

② India and European Union should focus on the areas of convergence for strengthening bilateral ties. Discuss.

India is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Independence. This year is also the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary for diplomatic relations between India and EU.

India & EU → 15<sup>th</sup> Summit, paved way for common road map and framed '5' focus areas.

- 1) Foreign policy & security
- 2) Global governance
- 3) Trade & cooperation
- 4) People to people relation.
- 5) Partnership.

Areas of cooperation

Trade

~~Ind~~ EU is India's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest trade partner and 2<sup>nd</sup> largest export destination after US; trade reached \$116 bn.

Green technology

Green Strategic Technology → framework between India & Denmark focus on climate change.  
Environment changes.

- Intro
- Common road map
- convergent areas
  - ↳ Trade
  - ↳ Green tech
  - ↳ Defence
  - ↳ SST
- Indo-pak challenges
- ✓ way forward.

India Nordic summit → focusses on green technologies for sustainable growth

### Defence

EU → seems as alternative to Russia hardware components and reduce dependence in the wake of war. chance to Diversify defence exports, in situation of confrontation with china.

Maritime security dialogue → 1<sup>st</sup> such dialogue held in 2021. India is seen as important pillar for EU to maintain stability in Indo-pacific

### Growing Level of Trust

France's on-time delivery of Rafael and, willingness to provide nuclear submarines to, Indian Navy

### Science & Technology joint framework

cooperation for peaceful use of nuclear weapons agreement between EAEU & GOI.

Focus on AI, healthcare & earth science

### Indigenisation

EU partners willing to partner Indian leading defence manufacturer paving way for Make in India.

## Challenges

India's reluctance to condemn Russia's invasion

EU's double standard - buying oil from  
Russia in 2021

EU's silence to comment on Galwan clash

EU's hesitancy to leverage India to  
act as counter balance to China -

## Way forward

India & EU are both political & economic  
poles - have potential to shape global economy

Both must not let divergence outweigh  
convergence. Resuming the India-EU Free trade  
and Investment Agreement will be the right  
direction for convergence & strengthen bilateral  
relation.