

Need to kickstart EAEC – Mahathir

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OKYO, June 11 (Bernama) --There is a need to kick-start the East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) initiative to counter the growing trade protectionism shown by countries such as the United States, said Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"Now, the United States has become isolationist again. So, we need to consider the formation of the EAEC more seriously," he told the 24th International Conference on the Future of Asia or Nikkei Conference, here Monday.

Dr Mahathir, who first mooted the idea of the EAEC in 1997, said the proposed regional free trade zone should also include countries such as India and those in Central Asia.

Meanwhile, he said Malaysia also aspired to have a new car manufacturer.

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