



## ASIA-EUROPE MEETING COMMENCES WITH HEADS OF DELEGATION WELCOMING CEREMONY

THE 11<sup>th</sup> ASIA-EUROPE MEETING SUMMIT officially commenced in Ulaanbaatar at 09.00 am in Shangri-La Hotel on Friday, July 15 of 2016. Leaders of ASEM member countries were welcomed by H.E. Mr. Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj, President of Mongolia, and the leaders posed for a family photo.

This year's Summit is bringing together high-level delegation from 51 ASEM partners—30 European and 21 Asian countries, and two intergovernmental organizations—under an overall theme of **“20 Years of ASEM: Partnership for the Future through Connectivity”**.

Presidents of Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Myanmar, South Korea, and Switzerland; Vice Presidents of India and Indonesia, 11 heads of state in total are attending this summit.

23 countries, including Japan, China, Finland, Luxembourg, Russia and the Netherlands, are attending the Summit on a head-of-government level, whereas the remaining 16 country attendees are Foreign Ministers.

Additionally, the European Union is represented by H.E. Mr. Donald Tusk, the President of the European Council, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations by H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh, the Secretary General of ASEAN.

The Summit was opened by President of the Mongolia Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj, who extended his welcome to the excellences as the Host Country.

“The people and the state of Mongolia have been placing a paramount importance on the ASEM Summit, which is currently on the global spotlight,” said President Elbegdorj. “Indeed, the political leaders of ASEM partners, who make two thirds of the global economy, have gathered here in our Ulaanbaatar city today. This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEM. It coincides with the historic 810<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of our Great Mongolian State, and we place special significance to hosting the Summit in our country this year”

H.E. Mr. Donald Tusk, President of European Council, H.E. Mr. Htin Kyaw, President of Myanmar, H.E. Mr. Robert Fico, Prime Minister of Slovakia, and H.E. Mr. Murray McCully, Foreign Minister of New Zealand and Coordinator of NESAs, made opening remarks after the Mongolian President's speech.

At 09.15, the political leaders received parliamentarian, youth, business, and civic stakeholders, who presented the resulting documents from the Summit's side events. The stakeholders presented closing statements from Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership meeting (ASEP), Asia-Europe People's Forum (AEPF), Asia-Europe Business Forum (AEBF) and Model ASEM to be put into the Summit's Declaration and Chair's Statement.



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### About ASEM11

The 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit is to be the most significant international dialogue event Mongolia has ever hosted since 1600's. Over 5,000 delegates are expected to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit including heads of states, governments, parliaments and business leaders from [53 member countries](#) across Europe and Asia. The 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit is also going to be a significant event as it is marking the 20th Anniversary of Asia-Europe meeting dialogue process inaugurated in 1996 in Bangkok, Thailand.

#### For more information:

ASEM11 Summit official site at [www.asem11.mn](http://www.asem11.mn)

Official photos from ASEM11 Summit & Four ASEM Forums at <http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu> & <https://www.flickr.com/photos/142860653@N02>

Press releases for ASEM11 Summit & Four ASEM Forums at <http://wiremongolia.com>

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