*(English version)*

**Question for written answer E-000373/26**
**to the Commission**
**Charlie Weimers (ECR), Beatrice Timgren (ECR), Dick Erixon (ECR)**
*(29 January 2026)*

*Subject:* Safeguarding Europe from low-skilled Indian labour

Following the agreements made at the 16th EU-India Summit, the EU commits to supporting and facilitating labour migration from India to Europe. Among other things, the EU is to simplify Schengen visa procedures, facilitate the recognition of qualifications gained abroad, and support workers wanting to migrate through a new Legal Gateway Office in India ([1]).

Against this background;

1. Will the Commission ensure that safeguards are introduced to ensure that migration facilitated under these agreements is strictly limited to high-skilled jobs and that illegal migration and low-skill migration from India is never enabled, tolerated or promoted?

2. Will the Commission tailor these safeguards to ensure that accompanying family members of high-skilled workers are prevented from taking low-skilled jobs, thereby contributing to social dumping?

3. Will the Commission enable Member States to introduce additional safeguards in order to ensure that social, cultural, wage and social dumping never becomes reality?

Submitted: 29.1.2026

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission**
*(31 March 2026)*

The European Legal Gateway Office in India will cover high-skilled jobs, starting with the information and communication technology sector.

Furthermore, the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the EU and India on a Comprehensive Framework of Cooperation on Mobility that was signed at the 16th EU-India Summit on 27 January 2026 contains provisions on supporting skills development and vocational education and training, as well as on facilitating the comparison of skills and qualifications frameworks.

These provisions are intended to ensure that prospective migrants are appropriately qualified for positions in the EU. The implementation of the MoU will be carried out within the scope of applicable domestic and EU laws.

By offering reliable and trustworthy information and advisory services, the European Legal Gateway Office aims to reduce the risks of misinformation and fraud that can lure aspiring migrants into precarious or even irregular situations.

Furthermore, in accordance with the Family Reunification Directive ([1]), Member States have the possibility, for a period of 12 months, to perform a labour market test before granting access to employed or self-employed activities to newly arrived family members, limiting any negative impact on their labour market.

In compliance with the applicable EU and national law, Member States are free to introduce additional safeguards and their participation in either initiative is voluntary.

Readmission cooperation in particular is assessed annually in the framework of the mechanism under Article 25(a) of the Visa Code ([2]).

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[1] European Commission (2026), 'Towards 2030: A Joint European Union-India Comprehensive Strategic Agenda', https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_26_224.

([1]) Article 14(2), Council Directive 2003/86/EC of 22 September 2003 on the right to family reunification, OJ L 251, 3.10.2003, pp. 12: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2003/86/oj/eng.

([2]) Article 25(a), Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code), pp. 23: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2009/810/oj/eng.