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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.3.2026)

The European Legal Gateway Office pilot will be a one-stop hub to provide information and support the legal and controlled admission to the EU of Indian workers, students and researchers in the Information and Communication Technology sector. There is no specific target number of Indian candidates to be admitted to the EU. In accordance with the Treaties, Member States retain the right to determine the volume of admission of third-country nationals coming to their territory in order to seek work.

The estimated cost of the European Legal Gateway Office pilot will be approximately EUR 3 900 000 over the course of 26 months.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the EU and India on a Comprehensive Framework of Cooperation on Mobility affirms the commitment of India and the EU to fully cooperate on return and readmission. Furthermore, readmission cooperation with India is assessed annually in the framework of the mechanism of Article 25(a) of the Visa Code¹.

¹ 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. 23-25 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02009R0810-20240628>.