

New era in Malaysia, Australia relations

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LETTER: The recent signing of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) between Malaysia and Australia in elevating their strategic diplomatic relations is fundamentally significant and signals a new era of deeper partnership between both nations.

The historical ties between the two countries have been long lasting and have been tested with various challenges and ups and downs especially over the last three decades.

Australia-Malaysia ties remain one of the most significant and needed bedrock of mutually beneficial joint cooperation, understanding and initiatives for the good of the people from both nations.

This new strategic partnership will lead to increased trust, openness, understanding and common stand and initiatives in elevating the focus and efforts towards socio-economic prosperity of the people and in ensuring greater fulfilment of preparedness and capacity in the transition to greater societal development and mobility.

- King: Malaysia-Brunei relations need to be strengthened

- Malaysia-Australia ties raised to comprehensive strategic partnership
- Israel, Bahrain formalise diplomatic ties
- Israel, Bhutan on road to greater cooperation

While people to people ties which are significantly propelled by the tourism and higher education sectors have been hampered by the pandemic, continuous efforts to bolster and maintain the presence and investment in these areas will prove to be crucial in building the foundation towards more comprehensive dimensions.

The future of the economic recovery and strength of the investment and human capital development and mobility of both nations has never been more crucial, in comprehending the regional and global complexities and challenges being faced now and the CSP will be the pathbreaker in fostering a galvanised, solidified and optimised partnership in this front in particular.

Digital economy and the role and impact of artificial intelligence, quantum technology and renewable energy transformation will be key tools in the assimilation of IR4.0 and adaptability capacities and capability in the transition process. This partnership will go a long way in building the tenacity and resilience with relevant exchanges in information and know-how and training platforms.

The growing threat to the peace and stability of the region requires closer cooperation in the defence and security spectrum with Australia and vice versa, as has been the case historically and especially over the last decade.

The defence cooperation within the regional security sphere will lead to a more robust preparedness, fluidity and forward-looking regional security framework.

Institutions like Asean, Apec and the Commonwealth have also received vital enrichment and support from strong bilateral relations between both nations and will continue to play an instrumental role in regional and cross Pacific engagement and collaboration in a wide range of areas.

With deeper and spirited partnerships with Australia as well as the United States in encompassing both security and non-security engagement and cooperation, the future prosperity and security outlook for the country and the region will only be further enriched, safeguarded and fortified.

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