19th ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE of German Business
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The Asia-Pacific Region and Germany Can Unlock New Growth Together

• By working together, Germany and the Asia-Pacific region can unlock new, robust growth and enhance their competitiveness.

• This collaboration serves as a vital step toward reducing one-sided dependencies and diversifying supply chains.

• Deepening this partnership requires offering attractive, reliable, and long-term opportunities for cooperation.

• Achieving this goal demands close alignment between policymakers and the business community—in Germany, the EU, and the Asia-Pacific region.

German industry anticipates that geoeconomic risks to the German economy will continue to rise significantly in the coming years. From the perspective of the business sector, it is therefore crucial to forge a strong alliance with partners in the Asia-Pacific region—not only to reduce dependencies and diversify supply chains but also to jointly harness the immense potential of future technologies to drive new, robust growth.

A relationship built on trust and coordinated action between policymakers and the business sector—both in the Asia-Pacific and the EU—is essential. To this end, the EU must extend even more attractive, accessible, and long-term cooperation proposals to like-minded partners in the region. The successful negotiations regarding free trade agreements with India and Australia already represent significant milestones for the EU in this regard.

The German business community will continue to engage in constructive dialogue with policymakers to ensure this path is pursued further. In doing so, new, robust growth can be achieved—in Germany, Europe, and the Asia-Pacific region alike—fostering greater competitiveness and prosperity for all partners involved.

Katherina Reiche, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy, states: “In the new multipolar global economy, the Asia-Pacific region is a pivotal hub, where rapidly growing markets meet dynamic innovation and the technologies of the future. Germany responds with strategic clarity, strengthened partnerships and a tangible economic presence through investment in resilient supply chains. Those who are not active players in the Asia-Pacific region risk losing their capacity to shape developments during a critical phase of global economic transformation.”

AHK German Chambers of Commerce Abroad

APA Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business

Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

Roland Busch, Chairman of the Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business (APA) and CEO of Siemens AG, emphasizes: “The Asia-Pacific Conference is a vital forum for exchange and for deepening cooperation between our regions. We have much to learn from one another and can collectively unlock enormous potential for our economies. Particularly in future-oriented technologies—such as industrial AI—we combine everything necessary for success: technological leadership, manufacturing excellence, industrial expertise, and robust ecosystems. To translate this into new growth, competitiveness, and prosperity, we are working closely together and maintaining a continuous dialogue.”

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The 19th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business (APK) will take place this year from October 29 to October 31, 2026, in Seoul, South Korea. With the participation of the Korean Prime Minister and the German Federal Chancellor, the APK 2026 underscores the strategic importance of the region. As a premier platform for exchange among policymakers, business leaders, and the scientific community, it strengthens dialogue and cooperation between Germany and the Asia-Pacific region. The Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business (APK) is organized jointly by the APA, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE), and the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad in the Asia-Pacific region.

The APK provides an opportunity to exchange views on current economic developments in the region and to forge new connections. At the 2026 APK, more than 700 decision-makers from the political and business spheres—primarily from Germany and the Asia-Pacific region—along with Federal Chancellor Friedrich Merz, Korean Prime Minister Seongsook Han and ministers from various Asian nations, will analyze and discuss current political and economic trends.

About the APA:

The Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business (APA) serves as the voice of German businesses operating in Asia, facilitating dialogue with policymakers in both Germany and partner countries across the Asia-Pacific region. The APA consolidates the Asia-related economic policy interests of German companies. Its objectives include intensifying cooperation with countries in the Asia-Pacific region and promoting trade and investment in both directions.