



## India-Romania Defense Agreement

**For Prelims:** Indo-Pacific, EU, NATO, MFN, Climate Change, INSTC.

**For Mains:** India-Romania Defense Agreement.

### Why in News?

Recently, India and Romania have signed the **Defense Cooperation Agreement**, aiming to set up and expand Military Cooperation between both countries.



### What is the Agreement About?

- The agreement will provide the **legal framework for future cooperation in the field of defense** through the exchange of expertise and knowledge on subjects of mutual interest including **co-development and co-production of military hardware**.
- The agreement will promote cooperation in the field of defense between both countries and open up enormous opportunities in sectors like **defense medicine, scientific research, cyber defense, technology** and research and development.

### What is the Significance of the Agreement?



- The [EU \(European Union\)](#) Strategy for cooperation in the [Indo-Pacific](#) is an opportunity to strengthen EU-India cooperation in the region. Romania is committed to active involvement in the Indo-Pacific within the framework of this strategy.
- The EU-India Strategic Partnership roadmap and commitments from the EU-India Leaders' Meeting in May 2021 provide a good basis to enhance cooperation and promote **regional security in the Indo-Pacific**.
- Strengthening relations with Indo-Pacific partners is crucial for addressing global challenges and **upholding the [rule-based international order](#)** at both bilateral and multilateral levels.

## How have been the India-Romania Relations?

- **Diplomatic Relation:**
  - India-Romania bilateral ties, **formally established in 1948**, have witnessed a steady growth.
  - Both maintained friendly and cordial relations, culminating in the **celebration of 70 years of diplomatic ties in 2018**.
  - Since the 1989 revolution in Romania, which overthrew the communist government, **both countries have steadily increased trade and investments** in each other.
  - At the multilateral level, India and Romania have extended support to each other at the UN.
- **Trade and Investments:**
  - Romania has in the past collaborated in projects involving petroleum, petrochemicals, power, and metallurgy industries in India. Romania was engaged in oil refinery projects in **Assam and Bihar**. Romania also shared their technology know-how for a thermal power plant in Singareni, the Mangalore pellet plant, the Durgapur steel plant, and a Hyderabad tractor plant.
  - An Agreement on **Trade and Economic Cooperation**, granting mutual **Most Favored Nation (MFN)** status to each other was signed in 1993.
  - Since 2013, the trade volume has been around USD 600-800 million; both sides expect this figure to touch the one billion mark soon.
- **Green Energy:**
  - Romania has engaged in reducing its carbon blueprint and is committed to achieve the **EU ambitious new targets to curb further the [climate change](#)**.
  - Romania together with India can **certainly cooperate and collaborate in this key sector**.
  - The two nations can work together to reduce [carbon footprint](#) and **focus on harnessing sustainable sources** of power, such as [solar energy](#).
  - Romania is determined to become shortly a member of the [International Solar Alliance](#), positive steps have already been taken.
- **Connectivity:**
  - Romanian infrastructure companies can work with Indian partners to expand connectivity across Europe and India.
  - Through the [International North-South Transport Corridor \(INSTC\)](#), India remains committed to building a multimode network, connecting India to Iran, Azerbaijan, Iran, Afghanistan, Russia, Central Asia, and Europe.
  - This will enhance the movement of **freight North-South**.
  - The Romanian government has also undertaken expansion of the **trans-European transport network**.
  - These mega connectivity projects will **have many meeting points** and scope for collaboration.

## Way Forward

- There are many challenges in the International Fora such as supply chain disruption, War and Conflicts and climate change etc.
- Both Romania, a [NATO \(North Atlantic Treaty Organization\)](#) and EU member, and India, fifth economy in the world and one of the largest troop contributors to **United Nations peacekeeping missions**, could play a constructive role in overcoming these challenges.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

**Q. Which of the following countries share borders with Moldova? (2008)**

1. Ukraine
2. Romania
3. Belarus

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

**Code:**

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Ans: (a)**

**Source: IE**

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/india-romania-defense-agreement>

