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EU-India Think Tanks Twinning Initiative
**Moving forward the EU-India Security Dialogue:
Traditional and emerging issues**

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IAI-GH ROUNDTABLE ON EU-INDIA SECURITY DIALOGUE

**Draft Speech by Anil Wadhwa
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**Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am pleased to be present here at the seminar on EU-India Security Issues. I would like to thank the Institute for International Affairs for providing me an opportunity to talk about a very important relationship that Indian and EU share.

2. As two largest democracies in the world, India and EU are ancient civilisations with diversity and pluralistic values. There is a shared common belief in dialogue and consensus, a value for individual liberty, for rule of law with the objective of contributing to global peace. Our quest for inclusive, transparent and democratic global governance, our convergent perspectives and common interests brought us together as natural Strategic Partners in the year 2004.
3. India-EU relations have since then acquired a multidimensional character. EU is India's largest trade partner and our export destination with bilateral trade touching US\$ 126 billion. It is also the largest investor in India contributing about 26% of India's total FDI inflow. It is a leading source of cutting edge technology and development partnerships. With ten strategic partnerships with EU member states and over thirty bilateral dialogue mechanisms in place, our collaboration has become multifaceted covering areas such as trade, security, energy, movement of people, culture, education and human rights.
4. India stands committed to engaging closely with the EU to take forward our shared vision for an energised, constructive and forward-looking India-EU partnership. This is reflected in the series

of India-EU Summits that attest to the importance both sides attach to this relationship and the mutual interest in deepening it. The successful visit of our Prime Minister to Brussels for the 13th India-EU Summit in March this year, has cemented our strategic partnership and put it on a pragmatic, forward-looking path. The Summit put in place the India-EU Agenda for Action 2020 - a concrete roadmap for collaboration in the next five years.

5. As India, a country of 1.25 billion people grows and modernizes rapidly, it offers unprecedented opportunities in areas such as roads, railways, ports and airports; urban transport, inland waterways and aviation; water and waste management; smart electricity and renewable energy; education and skilling, hospitals and healthcare; defence and security; telecommunications and information technology; retail and online shopping; sports and entertainment; ocean sciences, space and satellite technology.
6. EU has also emerged as a leading partner in India's transformative socio-economic agenda. The EU and its Member States are actively collaborating with us in our ambitious flagship initiatives - whether it is building Smart Cities in India, creating a Digital India, Make in India, Skill India, Start Up India, Maritime India or the Clean Ganga initiative. EU and its Member States have been quick at seizing the unprecedented opportunities that the large and growing Indian economy offers. European businesses are bringing in not just investments but also skills, technologies, human resources and global best practices.
7. 65% of India's population or a little over 800 million is below the age of 35 years. As the demographic profile of Europe changes,

EU could benefit by drawing upon the services of India's young workers and professionals, who have proven scientific, engineering and managerial skills, work ethic and ability to integrate seamlessly in all societies.

8. The agenda that India and EU cover in regular discussions with EU as a group and with individual member states is a broad one. It covers counter terrorism, emerging security issues such as outer space, disarmament, humanitarian issues such as refugee movement and climate change to name a few.
9. India has been a victim of terrorism from across our border and on account of terrorism being used as an instrument of State policy. As evident from terror attacks in Europe in the last one year or so, EU is not immune to this threat. India has been at the forefront of global CT efforts, working primarily through the United Nations but also active in various other forums including the Global Counter Terrorism Forum and the Financial Action Task Force. More needs to be done though, beginning with a much-needed counter-terrorism global policy framework at the UN, beginning with a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. We are also working with like-minded countries to ensure full implementation of UNSC Resolutions 1540, 1373, 1267, 2253 in designating terrorists and groups and strengthening the sanctions regimes.
10. The shared concerns of India and EU on terrorism, including from Foreign Terrorist Fighters and from returning jihadis makes it imperative for us to intensify our cooperation. In this regard, I am

glad to inform you that the first India-Italy Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime was held in Rome earlier this month.

11. Cyber-terrorism is another big threat confronting the global community. Joint and coordinated efforts can tackle big cyber-crime syndicates, through exchange of data on terrorists/extremists. The commonalities between India and EU arise from both being open and democratic societies committed to keep cyber space free from hindrances. Three rounds of India-EU cyber security consultations have been held so far where both sides have agreed to cooperate, to exchange documents on awareness, analyses and assessments of threats in cyber-space. Further options for cyber-crime capacity building with India, especially on digital forensics and training judiciary and prosecutors will be explored. Computer Emergency Response Teams CERT-EU and CERT-India will cooperate and share best practice and training material. The European Commission will share information on Digital Single Market Strategy and Horizon 2020. The latter is a seven-year EU-led R&D Program to which Indian has been invited. CBI and EUROPOL agreed on establishing single point contact for exchange of cyber-crime related information. Real time information sharing mechanism between EU Cyber Crime Centre(EC3) in Hague and its Indian equivalent has also been proposed. Interaction between EU Police Academy and CBI Police Academy was suggested in the form of a MoU. It has been agreed in principle that a JWG on Cyber-Security will be set up between India and EU.

