

# Malaysia, Poland boost security, trade cooperation

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pg. 7

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia and Poland have agreed to strengthen their economic partnership and security cooperation.

Both countries also pledged to work more closely to combat organised crime, illegal immigration and human trafficking.

In a joint statement following a bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Polish President Andrzej Duda, both leaders said economic cooperation was an essential pillar of bilateral relations.

"Both sides agreed to promote balanced trade by reducing economic barriers, enhancing consultation mechanisms between relevant ministries and fostering collaboration among business communities.

"The leaders also reaffirmed their commitment to boosting cooperation and bilateral trade in the agrifood sector."

Duda arrived in Malaysia on Monday for a three-day official visit to strengthen bilateral relations and expand cooperation.

In 2024, Poland ranked as Malaysia's 8th largest trading partner among European Union member states, with total bilateral trade rising by 19.5 per cent year-on-year to RM5.7 billion.

Malaysia's primary exports to Poland include electrical and electronic products, rubber products and machinery, while key imports from Poland consist of machinery, equipment and parts, electrical and electronic products and transport equipment.

The leaders agreed to support the swift advancement of the Malaysia-EU Free Trade Agreement negotiations and stressed

the importance of concluding the agreement at the earliest opportunity.

They also pledged to advance bilateral cooperation through joint initiatives in economic and digital transformation, focusing on key sectors, including the digitalisation of public services, green transition, particularly the hydrogen economy and renewable energy.

Anwar welcomed Poland's swift ratification of the Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between Malaysia and the European Union.

The leaders also reiterated their commitment to deepen cooperation in security and defence, building upon cooperation in areas of mutual benefits.

They reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing the exchange of experiences and coordination in combating crimes, including organised and international crime, illegal immigration and human trafficking.

Anwar and Duda also recognised the vital role of the private sector and people-to-people connections in strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation between Malaysia and Poland.

"As such, they affirmed their commitment to expanding people-to-people exchanges in areas such as education, science, vocational training, culture, national heritage preservation and tourism," said the joint statement.

Duda extended his thanks to Anwar and invited him to visit Poland, expressing hope that the friendly and productive dialogue between both countries would continue.