris Junaidi** / Director of ASEM Education Secretariat at the Indonesia Ministry of Education and Culture,

**Luvsantseren Orgil** / Ambassador and ASEM Senior Official at the Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Marc Ungeheuer** / Secretary General of the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Yasuhiro Watanabe** / Professor of Tourism at the J.F. Oberlin University, Tokyo, Japan

**Anita Prakash** / Director General of Policy Relations at the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

Moderated by  
**Shada Islam**, Director of Policy at Friends of Europe

17.30 - 18.30

Cocktail

