ASEM Education Process

The ASEM Expert Group Digitalisation & Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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Asia-Europe Meeting
ASEM Education

Three ASEM pillars: Politics, Economics, and Social Issues, Culture & Education

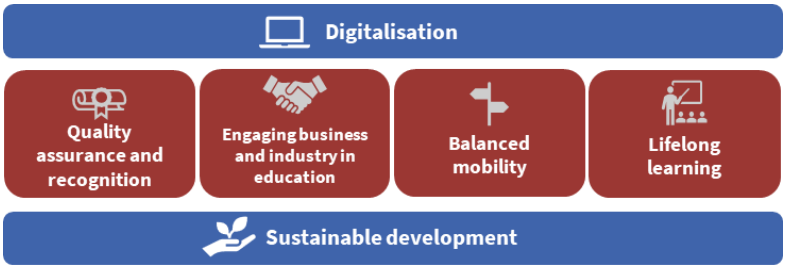
Digitalisation and Sustainable Development as cross-cutting issues

A FORUM FOR EUROPE AND ASIA

The **Asia-Europe Meeting – short ASEM** – was established in 1996 as a forum for intergovernmental exchange between Asia and Europe. It currently includes 53 partners, covering 21 Asian and 30 European countries, as well as the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat. ASEM is divided into **three thematic pillars**:

- Pillar I: Political Cooperation
- Pillar II: Economy and Finance
- Pillar III: Social Issues, Culture, and Education

As a separate component under Pillar III, the **ASEM Education Process (AEP)** was launched in 2008, coordinated by the **ASEM Education Secretariat (AES)**, currently based in Rome. The AEP focuses on the following thematic priorities:



To promote these thematic areas, various working structures were established, based on voluntary participation by the ASEM members.

The Expert Group Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

As part of the 7th ASEM Education Summit (ASEMME7) in 2019, the **Expert Group Digitalisation – short "EG Digitalisation"** – was established to advance this cross-cutting objective. During the Intermediate Senior Officials' Meeting (ISOM) in November 2024, the Expert Group received the **new designation "EG Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence"**. The expert group consists of 53 experts, representing 21 ASEM member states and 14 stakeholder organizations (as of August 2026).

The current mandate of the Expert Group extends from January 2024 until the next ASEM Education Summit in November 2026.

EUROPEAN UNION
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Setting up an expert pool and collecting “good practice” examples

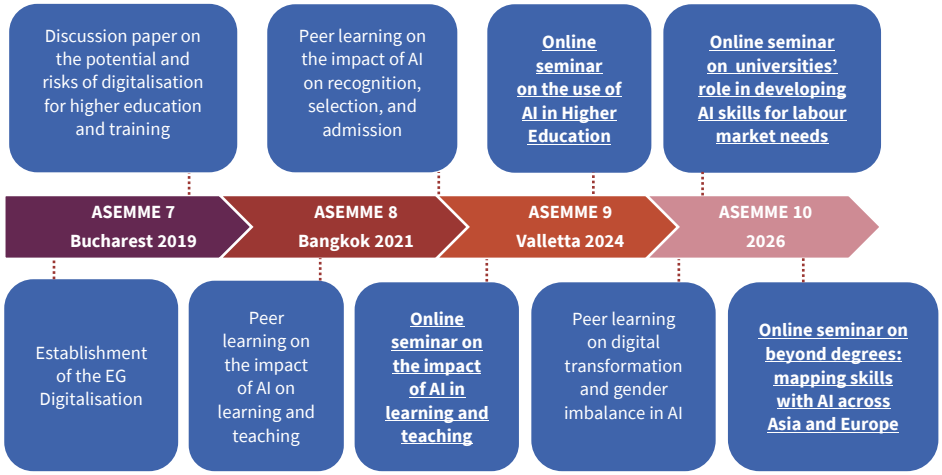
DAAD with an active role in the ASEM education process, e.g. chairmanship of the Expert Group Digitalisation & Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The **specific objectives of the Expert Group** include four points:

- Deepening the European-Asian **dialogue on the potential of digitalisation and artificial intelligence** in the (higher) education sector
- Promoting **practical learning and exchange formats** for the designated experts as well as the wider public
- Promoting cooperation and networking through the **identification, exchange, and dissemination of successful examples** of digitally supported educational (collaboration) practices
- Complementing the work of other ASEM Expert Groups by **providing expertise in digital transformation**

To this end, the EG Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence establishes an **expert pool on digital transformation topics** within the ASEM context and develops a **collection of "Good Practice" examples** as a shared knowledge base. Additionally, the group contributes its **expertise to the regularly held ASEM Education Summits** and, when necessary, drafts position papers and expert assessments.

A selection of relevant developments



The role of the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is actively involved in the ASEM Education Process, acting on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR).

This covers, in particular, chairing the Expert Group Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence. This role encompasses the coordination of the expert group's meetings, the planning and implementation of peer learning events and online seminars, as well as representing the Expert Group in other (ASEM) committees. Additionally, the DAAD takes part in further ASEM working structures and contributes its expertise to various processes within the ASEM education dialogue.

Further information can be found on the **DAAD website regarding the ASEM Education Process**, as well as on the **ASEM Education website under "Digitalisation"**.

The contact point within the DAAD is section "EU04 - Erasmus+ Key Action 3: Policy Support," which can be reached at **asem@daad.de**.

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