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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.10.2026)

The 11th EU-Republic of Korea (ROK) summit took place in Brussels on 10 June 2026¹. The summit advanced the Strategic Partnership between the EU and the ROK, emphasising the role of security and defence cooperation under the EU-ROK Security and Defence Partnership which was concluded in 2024. During the summit, Leaders agreed to work towards launching negotiations for a Security of Information Agreement (SIA). The purpose of a SIA is to enable the secure exchange of classified information between the EU and the ROK, supporting closer cooperation in security and defence in a number of areas of mutual interest.

The process is already underway in accordance with the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Following the Korean authorities' expression of interest and the European External Action Service Security Committee's endorsement, the High Representative/Vice-President's recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations is expected to be discussed by the Council Security Committee. Once endorsed, the file will proceed to Asia-Oceania Working Party (COASI), Working Party of Foreign Affairs (RELEX) and Permanent Representatives Committee Part 2 (COREPER II) before the Council adopts the negotiating mandate. Technical-level negotiations will then begin between the ROK and EU negotiating teams.

¹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2026/06/10/>.