12. On Internet Governance, EU and India agreed to exchange information under the World summit on Information Society (WSIS) plus 10 Review process, UN Group of Governmental Experts and CBMs in Asean Regional Forum. Both sides share the view that Internet should remain open, secure and interoperable and should be governed through a multi-stakeholder approach.
13. The India-EU Agenda for Action 2020 adopted at the India-EU Summit in March aims to create synergies between "Digital India" initiative and EU's "Digital Single Market", in particular by cooperating on economic and regulatory issues, on market access, ICT standardization, Internet Governance, research and innovation. Both sides have agreed to exchange expertise and best practice in Cyber Security, conformity assessment, Internet of Things, Cloud Computing, high performance computing, language technologies, e-Infrastructures Social Media in e-Governance.
14. India has had a long-standing cooperation with Europe in the field of exploration of peaceful uses of Outer Space. ISRO has been pursuing mutually beneficial cooperation with European Space Agency. India has extensively used European Space launcher Ariane for launching its heavier communication satellites with 21 Indian satellites having been launched so far. ESA and ISRO are in discussions to realize joint satellite missions for earth observation. Last year, India organized the Heads of Space Agencies meet on 'Space and Climate Change' where the Delhi Declaration on Space and Climate Change was adopted.

15. Both sides attach importance to preserving a conducive outer space environment. India remains opposed to weaponization of Outer Space. Consequently, India has participated in consultations called by EU to discuss draft Code of Conduct for Space activities.
16. As India seeks to create a domestic defence industry through policy changes like 100% FDI through automatic route in defence sector and 'Make in India,' EU is poised to take advantage by forging partnerships with Indian defence companies. The ability to support existing and developing private industry links between Indian and European companies will be of crucial importance for future defence ties. This could be achieved by setting up of regular encounters between European and Indian CEOs, for large and small defence companies alike. Italy, in particular, with its strong defence industry could take lead here. The institutionalization of the India-EU defence relations could help overcome the perceived diverging interests and priorities and will also complement existing EU-India dialogues on security and counter-piracy.
17. Maritime security, focused primarily on Indian Ocean, is a key element of India's foreign policy. Threats to maritime routes and security such as trafficking, smuggling and illegal fishing jeopardize the development of littoral countries of Indian Ocean Rim region. India's Maritime Security Strategy mentions 'Indo-Pacific' region, which is a shift in India's geostrategic vision to 'look' and 'Act East'. Our annual International Fleet Review (IFR) is a step towards this direction.

18. EU's maritime strategic experience makes it a partner in Indian Ocean, Mediterranean, Gulf of Guinea, South China Sea and Straits of Malacca. It has been involved in counter-piracy operations in Western IOR. In July 2015, EU launched EU CRIMARIO (Critical Maritime Routes) to provide assistance to IOR countries through global information sharing network, capacity building network and through operational policies to improve maritime governance. Both India and EU are founding members of Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia and are active in Gulf of Aden. EU can complement India on Information sharing and Maritime Situational Awareness (MSA), which are crucial parts of maritime security.
19. South China Sea is of great strategic importance to India under its 'Act East' policy, as more than half of our trade traverses this region. It is also the passageway for our navy to reach the Pacific. It is important that no single country should get exclusive sovereign rights over South China Sea. India supports freedom of navigation and overflight, and unimpeded commerce, based on the principles of international law, as reflected notably in UNCLOS. India, as State Party to UNCLOS, believes that States should resolve disputes through peaceful means without threat or use of force and exercise self-restraint and that searoutes of communication passing through SCS are critical for peace, stability. EU should seek to further universalize and implement UNCLOS, including its dispute settlement mechanisms. It is in the interest of all to discuss this issue in multilateral fora and engage littoral countries through joint exercise and joint patrol. EU can help

India at multilateral fora to prevent China making SCS into a bilateral dispute, where it can dictate terms.

20. Before I end, I will touch upon Afghanistan. India's commitment to peace progress and development in Afghanistan is well-established. In this spirit we have recently committed a further sum of US\$ 1 billion for Afghanistan's development during the EU-sponsored Brussels Summit on Afghanistan. This money will be used for Afghanistan's requirements for capacity building in spheres such as education, health, agriculture, skill development, empowerment of women, energy, infrastructure and strengthening of democratic institutions. India is proud, privileged and honoured that our engagement in Afghanistan through our development partnership has been a harbinger of hope and predictability. I should mention that India will host the Heart of Asia Conference (Istanbul Process) in Amritsar on 4th December where the EU High Representative is expected to attend.

Thank you.

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