

EU-SAUDI ARABIA RELATIONS



European Union (EU27)

- Area: 4.2 million km²
- Population: 447 million (M)
- GDP: 14.5 trillion euros (€)



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

- Area: 2,150,000 km²
- Population: 35 M
- GDP: US\$ 833.5 billion (€830.5 B)

Saudi Arabia's Embassy in Brussels also acts as a representation to the EU.

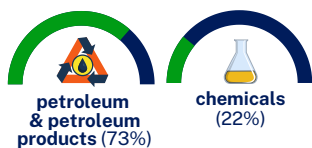
The EU has a delegation in Riyadh since 2004.

Over 10 years, Saudi Arabia-EU trade in goods decreased by 10%, totalling €45.8 B in 2021.

EU exports to Saudi Arabia (55%)



Saudi exports to the EU (45%)



Saudi Arabia is the world's largest oil exporter and a founding member of OPEC. In 2020, it ranked 4th among EU's crude oil suppliers, accounting for 7% of the EU's crude oil imports.



(European Commission, 2022)

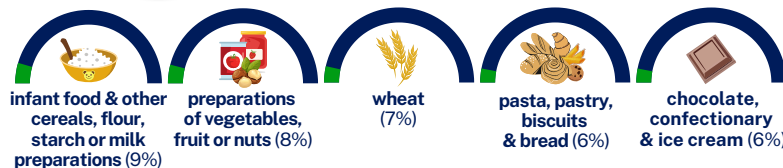
Saudi Arabia ranked 10th among the EU's agri-food trade partners (2021), accounting for 1.8% of the EU's total external agri-food trade.



Growth of EU agri-food exports to Saudi Arabia:

€2.6 B (2011) → €3.7 B (2021) +44%

EU'S MAIN AGRIFOOD EXPORTS TO SAUDI ARABIA:



(Source: European Commission, 2022)



Saudi exports to the EU (22%)

- 28% France
- 14% Ireland
- 7% Netherlands
- 5% Denmark

EU exports to Saudi Arabia (78%)

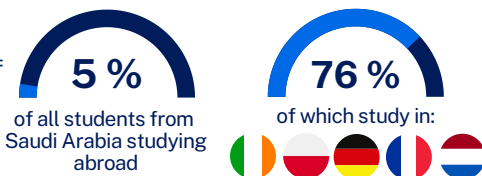
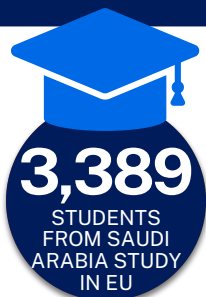
- 30% Netherlands
- 15% Ireland
- 13% France
- 11% Germany

(Eurostat, last data for 2020)

STUDENT EXCHANGES

(UNESCO)

Saudi Arabia participates in ERASMUS+



INVESTMENTS

(Eurostat, EEAS)

- 5% The stock of Saudi investment (FDI) in the EU decreased from €35.4 B (2019) to €33.6 B (2020).
- +4% EU FDI in Saudi Arabia slightly increased from €19.8 B (2019) to €20.5 B (2020).



Finance & Education

Chemicals, Energy & Water, Mining & Metals

Manufacturing, Transport & Logistics

Tourism, Healthcare

ICT

MILESTONES



1967: Saudi Arabia appointed its first Ambassador to the European Economic Community (EEC).

1983: A European Commission delegation visited Riyadh to discuss cooperation with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

1991: Following the Gulf War oil spill, the EEC assisted Saudi Arabia with the Jubail Marine and Wildlife Sanctuary project, completed in 1995.

1994: Saudi Arabia hosted the 5th EEC-GCC Joint Council and Ministerial Meeting in 1994, and the 17th EU-GCC Meeting in 2007.

1997: Riyadh hosted the first EC-GCC Interprise Event organised by the European Commission and the Federation of GCC Chambers of Commerce.

2004: The first EU Delegation in the GCC opened in Riyadh.

2008: The EU awarded the Al Nahda Philanthropic Society for Women the first annual EU Chaillot Prize for Promotion of Human Rights in the GCC for its efforts to empower women economically and socially.

2009: The 6th EU-GCC Joint Workshop on Combating Terrorist Financing was held in Riyadh.

2010: The Multipurpose Women Cooperative (Herfah) won the annual EU Chaillot Prize for its efforts to support Saudi women artisans.

2010: The EU and Saudi Arabia initialled a horizontal aviation agreement.

2011: Saudi Arabia and the EU were among the founding members of the Global Counterterrorism Forum.

2013: The King Khalid Foundation won the EU Chaillot Prize for its work in combating domestic abuse and *Some Things Can't Be Covered* campaign.

2014: Saudi Arabia joined the EU's CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative.

2015: Ibrahim Almutaiteb, President of the Human Rights First Society in Saudi Arabia, was awarded the annual Chaillot Prize by the EU.

2017: The 2nd EU-GCC Business Forum was held in Riyadh.

2017: Glowork was awarded the EU Chaillot Prize for its efforts to empower women in the labour market.

2021: The European External Action Service and Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs signed a Cooperation Agreement. Saudi Arabia and the EU held the first Human Rights Dialogue in Brussels.

2021: The Saudi Women Stories won the EU Chaillot Prize for promoting women's empowerment.

2021: The EU and Saudi Arabia held the first bilateral trade consultations.

2021: The EU National Institutes of Culture (EUNIC) cluster was opened in Saudi Arabia to boost cultural cooperation.

2022: The first European Film Festival was held in Saudi Arabia.