

India-Liechtenstein Relations

India and the Principality of Liechtenstein established diplomatic relations in 1993. The Ambassador of India to Switzerland, resident in Berne, is concurrently accredited as Ambassador of India to the Principality of Liechtenstein. Conversely Liechtenstein has an Honorary-Consul General in New Delhi. Despite its small size, Liechtenstein assumes importance on account of its membership of UN and other International Organisations as well as of European Economic Area and EFTA (Switzerland, Norway and Iceland).

2. There are no bilateral Agreements/Protocols/MOUs signed between India and Liechtenstein. Both countries exchange messages of greetings on the occasion of New Year, National Day and on assumption of office by Prime Minister and Foreign Minister.

High level visits

3. In the first ever high level official visit from either side, H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein, accompanied by his spouse HRH Princess Sophie and 11-member official delegation and 10-member business delegation visited India from 14-20 November, 2010 at the invitation of Hon'ble Vice-President of India. During the visit, Prince Alois met President Smt. Pratibha Patil, Vice-President Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Finance Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee, UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Leader of Opposition Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Minister of State, MEA Smt. Preneet Kaur. He also called on Governor of Maharashtra Shri K.Sankaranarayanan during their visit to Mumbai. The delegation visited the India International Trade Fair in Delhi.

4. Prince Hans Adam II had toured India a few years ago on a private visit.

5. Ambassador of India visits Liechtenstein periodically and interacts with the Foreign Minister and other high level Government officials, Liechtenstein Chamber of Commerce and companies with economic and commercial connections with India.

6. Real time statistics of bilateral trade between the two countries are not available separately as Liechtenstein is part of Customs and Currency Union with Switzerland. Bilateral trade in 2010-11 stood at US\$ 0.10 million with exports at US\$ 0.06 million and imports by at US\$ 0.04 million. Some Liechtenstein companies like M/s Swarovski and Umicore Materials AG, have their presence in India and some companies are considering setting up their units. M/s HILTI Corporation, manufacturers of tools and equipments for the construction industry, has representation in around 120 countries worldwide, including India. Due to shortage of labour force, Liechtenstein is also examining potential collaboration which would transfer or outsource the labour intensive projects to India.

7. Liechtenstein is one of the four members of the EFTA, a group with which India has commenced negotiations for an India-EFTA bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (TIA). A 3-member delegation led by Shri Rajeev Kher, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, New Delhi, visited Vaduz (Liechtenstein) in connection with the India-EFTA Chief Negotiators' Meeting from 23-24 January, 2012.

8. Ambassador Ms Chitra Narayanan presented her Credentials to [H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois](#) of Liechtenstein on October 21, 2008

9. A cultural performance by a troupe sponsored by ICCR was well received in Balzers on June 9, 2011. The first-ever Indian Film Festival was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Foreign Affairs and Culture Mrs. Aurelia Frick on 16 November, 2011. The festival showcased popular Indian films for a week and it received a good response.

July 2012