



PRIME
MINISTER

**GENERAL STATEMENT ADDRESS BY
HIS EXCELLENCY PRIME MINISTER
KAY RALA XANANA GUSMÃO**

IN THE OCCASION OF THE 27th ASEAN – CHINA SUMMIT

Vientiane, Lao PDR

10 October 2024

Honourable Leaders of ASEAN,

Your Majesty,

Your Excellency Li Qiang,

After listening to all the statements, I don't know what to say.

But what I can say is that, on behalf of Timor-Leste is that it is admirable the relationship between ASEAN and China.

The problems that was asking me to talk about was South China Sea.

However, I can see that both parties are committed to solve.

At this time of war and everywhere, we have to assure that Asia is a home of peace.

*

Of Course, Timor-Leste and China have a good relationship.

Diplomatic ties following our independence Timor-Leste.

China is a long-time friend of Timor-Leste and was the first country to establish diplomatic ties following our independence in 2002.

In September last year, we embarked on a new chapter by formalising a comprehensive strategic partnership, reflecting our mutual commitment to enhancing bilateral cooperation.

This partnership aims to foster economic growth and diversification through increased trade and investment, helping to build a robust and resilient economy.

With this comprehensive strategic partnership, Timor-Leste is committed to achieving sustainable development and strengthening our relationship of friendship.

Timor-Leste supports ASEAN's efforts to strengthen ties with China through constructive engagement, mutual respect and cooperation.

Thank you, Co-Chairs.

Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão