



17th ASIA-PACIFIC
CONFERENCE
of German Business

13 - 14 NOVEMBER
SINGAPORE 2022

17th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business (APK)
Locally hosted by the Singaporean – German Chamber
of Industry and Commerce 25 International Business Park
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<https://www.asiapacificconference.com>

Press Release

Singapore / Berlin, 13 November 2022

- **For the first time, the Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business in Singapore will feature participation of the German Chancellor**
- **Diversification of supply chains a central theme**
- **Cooperation with Asia-Pacific region crucial building block for solving existing challenges**

“The Asia-Pacific region is one of the most dynamic growth markets worldwide. At the same time, these markets face major challenges, too. Above all, they need to fight climate change and to transform themselves, driven by technological change and digitalization. The Asia-Pacific region also offers great potential when it comes to diversifying our markets for buying and selling. For all these reasons, we will elevate our collaboration with the countries of this region to a new level. Together, we can bring innovations to market faster and thus generate growth and prosperity for all partners.” Roland Busch, the chairman of the Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business (APA), said, in the run-up to the Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business (APK) in Singapore on Sunday. The conference will take place on November 13 and 14 in the Lion City with about 500 participants.

Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister of Economics Robert Habeck: "This year is dominated by geopolitical challenges. The German government aims to promote constructive and cooperative contributions to the preservation of the rules-based international order, to increase the resilience of our partners in the Indo-Pacific region, to work with them to promote global economic development, and to preserve and expand peaceful, rules-based international coexistence. The themes of diversification, order, and resilience will therefore be the focus of this year's APK. In this spirit, the German government remains committed to encouraging German companies to reduce unilateral dependencies, especially in the strategically important Asia-Pacific region."

Following a digital edition of the conference in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, key decision makers from the world of politics and business from both Europe and Asia-Pacific are once again meeting face-to-face. This is the 17th conference since APA was founded in 1993. The meeting comes at a time of global challenges. Topics such as the resilience of global supply chains, digitalization, the promotion of green innovation and the opportunities available for diversification within the Asia-Pacific region will be discussed in high-level panels.

The APK is jointly organized by the Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business (APA), the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Action (BMWK), and the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad in Asia-Pacific.

Asia-Pacific is the most important non-European trade region for German companies. According to current forecasts, Asia will contribute around half of global gross domestic product by 2050. The associated countries have also become much more important for the German economy at large.



Singaporean-German Chamber
of Industry and Commerce
Deutsch-Singapurische
Industrie- und Handelskammer



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According to UN Comtrade, the region accounted for 15 percent of total German goods exports in 2021 - 6 percentage points more than in 2000.

German exports to the region have recovered since the pandemic began in 2020 and are already exceeding pre-crisis levels, with more than 9 percent more goods shipped from Germany to Asia-Pacific in 2021 than in 2019. Imports from the region are picking up even more strongly. In 2021, the value of German imports was more than 24 percent higher than in 2019.

This makes Asian countries important sales and procurement markets as well as partners for Germany. The European Union has already concluded free trade agreements with Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and Vietnam and negotiations for further agreements are ongoing, for example with Australia and India.

“The APA has always advocated for intensifying collaboration with this region. We are very pleased to finally be able to enter into a personal dialogue again with our local partners. The fact that German Chancellor Scholz is attending our Asia-Pacific Conference underscores the importance of this event and the support for our work. After all, it’s only by joining together that we can add further depth to our partnership with the Asia-Pacific region, which is a key region for German industry and commerce,” said Busch.

About APK:

At APK 2022, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, as well as ministers from Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines, and about 500 decision-makers will analyze and discuss current political and economic trends. APK 2022 will be co-chaired by German Economics Minister Robert Habeck and APA Chairman Roland Busch.

About APA:

The Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business is the mouthpiece of German-Asian business community in its dialog with policymakers in Germany and partner countries in Asia-Pacific. APA bundles Asia-related economic policy interests of German companies. The aim is to intensify cooperation with the countries of the Asia-Pacific region and to promote trade and investment in both directions.

Additional information

<https://www.asiapacificconference.com/>

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