



# Malaysia & An Expanding EU: Exploring New Partnerships

*Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria, MITI  
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# **Negotiating Free Trade Agreements: Challenges And Opportunities**



## **Outline of presentation:**

- **Malaysia-EU relations**
- **Free Trade Agreement:  
ASEAN; Malaysia**
- **Next Steps**



# Malaysia-EU Economic Relations

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- the EU is Malaysia's 4th largest regional trading partner;
  - 11.5 per cent of Malaysia's global trade;
  - Implemented investment projects from the EU as of 2008 were €9.28 billion (US\$13.6 billion).



# Malaysia-EU Economic Relations

- Increasing number of Malaysian companies investing in the EU;
- Education linkages;
- Tourism.



# ASEAN-EU FTA

- An FTA between ASEAN and the EU would have cemented the ties between these two regional giants, and created a huge market of 1.1 billion people.



## Malaysia-EU FTA

- **Build on already strong economic relations**
- **Malaysia's advantage of geography within ASEAN**
- **Leverage on the strengths of both the EU and Malaysia**
- **Malaysia is a growing market for goods and services**



## Malaysia-EU FTA

- **Malaysia is committed to a rules-based trade and investment regime;**
- **Malaysia's is a trading nation;**
- **Concluded FTAs with countries in the region.**



## Malaysia-EU FTA

Challenges remain:

- Coverage: Government Procurement, Competition Policy, Intellectual Property, Environment and Human Rights;
- Negotiating Partnership and Cooperation Agreements (PCA).



## Next Steps

- Approach the possibility of Malaysia-EU relations with an open-mind;
- Focus on the doables;
- Focus on trade and related disciplines.



# Thank you

[rebecca@miti.gov.my](mailto:rebecca@miti.gov.my)

[www.miti.gov.my](http://www.miti.gov.my)