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Pakistan and EU Convene 10th Political Dialogue in Brussels

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On July 17, 2025, Pakistan and the European Union (EU) held their 10th Political Dialogue in Brussels, marking a significant step in strengthening bilateral ties. Led by Pakistan's Foreign Secretary, Ambassador Amna Baloch, and the EU's Deputy Secretary General of the European External Action Service (EEAS), Olof Skoog, the talks focused on deepening cooperation in security, trade, and diplomacy, while reaffirming

commitment to the Strategic Engagement Plan (SEP) signed in 2019. The dialogue also addressed pressing global issues, with both sides condemning terrorism and advocating for peaceful resolutions to conflicts.

The discussions underscored a mutual desire to bolster security cooperation, particularly in counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics. Pakistan, a nation grappling with regional instability, sees the EU as a vital partner in addressing these challenges. Both parties emphasized the importance of diplomacy and adherence to international law to resolve contentious issues, including the conflicts in Ukraine and Indian-occupied Kashmir. They expressed grave concern over the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, urging an immediate ceasefire and supporting a two-state solution for lasting peace in Palestine. This principled stance reflects a shared commitment to global stability and human rights.

Trade remains a cornerstone of Pakistan-EU relations, with Pakistan benefiting significantly from the Generalized Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) framework, boosting exports by 108% since 2014. The dialogue reaffirmed both sides' resolve to continue this engagement, with plans for the third Comprehensive Migration and Mobility Dialogue in 2025 to ensure safer migration pathways. The EU praised Pakistan's reforms and its role in promoting regional stability, while Pakistan expressed gratitude for the EU's support, including a recent €20 million grant for the "Better Governance and Business Environment" initiative to empower small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Looking ahead, both parties agreed to convene the 7th Strategic Dialogue in 2025 and the next Political Dialogue in Islamabad in 2026, signaling a long-term commitment to collaboration. "This dialogue strengthens our partnership and sets a clear path for

addressing global challenges together,” said Ambassador Baloch, as reported by Pakistan’s Foreign Office. The talks reflect a pragmatic approach to fostering peace, prosperity, and mutual respect, positioning Pakistan as a key player in regional and global affairs.