

# EU-INDIA RELATIONS

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## How to gain strategic traction?

EUISS

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14 March 2024 - 9:30-16:15 (CET) - EUISS Brussels Liaison Office (Justus Lipsius Building) - Meeting Room 00-FG-14

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### Concept note

Building upon the recently published EUISS *Chaillot Paper* titled "EU-India Relations - Gaining Strategic Traction?" this event aims to delve into key dimensions of EU-India cooperation.

The growing importance of economic security and supply chain resilience has led both sides to pay attention to the strategic dimension of the EU-India relationship. They now need to expand their focus beyond trade and explore the potential for cooperation in connectivity and supply chains, critical technologies, security, and defence, as well as in climate change and energy.

The bilateral relationship also has a non-material dimension to it, namely the EU's and India's respective worldviews and normative red lines. These are very much part of the picture when seeking to gain traction moving forward. Both actors must understand where each partner is coming from and, more importantly, the place they seek to occupy amidst the reshuffling of the international order. The quest for international status and intent to become and/or remain decision-makers vs. decision-takers cannot be underestimated.

This event will dwell into existing opportunities while acknowledging differences in outlook across the normative dimension and three critical issue areas for the relationship:

Session 1: normative dimension

Session 2: connectivity, digital and technology

Session 3: security and defence – maritime focus

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## Programme

9:30-9:45

### WELCOME REMARKS

#### Steven Everts

Director, European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS)

9:45-10:00

### UNPACKING THE CHAILLOT PAPER: RATIONALE AND STRUCTURE

#### Amaia SANCHEZ-CACICEDO

Associate Analyst for South Asia, EUISS

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10:00-11:30

## SESSION 1: NORMATIVE DIMENSION

*Speaker*

### **Rohan MUKHERJEE**

Assistant Professor of International Relations, London School of Economics (LSE), [online]

*Discussant*

### **Gunnar WIEGAND**

Visiting Distinguished Fellow, German Marshall Fund (GMF)

*Moderator*

### **Amaia SANCHEZ-CACICEDO**

Associate Analyst for South Asia, EUISS

11:30-12:00

## Coffee Break

12:00-13:30

## SESSION 2: CONNECTIVITY, DIGITAL & TECHNOLOGY

*Speaker*

### **Karthik NACHIAPPAN**

Fellow, Institute for South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore (NUS) [online]

*Discussant*

### **Peter SAKTOR**

Policy Officer and Negotiator, Services and Digital Trade Unit, DG TRADE, European Commission

*Moderator*

### **Agustin DIAZ PINES**

Deputy Head of Unit, Future Connectivity Systems, DG CNECT, European Commission (TBC)

13:30-14:30

## Light lunch

14:30-16:00

## SESSION 3: SECURITY & DEFENCE - MARITIME FOCUS

*Speaker*

### **Olivier BLAREL**

Visiting Scholar, Europe Program, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP) [online]

*Discussant*

### **Giovanni CREMONINI**

Maritime Security, European External Action Service (EEAS)

*Moderator*

### **Pierre MAYAUDON**

Co-Director, Enhancing the European Union's Security Cooperation in and with Asia (ESIWA)

16:00-16:15

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

### **Rensje TEERINK**

Head of Division, South Asia, European External Action Service (EEAS)