



**MULTILATERAL & INCLUSIVE INDO-PACIFIC REGION:
European Strategy and Opportunities for Malaysia & Southeast Asia**

28 February 2022 (Virtual via Zoom App)

1 March 2022 (Hybrid of Physical and Virtual – JW Marriott Hotel, Kuala Lumpur)

Organised by the Maritime Institute of Malaysia

28 February 2022 (Monday) - Session 1 (Online)

3.00 – 3.05 PM

Welcoming Remarks

Datuk Dr Sabirin Ja'afar

Director-General, Maritime Institute of Malaysia

3.05 – 3.40 PM

The New Role of the EU in the Indo-Pacific: A Comprehensive Approach to Regional Challenges

The European Union (EU) has had a longstanding presence in the region where it has developed strategic partnerships with the United States (US), China, Japan, India, South Korea, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). A key interest for the EU is to uphold and reinforce multilateralism and inclusiveness in the Indo-Pacific through the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). The EU also supports ASEAN centrality in regional frameworks from its participation in the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) to promote multilateral cooperation among stakeholders. Therefore, this session aims to analyse the new role of the EU in the Indo-Pacific in addressing regional challenges through multilateral and inclusive cooperation notably with the Southeast Asian states under current geopolitical developments in the region.

Opening **H. E. Mr Roland Galharague**

Session Ambassador of France to Malaysia

Remarks:

Moderator

Dr Jatswan Singh

Malaysia

Speakers

Gabriele Visentin

EU Special Envoy for the Indo-Pacific

Gilang Kembara

Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Dr Frederick Kliem

S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

3.40 – 4.15 PM

Questions and Answers



1 March 2022 (Tuesday)

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| 1.30 – 2.00 PM | Registration |
| 2.00 – 2.05 PM | Welcoming Remarks
Dato' Mohamed Suffian Bin Awang
Chairman, Maritime Institute of Malaysia |
| 2.05 – 2.15 PM | Keynote Address
Dato' Sri Ikmal Hisham Bin Abdul Aziz
Deputy Minister of Defence, Malaysia |
| 2.15 – 2.25 PM | Presentation of Memento and Photo Session |

Session 2 (Hybrid)

2.25 – 3.00 PM	How Can the EU Contribute to Regional Defence and Security Challenges?
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The European Union (EU) presented its Indo-Pacific strategy that pledged to actively cooperate with Indo-Pacific states in the evolving security environment. The strategy stipulates the EU's ambition to tackle regional security challenges such as counter-terrorism, cybersecurity, maritime security, and crisis management, proposed in "Enhancing Security Cooperation in and with Asia" (ESIWA) with bilateral partnerships with India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, and Vietnam. Thus, this session aims to analyse the EU's strategy to contribute to defence and security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region bilaterally and multilaterally.

Opening **H. E. Dr Peter Blomeyer**
Session Ambassador of Germany to Malaysia
Remarks:

Moderator **Prof. Ruhanas Harun**
National Defence University of Malaya (UPNM)

Speakers **Shahriman Lockman**
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)

Marianne Peron-Doise
Institute for Strategic Research, Military School (IRSEM)

Rear Admiral Juergen Ehle
Senior Military Advisor to European External Action (EEAS)

3.00 – 3.40 PM	Questions and Answers
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3.40 – 4.00 PM	Coffee Break
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Session 3 (Hybrid)

4.00 – 4.35 PM Maritime Security and Future Cooperation

The European Union's (EU) Indo-Pacific Strategy indicates the region's importance as a hub for vital commercial maritime routes but also a theatre for intensifying geopolitical competition. The EU and its member states propose to maintain a stable, multipolar order in the Indo-Pacific based on the rule of law as well as fair and efficient multilateralism to ensure maritime security and freedom of navigation. This session aims to evaluate maritime security in the region and ways to enhance future cooperation among stakeholders. It also addresses ways the EU could offer capacity building for ASEAN member states; and how the EU can work with Indo-Pacific partners to provide common security in accordance with the legal framework established by the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Opening Session **H. E. Mr Michalis Rokas**
Ambassador of the European Union to Malaysia
Remarks:

Moderator **First Admiral Dato' Chin Yoon Chin (Ret.)**
Former Chief of Staff, Royal Malaysian Navy Fleet HQ

Speakers **Stefan Staehle**
German Federal Foreign Office

Noor Hisham Bin Rosle
Chief Executive, MIDAS

Adm. Jean-Mathieu Rey
Ministry for the Armed Forces, France

4.35 – 5.15 PM Questions and Answers

5.15 – 5.30 PM Closing Remarks
Datuk Dr Sabirin Ja'afar
Director-General, Maritime Institute of Malaysia