

Press release

Inaugural India – UAE Strategic Forum

Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi and Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy (AGDA) held the inaugural ‘*India- UAE Strategic Forum*’ on April 30, 2025. The Forum has been set-up as a platform to explore and expand on India-UAE cooperation across key sectors and will facilitate high-level discussions.

The day-long Forum brought together policy leaders, senior officials from the government, industry experts and academics from both nations to explore future areas of bilateral cooperation. Brainstorming sessions on three key sectors of India–UAE partnership - energy, emerging technology and defence and security - were held. Participants in these sessions offered policy recommendations to further deepen and expand the India – UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

The Forum began with a keynote conversation on “New Frontiers, New Milestones” between H.E. Sunjay Sudhir, Ambassador of India to the UAE and H.E. Nickolay Mladenov, Director General, AGDA. They discussed the key drivers in India-UAE relationship and the exceptional milestones achieved in the recent years.

It was followed by a session on “*The Making of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership*”, which reflected on the evolution of bilateral ties, especially over the last decade. Former Indian Ambassador to the UAE, Navdeep Suri, and former UAE Ambassador to India, Ahmed Al Banna, shared personal insights and behind-the-scenes stories, illustrating how diplomacy translated into action and trust.

Speaking about the Forum, H.E. Nickolay Mladenov, Director General, AGDA said, “*Amid global disruptions, India-UAE ties are a bellwether of long-standing, comprehensive and win-win partnerships. It spans bilateral, trilateral, quadrilateral and multilateral domains. The Strategic Forum celebrated the past, recognised the present and brainstormed future possibilities.*”

H.E. Sunjay Sudhir, Ambassador of India to the UAE, said, “*The India-UAE relationship is based on trust and shared aspirations. This comprehensive partnership spans across generational and across sectors. The Strategic Forum will seed new ideas for next frontiers of this unique and model relationship.*”

**Abu Dhabi
May 2, 2025**