

EUROPE

THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

Diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Kingdom of Belgium were established on 3 May 1984. Brunei Darussalam opened its embassy in Brussels in 1992 while Belgium opened its Honorary Consul in Brunei Darussalam in 1990.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made a working visit to Belgium in 1996 and attended the 8th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) held in October 2010 in Brussels.

THE REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

Diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and France were established on 8 May 1984. Brunei Darussalam has an Embassy in Paris while the Embassy of France in Brunei Darussalam opened in 1984 and is situated in Bandar Seri Begawan.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made a state visit in 1996 and working visits to France in 1999, 2001 and 2008. His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office made an official visit to France in 2006.

The main areas of cooperation are energy, defence, education and culture. French energy company TOTAL has been in operation in Brunei Darussalam since 1987. The Brunei-Darussalam-France Joint Defence Working Group Committee was established in 2000 and convenes every two years. There are several MOUs on education cooperation between UBD and some of France's prestigious education institutions. Alliance Française de Brunei was founded in 1986 to promote French culture.

Agreements/MOUs

25 February 1999: MOU on Defence Cooperation and Equipment

30 December 2010: Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIEA)

1 March 2005: MOU on Education Cooperation between UBD and University La Rochelle

2 December 2008: MOU in the field of Education between UBD and University Montpellier I

1 December 2008: MOU in the field of Education between UBD and the French National Museum of Natural History

7 July 2009: MOU in the field of Teach-Training between UBD and the University of Nice Sophia Antipolis.

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and Germany were established on 1 May 1984. Brunei Darussalam opened its Embassy in Bonn in 1991, which was later relocated to Berlin in 1999.

High-level visits to Germany includes His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in 1998, 2002 and 2011; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah in 2006; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah in 1994 and 2007 and His Royal Highness Prince Abdul Mateen in 2013. Visits to Brunei Darussalam include Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, in 1997; Hans- Dietrich Genscher, Vice Chancellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, in 1985; and Dr. Guido Westerwelle, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, in 2012.

Both countries have cooperation and MoU in various fields. The most active are in trade, defence, education, health and technical cooperation. UBD has MOU with three universities: University of Duisburg-Essen, University of Bonn, and Krankenhaus Nordwest GmbH, University of Frankfurt. Currently, there are several German companies in Brunei Darussalam.

Agreements / MOUs

March 1998: Agreement on the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment (BITs).

June 2009: Agreement on Mutual Protection of Classified Information.

March 2010: Agreement between JPMC and Krankenhaus Nordwest Hospital to establish a neurological and neuroradiological centre in BD.

April 2012: JPMC and Krankenhaus Nordwest Hospital signed a partnership contract.

October 2016: Ten-year contract between Royal Brunei Airlines (RB) and Lufthansa Technik.

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Russian Federation were established on 1 October 1991. Brunei Darussalam's mission in Russia was set up in 1998 at a Charge d'Affaires level and was later upgraded to Ambassadorial level in September 2001.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam visited Russia in 2005, 2009, 2012, 2013 and 2016. His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah visited Russia in July 2009 while Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna in October 1995.

President Vladimir Putin visited Brunei Darussalam during the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in 2000 and His Excellency Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation visited Brunei Darussalam in 2012 and 2013.

A Protocol Agreement establishing bilateral consultations between both countries was signed on 15 November 2000. The consultations are held alternately between the two countries. The first meeting was held in Brunei Darussalam in April 2002 and Russia hosted meetings in June 2003, April 2014 and in April 2016.

Brunei Darussalam and the Russian Federation signed several MoU in the field of trade, energy, defence, education and culture. BD and the Russian Federation signed a 14-day visa exemption agreement for holders of ordinary passports in 2017.

Agreements/MOUs

14 May 1998: Air Services Agreement

Dec 2005: Agreement on Cooperation between the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation and the NCCI of BD

October 2009: General Agreement on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation

May 2016: MOU on Military Technical Cooperation

May 2016: MOU on Cooperation in Culture, Youth and Sports

26 April 2017: MOU on Military Cooperation

26 April 2017: Agreement between UBD and St Petersburg University

July 2017: MoU between UNISSA and Russia Muftis Council, Council of Islamic Education, Russian Islamic Institute, Islamic University of Kazan; and Moscow International Higher School of Business "MIRBIS"

November 2017: Agreement for Mutual Exemption of Visa Requirements for Citizens of the Russian Federation and Citizens of Brunei Darussalam

THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

Diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and Turkey were established on 27 June 1984. Brunei Darussalam opened its Embassy in Ankara in 2014, while Turkey opened its Embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan in 2013.

A range of high-level visits have taken place between the two countries over the years. His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made a working visit to Turkey in 2012 and in 2016. His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah (2002) and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large (2004), have also made visits to Turkey.

Brunei Darussalam received several high-level visits from Turkey, including Recep Tayyip Erdogan, then Prime minister, in November 2012, and His Excellency Ahmet Davutoglu, then Prime Minister, in 2013.

Bilateral cooperation has progressed especially in the areas such as defence, trade and investment, education and tourism.

Agreements/MOUs

April 2012: Agreement on Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation

April 2012: Agreement on the Mutual Abolition of Visas (2012)

December 2013: MOU between the Royal Brunei Technical Services (RBTS) and Havelan, Turkish Armed Forces Foundation Company

February 2016: Codeshare agreement between Royal Brunei Airlines (RB) and Turkish Airlines (TK)

THE UNITED KINGDOM

Brunei Darussalam and the United Kingdom have a long history of relations. Formal diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the United Kingdom (UK) were established in January 1984.

A number of high-level visits have taken place between the two countries over the years. His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made a State Visit to the UK in 1992 and official visits in 2004, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2015. His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office made an official visit to the UK in 2001. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II made a State Visit in 1972 and 1998. His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales made official visits to Brunei Darussalam in 1984, 1996, 2008 and 2017. His Royal Highness The Duke of York made an official visit to Brunei Darussalam in 2004. His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex made an official visits to Brunei Darussalam in 1992, 2000 and 2017.

Both countries have cooperation in various fields. The most active and significant areas of cooperation are in education and defence.

A number of agreements have also been signed between Brunei Darussalam and the UK, including the Treaty of Friendship on Co-operation (7 Jan 1979); MOU on the Joint Defence Commission (31 December 2002); and MOU on Air Services (5 May 2017). Universiti Brunei Darussalam has also signed Memorandum's of Understandings with a number of universities in the UK.